Enhancing Practices for English Language Learners

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Enhancing Practices for English Language Learners

• Key role of supportive, informed administrators: webinars, seminars, professional collaboration, journals

• Importance of district-wide information getting to the entire school community

• View the communities of diverse learners as a resource (storytellers, cultural activities)

• Include ESL/bilingual teachers in grade level, school resource, child study team meetings
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- *Provide extensive family involvement:*
- Several planned annual family meetings listed on district-wide calendars each with a set agenda (include general/special area)
- Newsletters with school news, location of adult ESL classes, local library information, community sports/activities (translations)
- Encourage use of home language (value)
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• Welcoming atmosphere with posters/artwork portraying diversity/tolerance/acceptance

• General education and special teachers collaborating with all staff (community)

• Classrooms full of creative, constructive, hands-on, collaborative learning, centers

• Language lessons incorporating current content area curriculum
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- **Teachers/Staff:**
  - Passionate/Enthusiastic
  - Supportive/Challenging
  - High expectations
  - Creative/Innovative
  - Collaborative
  - Culturally relevant
  - Strong sense of community

- Positive reinforcement
- Mutual respect***
- Visible parental support
- Story time
- Technology modifications
- Scaffolding Strategies for all learners
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- **Resources**
  - NCELA, ncela@GWU.EDU
  - NJTESOL/NJBE, www.njtesol-njbe.org
  - CAL, www.cal.org
  - NAEYC, www.naeyc.org
  - IRA, www.reading.org
  - TESOL, www.tesol.org
  - NABE, www.nabe.org
  - Colorin Colorado, www.colorincolorado.org
  - Everything ESL, everythingsesl.net
  - Language Castle, languagecastle.com
  - NIEER, nieer.org