



TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Christopher J. Halpin, Secretary

SUBJECT: Summary of the November 2025 Meeting

DATE: December 4, 2025

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents approve the Summary of the November 2025 Meeting?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Not applicable.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Full Board for action at its December 2025 meeting.

Procedural History

This document summarizes the actions of the Board of Regents during the monthly meeting and is brought before the Board during its next meeting for approval.

Background Information

Not applicable.

Related Regent's Items

Not Applicable.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Summary of the November 2025 Meeting of the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York be approved.

Timetable for Implementation

Effective December 16, 2025.



***SUMMARY OF THE NOVEMBER 2025 MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK***

***Held at the
State Education Building
Albany, New York***

November 3 and 4, 2025

Christopher J. Halpin, Secretary

The Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York held a public session in Albany on Monday, November 3rd at 9:00 a.m. in the State Education Building pursuant to a call to duty sent to each Regent.

MEETING OF THE FULL BOARD, Monday, November 3rd at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Lester W. Young, Jr., *Chancellor*

Judith Chin, *Vice Chancellor*

Roger Tilles

Christine D. Cea

Wade S. Norwood

Susan W. Mittler

Frances G. Wills

Aramina Vega Ferrer

Shino Tanikawa

Roger P. Catania

Adrian I. Hale

Hasoni L. Pratts

Patrick A. Mannion

Seema Rivera

Brian Krist

Keith B. Wiley

Felicia Thomas-Williams

Also present were Commissioner, Betty A. Rosa, Senior Deputy Commissioner for Education Policy, Jeff Matteson, Counsel and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs, Daniel Morton-Bentley, and Secretary, Board of Regents, Christopher J. Halpin.

ACTION ITEM

Executive Session Motion

MOVED, that the Board of Regents enter into executive session on Tuesday, November 4, at 12:45 p.m. to discuss litigation matters.

Motion by: Vice Chancellor Judith Chin

Seconded by: Regent Hasoni L. Pratts

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION

Literacy Support Briefs for Linguistically Diverse Learners

Angelique Johnson-Dingle, NYSED Deputy Commissioner for P-12 Instructional Support, Elisa Alvarez, NYSED Associate Commissioner for Bilingual Education and World Languages, Guest Presenters Socorro Herrera, Ed.D, Kansas State University Center for Intercultural and Multilingual Advocacy, Kathy Escamilla, Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder, and Robin Cabral, Ph.D., Kansas State University presented an overview of new topic briefs created to support implementation of NYSED Literacy Initiative recommendations for English Language Learners and multilingual learners.

The presentation highlighted evidence-based practices that increase teachers' ability to deliver practices influenced by the "Science of Reading" for these linguistically diverse students (Attachment I).

Chancellor Young adjourned the meeting.

MEETING OF THE FULL BOARD, Tuesday, November 4 at 11:30 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Lester W. Young, Jr., *Chancellor*

Judith Chin, *Vice Chancellor*

Roger Tilles

Christine D. Cea

Wade S. Norwood

Susan W. Mittler

Frances G. Wills

Aramina Vega Ferrer

Shino Tanikawa

Roger P. Catania

Adrian I. Hale

Hasoni L. Pratts

Patrick A. Mannion

Seema Rivera

Brian Krist

Keith B. Wiley

Felicia Thomas-Williams

Also present were Commissioner, Betty A. Rosa, Senior Deputy Commissioner for Education Policy, Jeff Matteson, Counsel and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs, Daniel Morton-Bentley, and Secretary, Board of Regents, Christopher J. Halpin.

PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of the 2025 New York State Principals of the Year

Chancellor opened the meeting by celebrating the vital role principals play in shaping strong educational environments and driving student success.

Regent Wills introduced Dr. Matthew Wentworth, principal at Goshen Intermediate School, selected as the 2025 New York State Elementary School Principal of the Year. This award is given annually by the School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYs) and the National Association of Elementary School Principals to an elementary school principal who is clearly committed to excellence, has programs designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students, and has firm ties to parents and the community.

Regent Wiley introduced Rebecca Belkota, principal at Perry Jr/Sr High School of the Perry Central School District, who was named the 2025 New York State Middle School Principal of the Year. This award is given annually by SAANYS and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to a middle school principal who has set the pace, character, and quality of education for the students in his or her school.

Regent Ferrer introduced Pierre Orbe, principal at DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx as the 2025 New York State High School Principal of the Year. This award is given annually by SAANYS and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to a high school principal who has set the pace, character, and quality of education for students in their school.

Each of the honorees was presented with Certificate of Recognition by the Board of Regents.

ACTION ITEMS

Charter Applications BR (A) 1

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve each application in accordance with the recommendations contained in the summary table (See Appendix I).

Summary of the October 2025 Meeting of the Board of Regents BR (A) 2

MOVED, that the Summary of the October 2025 Meeting of the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York be approved.

Motion by:	Regent Seema Rivera
Seconded by:	Regent Christine D. Cea
Action:	Motion passed unanimously.

State Education Department October 2025 Fiscal Report BR (A) 3

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve the State Education Department October 2025 Fiscal Report as presented.

Motion by: Regent Aramina Vega Ferrer
Seconded by: Regent Brian Krist
Action: Motion passed unanimously.

PROGRAM AREA CONSENT ITEMS

Higher Education

Laboratory Institute of Merchandising, Inc. (dba LIM College): Transfer of Degree-conferring Authority Based Upon a Change of Ownership or Control of a Proprietary College BR (CA) 1

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve the transfer of degree-conferring authority of the Laboratory Institute of Merchandising, Inc. to the prospective new owner, JEF New York, Inc., upon the completion of the sale of the institution.

Permission to Operate in New York State: The Vanderbilt University BR (CA) 2

MOVED, that the Board of Regents grant The Vanderbilt University permission to operate a semester away undergraduate program and a Master of Science in Business and Technology in Manhattan. This approval will be effective for a five-year period beginning on October 7, 2025, and ending on October 31, 2030.

Proposed Amendment of Section 80-5.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Extending the Flexibility for Incidental Teaching BR (CA) 3

MOVED, that section 80-5.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be amended, as submitted, effective November 19, 2025.

P-12 Education

Registration of Religious and Independent High Schools BR (CA) 4

MOVED, that the religious and independent schools listed on the table be registered effective November 4, 2025.

School Name	County	Time of Department Visit	Current Registration Status	Proposed Registration Status
Talmud Torah Bobov-Girls	Rockland	Spring 2019	Pending	Full
BASIS Independent School Brooklyn	Kings	Spring 2021	Pending	Full
Long Island Whole Child Academy	Suffolk	Spring 2023	Pending	Full

**Endorsement of the Indigenous Education Statement of Policy and Proposed Action
BR (CA) 5**

MOVED, that the Board of Regents endorse the updated Indigenous Education Statement of Policy and Proposed Action and the ten recommendations therein in recognition of the continuing government-to-government relationship between the New York State Education Department and Indigenous Nations.

Professional Practice

**(Re)Appointments of Members to the State Boards for the Professions and
(Re)Appointments of Extended Members to the State Boards for the Professions
for Service on Licensure Disciplinary and/or Licensure Restoration and Moral
Character Panels
BR (CA) 6**

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve the proposed (Re)Appointments of Members to the State Boards for the Professions and (Re)Appointments of Extended Members to the State Boards for the Professions.

**Report of the Committee on the Professions Regarding Licensing Petitions and
Degree Conferrals
BR (CA) 7**

MOVED, that the Regents approve the recommendations of the Committee on the Professions regarding the licensing petition(s) and degree conferrals.

Special Education/Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (SE/ACCES)

**Appointments to the New York State Rehabilitation Council
BR (CA) 8**

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve the appointments of Lisa Brown, Christopher Myers, and Emma Olivet to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2028.

**Proposed Amendment of Section 100.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Regents-High School Equivalency (HSE) Exam Pathway and Use of Regents Credit Acquired by Exemptions from Diploma Assessment Requirements
BR (CA) 9**

MOVED, that section 100.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be amended, as submitted, effective November 19, 2025.

MOVED, that the Regents approve the consent agenda items.

Motion by: Regent Roger Tilles
Seconded by: Regent Hasoni L. Pratts
Action: Motion passed unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

REGENTS COMMITTEE ON AUDITS/BUDGET AND FINANCE

Regents Committee on Audits/Budget and Finance Members

Regent Mannion, Chair, Regent Mittler, Regent Tanikawa, Regent Rivera, Regent Krist, Regent Wiley, Regent Thomas-Williams

The Audits/Budget and Finance Committee held its scheduled meeting on November 4, 2025. All members were present with the exception of Regent Mittler. Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr., Vice Chancellor Judith Chin, Regent Adrian I. Hale, and Regent Brian Krist also attended the meeting but did not vote on any action.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Board of Regents Oversight Financial Accountability [AUD/BF (D) 1] - Department staff presented the 2025-2027 Audit Plan to the Board of Regents committee.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

The Audits/Budget and Finance Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents approve the report of the Committee's deliberations at its meeting on November 4, 2025.

REGENTS COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL EDUCATION

Regents Committee on Cultural Education Members

Regent Tilles, Co-Chair, Regent Wills, Co-Chair, Regent Cea, Regent Mittler, Regent Ferrer, Regent Tanikawa, Regent Hale, Regent Pratts, Regent Krist, Regent Wiley

The Cultural Education Committee held its scheduled meeting on November 4, 2025. All members were present. Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr., Vice Chancellor Judith Chin, and Regents Roger P. Catania, Patrick A. Mannion, Seema Rivera, Brian J. Krist, and Felicia Thomas-Williams attended the meeting but did not vote on any action.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Proposed Amendment of Section 90.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Library Policies [CE (D) 1] - Department staff presented the proposed amendment of Commissioner's regulations to require that libraries must adopt certain external and internal library policies in order register/maintain registration with the Department.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

The Cultural Education Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents approve the report of the Committee's deliberations at its meeting on November 4, 2025.

REGENTS COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Regents Committee on Higher Education Members

Regent Ferrer, Co-Chair, Regent Rivera, Co-Chair, Vice Chancellor Chin, Regent Norwood, Regent Wills, Regent Catania, Regent Hale, Regent Pratts, Regent Krist, Regent Wiley

The Higher Education Committee held its scheduled meeting on November 3, 2025. All members were present. Regent Roger Tilles, Regent Christine D. Cea, Regent Susan W. Mittler, Regent Shino Tanikawa, Regent Patrick A. Mannion, and Regent Felicia Thomas-Williams also attended the meeting.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Proposed Amendment of Subdivision (dd) of Section 100.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Professional Learning Plans [HE (D) 1-REVISED] - Department staff presented recommendations regarding professional learning plans.

Each school district and board of cooperative educational services (BOCES) is required to adopt a professional learning plan that has been drafted by its professional learning team. The purpose of the professional learning plan is to improve the quality of teaching and learning by ensuring that teachers and school leaders receive ongoing learning and have opportunities for professional growth, remain current with their profession, and meet the learning needs of their students.

On June 28, 2024, the Governor signed Chapter 143 of the Laws of 2024, which established Education Law §3012-e, a new framework for locally designed systems of evaluation and professional growth. Pursuant to this law, all school districts and BOCES (LEAs) must transition to their new evaluation systems beginning with the 2032-2033 school year. Although LEAs are not required to implement new evaluation and professional growth systems until the 2032-2033 school year, some LEAs will begin this transition during the 2025-26 school year. A related provision of Education Law §3012-e requires that LEAs have a process for each classroom teacher and building principal to receive formal support for professional growth annually, along with additional professional learning requirements for certain groups of educators.

To implement this statutory provision, the Department proposes to amend subdivision (dd) of section 100.2 of the Commissioner's regulations to require that LEAs include

information collected through the evaluation process as one source of evidence in the needs analysis process that is conducted to develop their professional learning plans.

Deputy Commissioner William Murphy reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

The Higher Education Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents approve the report of the Committee's deliberations at its meeting on November 3, 2025.

REGENTS COMMITTEE ON P-12 EDUCATION

Regents Committee on P-12 Education Members

Vice Chancellor Chin, Co-Chair, Regent Catania, Co-Chair, Regent Tilles, Regent Cea, Regent Norwood, Regent Wills, Regent Ferrer, Regent Tanikawa, Regent Rivera, Regent Thomas-Williams

The P-12 Education Committee held its scheduled meeting on November 3, 2025. All members were present. Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr., Regent Susan W. Mittler, Regent Adrian I. Hale, Regent Hasoni L. Pratts, Regent Patrick A. Mannion, and Regent Keith B. Wiley also attended the meeting but did not vote on any action.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Proposed Amendment of Section 100.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education to Require Instruction in Personal Finance Education and Climate Education [P-12 (D) 1] - Department staff presented the proposed amendment to the Commissioner's Regulations to require instruction in personal finance education and climate education for all public-school students in kindergarten through grade 12. Deputy Commissioner Angelique Johnson-Dingle reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

The P-12 Education Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents approve the report of the Committee's deliberations at its meeting on November 3, 2025.

REGENTS COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Regents Committee on Professional Practice

Regent Norwood, Co-Chair, Regent Mannion, Co-Chair, Vice Chancellor Chin, Regent Cea, Regent Wills, Regent Catania, Regent Hale, Regent Pratts, Regent Krist, Regent Wiley

The Professional Practice Committee held its scheduled meeting on November 4, 2025. All members were present. Chancellor Lester W. Young, Regent Susan W. Mittler, Regent Aramina Vega Ferrer, Regent Shino Tanikawa, Regent Seema Rivera, and Regent Felicia Thomas-Williams, also attended the meeting, but did not vote on any action.

ACTION ITEMS

Professional Discipline Cases [PPC (A) 1 – 3]

The Committee recommends that the reports of the Regents Review Committees, including rulings, findings of fact, determinations as to guilt, and recommendations, by unanimous or majority vote, contained in those reports which have been distributed to you, be accepted in 3 cases. In addition, your Committee recommends, upon the recommendation of the Committee on the Professions, that 26 consent order applications, and that 6 surrender applications be granted, with Regent Brian Krist dissenting in 2 consent order cases (Calendar Nos. 34904 and 34748).

These recommendations are made following the review of 35 cases involving seven licensed practical nurses, five registered professional nurses, four certified public accountants, four dental hygienists, two licensed clinical social workers, two massage therapists, one architect, one land surveyor, one licensed master social worker who is also a licensed clinical social worker, one marriage and family therapist, one occupational therapist who is also an occupational therapy assistant, one pharmacist, one pharmacy, and one respiratory therapy technician who is also a respiratory therapist.

The Professional Practice Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents act affirmatively upon each recommendation in the written report of the Committee's deliberations at its meeting on November 4, 2025, copies of which have been distributed to each Regent.

Restorations [PPC (A) 4 - 7]

The Committee recommends that the application of Amgad A. Hessein for the restoration of his license to practice as a physician in New York State be denied.

The Committee recommends that the application of Zahid Imran for the restoration of his license to practice as a physician in New York State be denied.

The Committee recommends that the application of Leslie D. Theodore for the restoration of his license to practice as a physician in New York State be denied.

The Committee recommends that the application of Tariq Yousef for the restoration of his license to practice as a physician in New York State be granted.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

The Professional Practice Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents act affirmatively upon each recommendation in the report of the Committee's deliberations at its meeting on November 4, 2025.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Deputy Commissioner David Hamilton reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda.

REGENTS COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES (SE-ACCES)

Regents Committee on Special Education and Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (SE/ACCES) Members

Regent Cea, Co-Chair, Regent Hale, Co-Chair, Vice Chancellor Chin, Regent Tilles, Regent Norwood, Regent Mittler, Regent Tanikawa, Regent Catania, Regent Pratts, Regent Thomas-Williams

The Office of Special Education/Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (SE/ACCES) Committee held its scheduled meeting on November 4, 2025. All members were present. Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr., Regents Frances G. Wills, Aramina Vega Ferrer, Patrick A. Mannion, Seema Rivera, and Brian Krist also attended the meeting.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Special Education in NYS for Preschool and School-Age Students with Disabilities Parent Guide – Ceylane Meyers-Ruff and Christopher Suriano will provide an overview of the updated special education on the parent guide.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

The Special Education and Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (SE-ACCES) Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents approve the report of the Committee's deliberations at its meeting on November 3, 2025.

MOVED, that the Regents approve the Committee Reports.

Motion by:	Regent Frances G. Wills
Seconded by:	Regent Christine D. Cea
Action:	Motion passed unanimously.

Chancellor Young adjourned the meeting.

Appendix I
NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF REGENTS CHARTER ACTIONS

Name of Institution	Program Area	County of Location (City/Town)	Description of Charter Action(s)
The Corporation for the Museum of Political Corruption	CE	Albany (Albany)	Extend provisional charter for five years.
Fluvanna Free Library	CE	Chautauqua (Fluvanna)	Amend charter to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate the service area to be the town of Bemus Point Central School District, minus the village of Bemus Point; • Change the trustee term length from five years to three years; and • Add the Internal Revenue Service language necessary for tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3).
Bishop Ludden High School	P-12	Onondaga (Geddes)	Consent to filing certificate of assumed name "Bishop Ludden-Grimes Junior/ Senior High School".
St. Clare Catholic Academy	P-12	Queens (Rosedale)	Extend provisional charter for three years, in lieu of granting an absolute charter.
St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Academy of Queens	P-12	Queens (Maspeth)	Extend provisional charter for three years.
The King's College	HE	New York (New York)	Dissolve charter, approve storage of student records with Houghton University, and recommend distribution of any remaining assets pursuant to an order of Supreme Court.

Name of Institution	Program Area	County of Location (City/Town)	Description of Charter Action(s)
The Feinberg Graduate School of the Weizmann Institute of Science	HE OP	New York (New York) ¹	Consent to filing certificate of assumed name "Weizmann School of Science".

¹ Campus located in Rehovoth, Israel.

Appendix II

REGENTS ACTIONS IN 35 PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE CASES AND 4 RESTORATION PETITIONS

November 4, 2025

The Board of Regents announced disciplinary actions resulting in the revocation of 1 license, surrender of 6 licenses, and 28 other disciplinary actions. The penalty indicated for each case relates solely to the misconduct outlined in that particular case. In addition, the Board acted upon 4 restoration petitions.

I. REVOCATION & SURRENDERS

Dentistry

Kaylee Marie Allen; Dental Hygienist; Central Square, NY 13036; Lic. No. 028995; Cal. No. 34884; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of failing to comply with the mandatory continuing education requirements.

Amanda Renee Rice; Dental Hygienist; Deerfield Beach, FL 33442; Lic. No. 029361; Cal. No. 34913; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of failing to comply with the mandatory continuing education requirements.

Massage Therapy

Patrick McShane; Massage Therapist; East Greenbush, NY 12061; Lic. No. 033772; Cal. No. 34845; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of inappropriate sexual contact with a client.

Nursing

Danielle Marie Sexton; Registered Professional Nurse; Canisteo, NY 14823-1119; Canisteo, NY 14823-1051; Lic. No. 650619; Cal. No. 32922; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: Revocation.

Christopher Michael Simard; Licensed Practical Nurse; Lowville, NY 13367; Lic. No. 342600; Cal. No. 34869; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee

admitted to the charge of having been convicted of Attempted Rape in the 2nd Degree, a class E felony.

Public Accountancy

Linda Lee Kant; Certified Public Accountant; Conesus, NY 14435; Lic. No. 100034; Cal. No. 34923; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of willfully failing to register to practice as a certified public accountant.
Social Work

Marc Fishbein; Licensed Clinical Social Worker; Peekskill, NY 10566; Lic. No. 051396; Cal. No. 34887; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of failing to maintain records for a patient.

II. OTHER REGENTS DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Architecture

Steven Richard Alessio; Architect; Warren, NJ 07059-7154; Lic. No. 023269; Cal. No. 34841; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$2,500 fine.

Dentistry

Sasha M. Smith; Dental Hygienist; Lima, NY 14485; Lic. No. 027529; Cal. No. 34750; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$500 fine.

Danick Claude Maxan; Dental Hygienist; Brooklyn, NY 11205; Lic. No. 029102; Cal. No. 34790; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$2,000 fine.

Engineering, Land Surveying and Geology

Nathan Joseph Romeo; Land Surveyor; Horseheads, NY 14845; Lic. No. 050798; Cal. No. 34830; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$750 fine.

Massage Therapy

Nancy Joyce; Massage Therapist; Purdys, NY 10578; Lic. No. 004691; Cal. No. 34821; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Indefinite actual suspension until fit to practice, upon return to practice, 2 years probation.

Mental Health Practitioners

Karrie D. Damm; Marriage and Family Therapist; North Syracuse, NY 13212; Lic. No. 000246; Cal. No. 34437; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$500 fine.

Nursing

Christine Elizabeth Fobbs; Licensed Practical Nurse; Johnson City, NY 13790; Lic. No. 247537; Cal. No. 34249; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$500 fine.

Colette C. Scherrer; Registered Professional Nurse; Akron, NY 14001-9024; Lic. No. 646125; Cal. No. 34419; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation.

Deborah Kim Budhraj; Licensed Practical Nurse; Schenectady, NY 12308; Lic. No. 320625; Cal. No. 34434; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: 1 month actual suspension, 23 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation.

John Edward Dryfhout; Registered Professional Nurse; Buffalo, NY 14213; Lic. No. 566895; Cal. No. 34607; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$500 fine.

Emma Ruth Reyna Huang; Licensed Practical Nurse; New York, NY 10646; Lic. No. 299534; Cal. No. 34829; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation.

Illekuttige Manji Fernando; Registered Professional Nurse; Staten Island, NY 10310; Lic. No. 777629; Cal. No. 34840; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 month actual suspension, 23 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$1,000 fine.

Heather Anne Oldfield; Registered Professional Nurse; Rochester, NY 14620; Lic. No. 634753; Cal. No. 34855; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$500 fine.

Elizabeth Kay Wood; Licensed Practical Nurse; Livonia, NY 14487; Lic. No. 244351; Cal. No. 34861; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$500 fine.

Cassie L. Hughes; Licensed Practical Nurse; Silver Springs, NY 14550; Lic. No. 332139; Cal. No. 34864; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, \$250 fine.

Amayla Jantonia Thurmond a/k/a Amayla Mazzocchi; Licensed Practical Nurse; Lic. No. 341426; Cal. No. 34875; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$250 fine.

Occupational Therapy

Jill Marie Holland; Occupational Therapy Assistant, Occupational Therapist; Kauneonga Lake, NY 12749; Lic. Nos. 004801, 018277; Cal. Nos. 34904, 34748; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$500 fine.

Pharmacy

Anita Lee; Pharmacist; Rivervale, NJ 07675; Lic. No. 053734; Cal. No. 34766; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$2,500 fine.

Mirra Pharmacy Corp.; Pharmacy; White Plains, NY 10604; Reg. No. 022782; Cal. No. 34811; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Censure and reprimand, \$7,500 fine.

Public Accountancy

Joseph Alexander Pompo a/k/a Joseph A. Pompo; Certified Public Accountant; Syracuse, NY 13219; Lic. No. 114475; Cal. No. 33760; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: 3 months actual suspension, 21 months stayed suspension, upon return to practice, 2 years probation, \$1,000 fine.

Stephen Martin Wyss; Certified Public Accountant; Hollis Hills, NY 11427; Lic. No. 083118; Cal. No. 34770; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, \$5,000 fine.

Joseph C. Macina; Certified Public Accountant; Bay Shore, NY 11706; Lic. No. 083237; Cal. No. 34796; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Censure and reprimand, \$6,500 fine.

Respiratory Therapy

George Klish; Respiratory Therapy Technician, Respiratory Therapist; Webster, NY 14580; Lic. Nos. 004045, 007826; Cal. Nos. 34877, 34876; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$1,000 fine.

Social Work

Rani Wilburn Smith a/k/a Rani Wilburn-Smith; Licensed Master Social Worker, Licensed Clinical Social Worker; New York, NY 10031; Lic. Nos. 088315, 088621; Cal. Nos. 34853, 34216; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, \$500 fine.

Nina Yvette Ruffin; Licensed Clinical Social Worker; Rochester, NY 14606; Lic. No. 083890; Cal. No. 34752; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, \$1,000 fine.

III. RESTORATIONS

The Board of Regents voted on November 4, 2025, to deny the application for restoration of the physician license in the State of New York of Mr. Amgad A. Hessein, San Antonio, TX. Dr. Hessein's license was revoked by the New York State Department of Health, Office for Professional Medical Conduct on October 10, 2016.

The Board of Regents voted on November 4, 2025, to deny the application for restoration of the physician license in the State of New York of Mr. Zahid Imran, Missouri City, TX. Dr. Imran's license was surrendered on January 22, 2016.

The Board of Regents voted on November 4, 2025, to deny the application for restoration of the physician license in the State of New York of Mr. Leslie Theodore, Dix

Hills, NY. Dr. Theodore's license was revoked by the New York State Department of Health, Office for Professional Medical Conduct on October 6, 2014.

The Board of Regents voted on November 4, 2025, that prior to his return to practice as a physician in the State of New York, Mr. Tariq Yousef, Briarcliff Manor, NY, be required to pass another competency assessment, pre-approved by the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), and that he further be required to take and pass the Special Purpose Examination (SPEX) to ensure his current competence prior to the restoration of his physician license in the State of New York, after which, the execution of the Order of Surrender of his license be stayed, that he be placed on probation for a period of five (5) years under the specified terms and conditions, and upon successfully completion of probation to fully restore his license. Dr. Yousef's license was surrendered on February 29, 2008.



Literacy Support Briefs for Linguistically Diverse Learners

November 2025 Board of Regents

ATTACHMENT I

Meet Our Researchers



Dr. Soccoro Herrera
Kansas State
University



Dr. Kathy Escamilla
University of
Colorado Boulder



Dr. Robin Cabral
Kansas State
University

TOOLKIT ROADMAP:

Science of Reading for ELLs

Created for the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL)
at the New York State Department of Education (NYSED)

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EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF READING TO INCLUDE MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS

THE OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES
BRIEF 1

Kathy Escamilla, Ph.D.

Ontological Differences Between Monolingual English Learners and ELLs/MLs

Monolingual English Learners

- Enter school with oral language
- Enter school speaking and are learning to read and write in their home language
- Becoming bilingual is a choice
- Draw upon just one language for learning and literacy
- Live in a primarily English world, at home and at school
- Are assessed and judged on monolingual assessments
- Cultural references in curriculum and texts are often aligned to their own experiences
- Classroom management and instructions are delivered in the language which the children best understand

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English Language Learners and Multilingual Learners

- Enter school with varying proficiencies
- Speak non-English languages that may be stigmatized and marginalized
- Becoming bilingual is a necessity
- Need to code switch, using linguistic resources from both languages
- Live in a multilingual world, language depends on setting
- May be assessed and judged on tests that were not designed for them
- May face invisibility and bias in texts
- Must learn to understand rules and norms in an unfamiliar language and culture

Potential Challenges

For ELL and ML Students

Counting in English

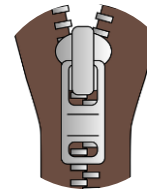
What is a sound?

What is a fist?

What is a finger?



smudge



zip



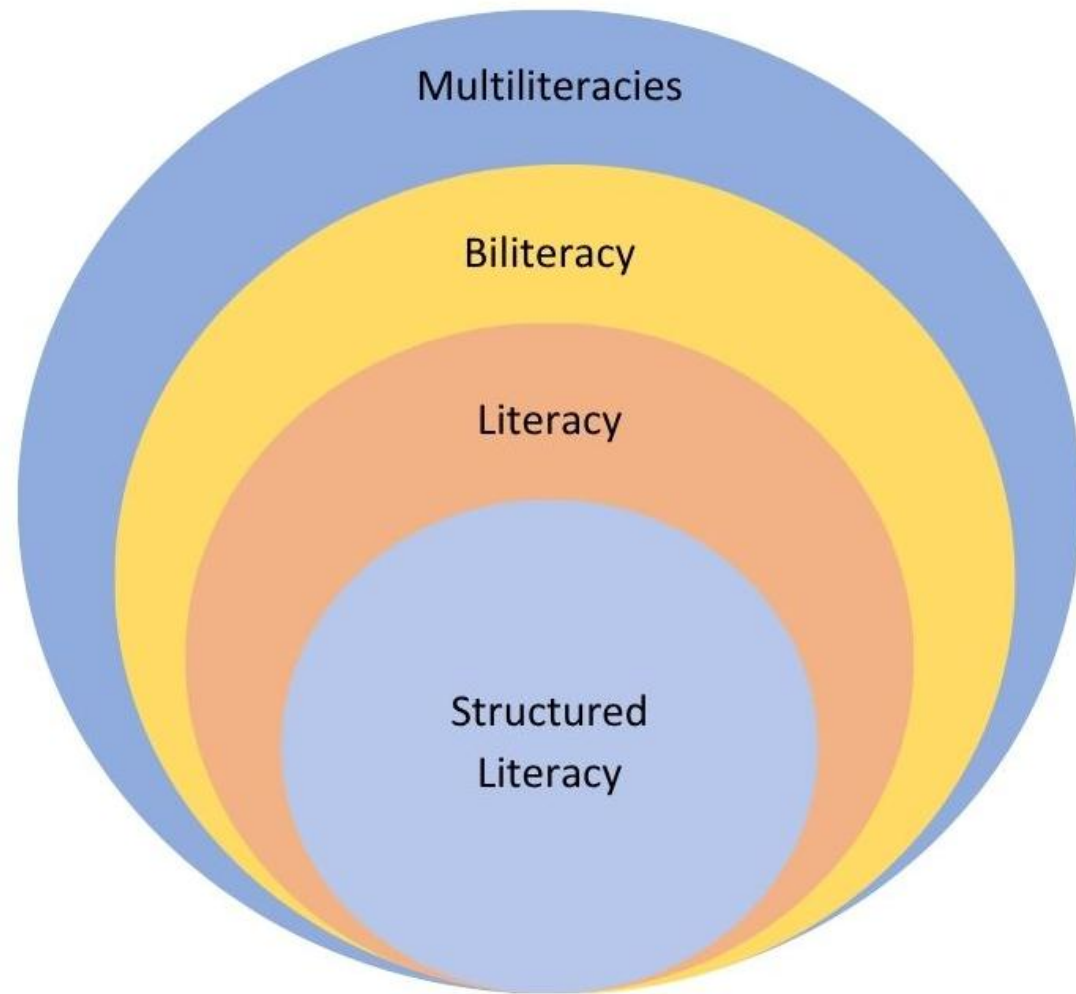
jog



blink

The Expanded Scope: From Reading to Multiliteracies

Adapted from Gottlieb, M. (2023). Right from the start: Enriching learning experiences for multilingual learners through multiliteracies. Washington, DC: Center for Applied Linguistics.





TEACHING READING IN MULTILINGUAL CLASSROOMS: MOVING BEYOND A DEFICIT PERSPECTIVE

THE OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES
BRIEF 2

Socorro G. Herrera, Ph.D. and Robin M. Cabral, Ph.D.

It is impossible to leverage assets we can't see or don't acknowledge.



Asset-based Perspective or Asset-based Lens is when the child's L1 is viewed as a resource, a foundation to build upon in the process of learning to read.



Deficit Perspective or Deficit Lens, when the child's L1 appears as an impediment, a problem to overcome in the process of learning to read.



THE STUDENT BIOGRAPHY

Uncovering Home Language Literacy Assets

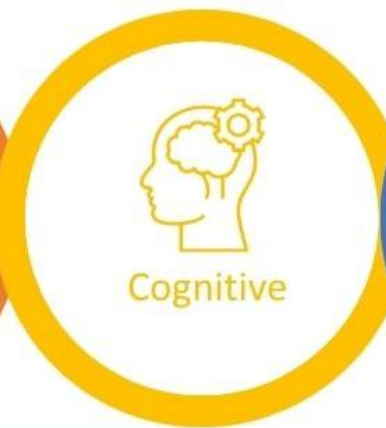


Figure 1 - Sample Note-Taking Tool for Student Biography

LITERACY FROM HOME TO SCHOOL		
Student Linguistic Assets		
Home:		Insights Gained:
School:		
Typical Day for this Student: <i>(outside of school)</i>		
How have I (educator) considered all dimensions of the student biography and any factors that might be impacting perceived performance? Explain.		
How am I partnering with the parents/family to build bridges, connections, and/or make content relevant to the student?		
How well does the student learn new chores, routines, and expectations at home?		
How does the student use language for multiple purposes outside of school (cross-community context)?		
INSTRUCTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS		
Given this student's biography, what strategies would best support their learning needs?	What student behaviors (processing) are observed during direct instruction, group work, and independent work?	What scaffolds or supports are needed to help the student acquire both language and content?
NOTICINGS		

Figure 2 - Sample Note-Taking Tool for Student Biography

STUDENT			
NAME	AGE	GRADE	YEARS ENROLLED IN U.S. SCHOOLS
LANGUAGE(S) FROM HOME			
HOME LANGUAGE(S)		L1 USAGE	
L1		WITH WHOM DOES THE STUDENT USE THEIR L1?	
PROFICIENCY <i>(speaking, reading, listening, and/or writing in L1?)</i>			
IS THE L1 A WRITTEN LANGUAGE?	YES / NO	RECEPTIVELY:	
L2		EXPRESSIVELY:	
OTHER LANGUAGE(S)			
CONNECTIONS			
L1 & L2 COMMONALITIES			
Are there similarities or differences between the L1 and English? If so what are they?	How am I (the educator) using the similarities to bridge skills and knowledge?	How am I (the educator) using the differences to teach skills and knowledge?	
CONSIDERATIONS			
Under what conditions would translation and/or translanguaging aid participation and learning?			
ASSESSMENT FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY			
READING	WRITING	LISTENING	SPEAKING
What language skills are used for decision making (e.g., phonics, comprehension, vocabulary, fluency)?		How were these language skills and needs identified?	
NOTICINGS			
USE THIS SECTION TO ADD ANECDOTAL NOTES ON THE STUDENT			



LITERACY DEVELOPMENT OF EMERGENT MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOM

THE OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES

BRIEF 3

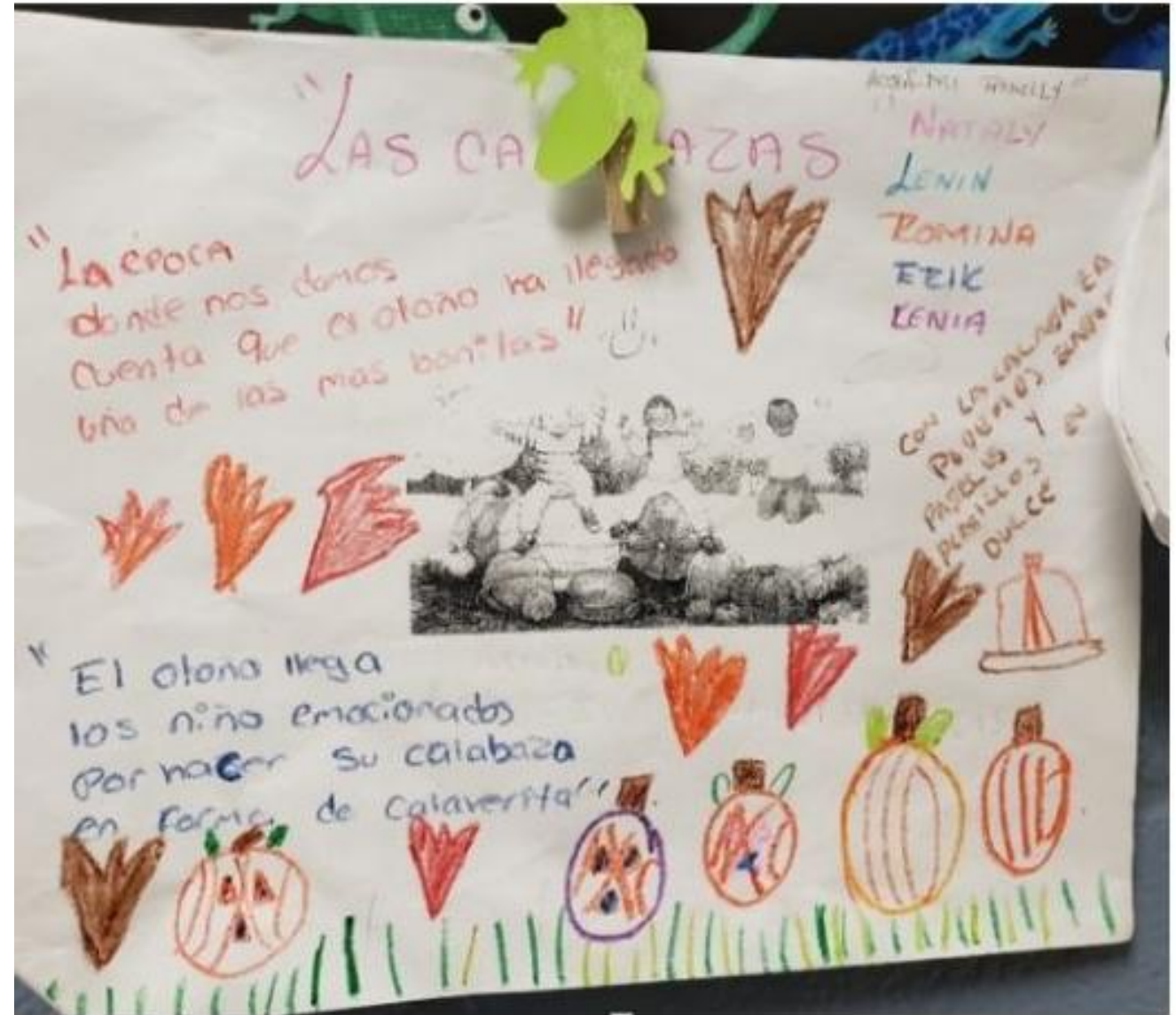
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Oral Language: The First Foundation of Literacy

Literacy development begins at home.

Drawing from and attending to the language, words, knowledge, and experience the learner brings from their caregivers has the potential for accelerating learning to read.



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Misconceptions Regarding Second Language Acquisition in Young Children

Children “pick up” a 2nd language very quickly



Bilingualism confuses kids



More English is better



Socorro G. Herrera, Ph.D.



Bilingualism leads to weak skills in both languages

Questions for Collaborative Parent Engagement

The Parent Connection

We must acknowledge that *parents are the foremost experts on their children*. When educators disregard families and their knowledge of the child, they miss crucial information and opportunities for effective partnership in literacy development. Proactive attention to the NYSED CR-SE Framework and Parent Bill of Rights for English Language Learners is encouraged to optimize best practice in all aspects of education for EML students.



What does a typical day look like for the child?



What is your child's style of play?
Do they interact with other children?



What books does your child like?



What would you like us to know about your child/family?



*Included is an
Appendix with
advice on
screening EMLs*

For each tested skill :

- Target Skill Example
- Cautions
- Alternative Ways to Probe/Screen
- Home/School Connections

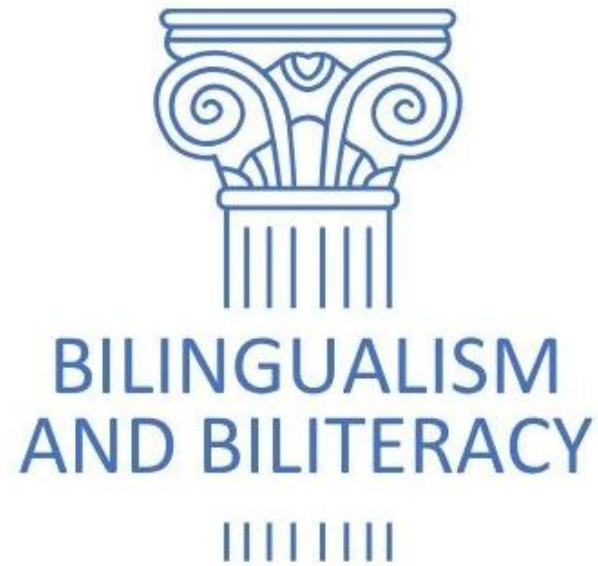


THE SCIENCE OF READING IN DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION CLASSROOMS

THE OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES
BRIEF 4

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The term dual language immersion (DLI) refers to any program that provides literacy and content instruction to all students through two languages and that promotes bilingualism and biliteracy, grade-level academic achievement, and sociocultural competence.

Biliteracy Development in Dual Language Immersion

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English Language Development

refers to instruction that emphasizes English language acquisition



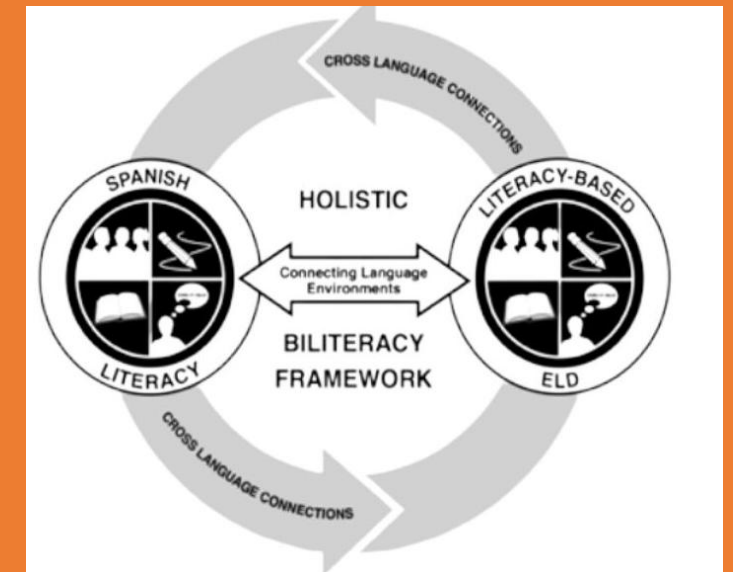
Metalinguistic Development

refers to the ability to understand and analyze language structure including phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. In short, metalinguistic development is the knowledge of how language works. DLI programs students need to develop metalinguistic awareness within each language and across both languages.

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Cross Language Connections

are the act of comparing the similarities and differences between languages.





THE SCIENCE OF READING IN MULTILINGUAL K-12 CLASSROOMS

THE OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES
BRIEF 5

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Moving Beyond the Big Six

The Big Six

Phonological
Awareness

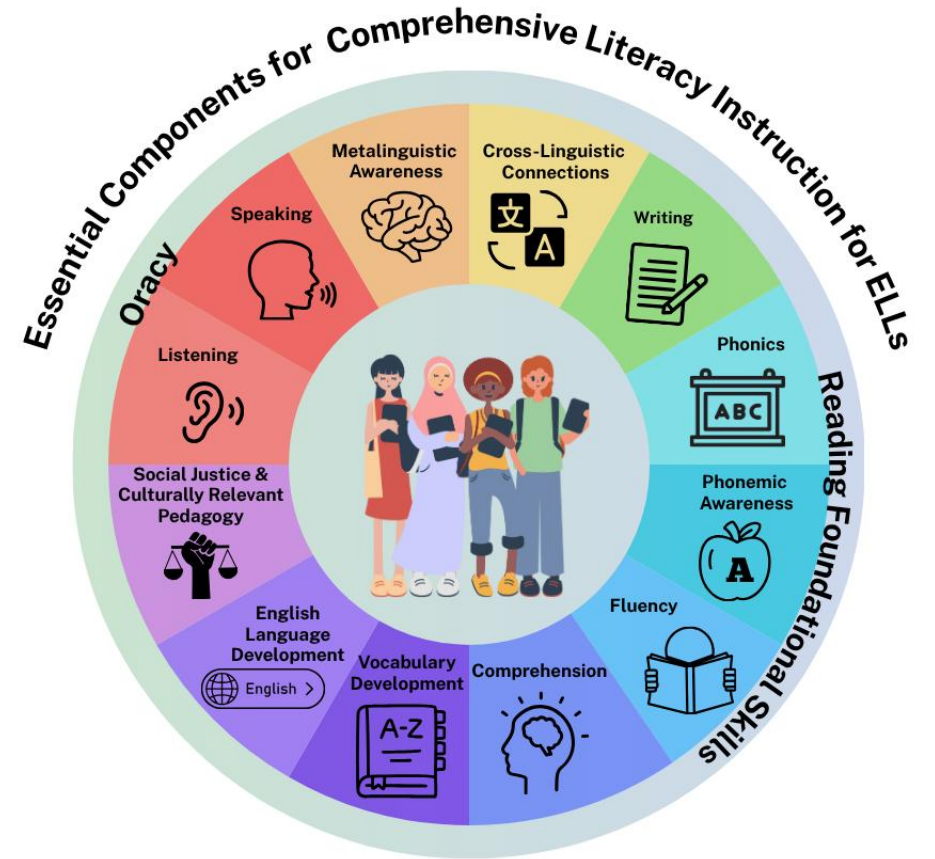
Phonics

Vocabulary

Fluency

Comprehension

Oral Language



Learning to Read While Reading to Learn

Learning to Read

Students develop foundational reading skills.

Reading to Learn

Students develop the skills to acquire and assess content knowledge through increasingly complex print.

Systemic Impacts

What does the data tell us?

1

Instructional methods and programming need revision.

2

Multiple methods of assessment are needed to measure what our students know.

3

Interventions have become educational tracks rather than fluid responsive supports.

(Hoover & Tunmer, 2022)

Systemic Impacts

What does the data tell us?

4

Connection to student words/sounds can hasten the acquisition of phonics.

5

Vocabulary and reading grow through all reading.

6

Meaningful interaction with print at every level will result in fewer students struggling to comprehend what they read in the secondary years.

(Richards-Tutor et al., 2016)



WHAT EVERY INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER
NEEDS TO KNOW:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
ADVANCING MULTILITERACY

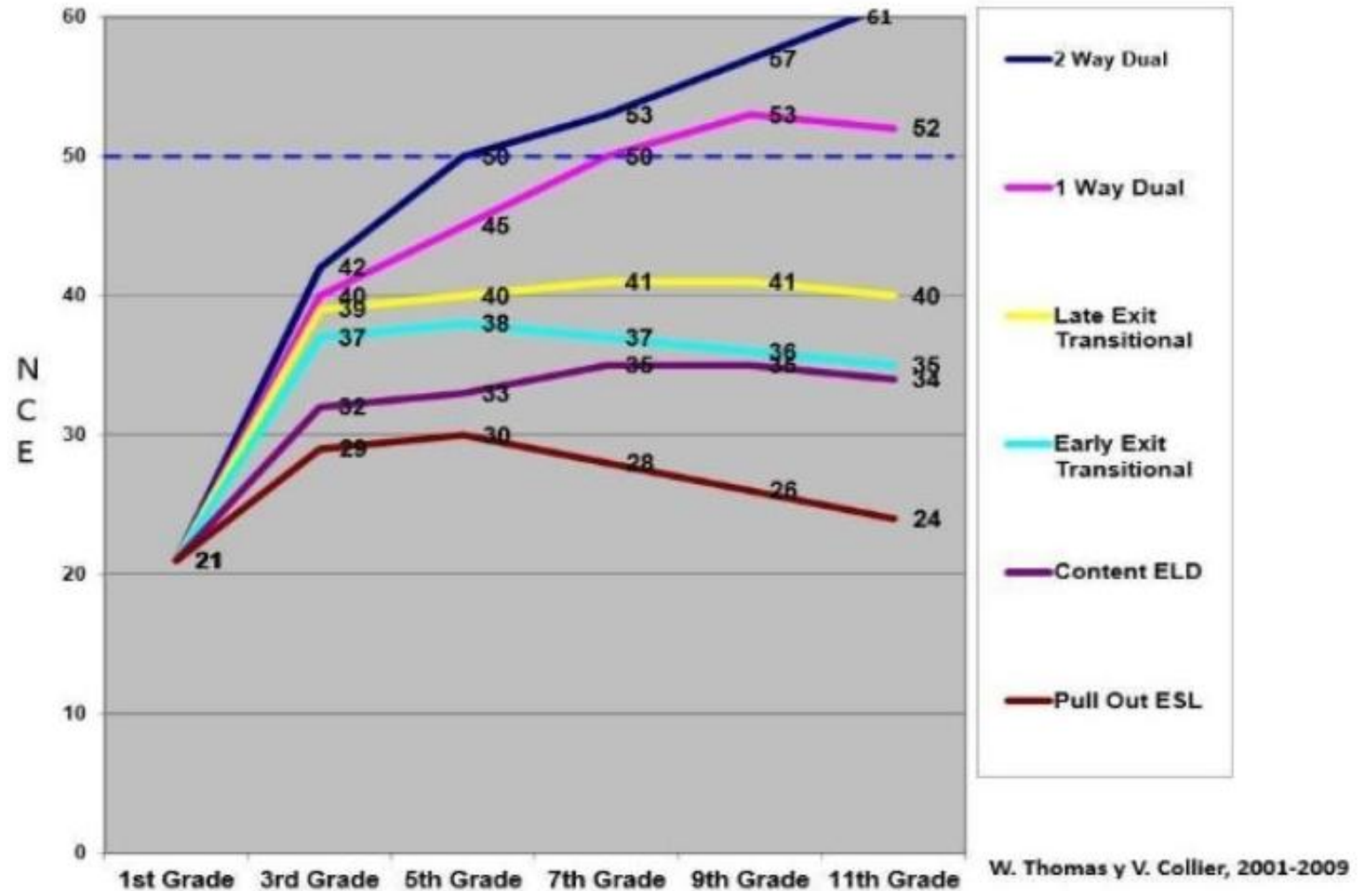
THE OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES
BRIEF 6

Socorro G. Herrera, Ph.D. and Robin M. Cabral, Ph.D.



Is it the label or the model?

The status of being a second language learner is not the determining characteristic leading to school failure or success



Plan

1



Step One

Consider group problem solving when a grade level or group has higher rates of referral for the special education or problem-solving process.

2



Step Two

Invite relevant teachers and support personnel with insight to, and impact upon, this group of children.

3



Step Three

Ask teachers to bring a list of students they have referred or feel are not benefiting from current supports.

Do

First

Teachers share concerns for each student on their list

Second

As teachers share, invite clarification about how the concern is described

Third

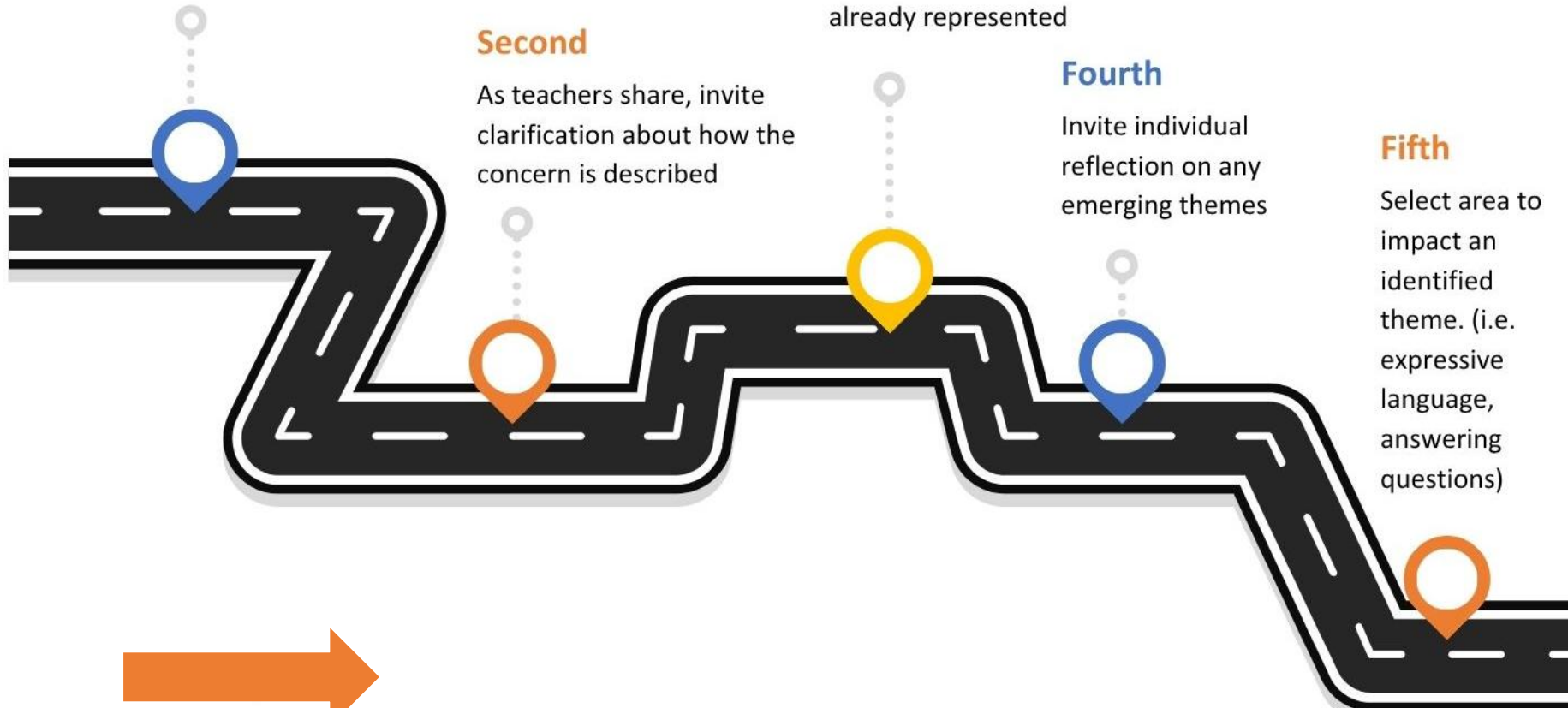
Add new concerns to list and add tally marks to those already represented

Fourth

Invite individual reflection on any emerging themes

Fifth

Select area to impact an identified theme. (i.e. expressive language, answering questions)



A Culture of Learning





Questions & Answers