

Linkage Meeting – 4/11/2017

ELL Community

- 1) What is your favorite thing about school? Least favorite?
- 2) What is the best way to communicate with you about school events, activities, news and bulletins? How are you currently receiving this information?
 - a. Email, phone is best
 - b. Email with follow-up mail
 - c. Text is best
 - d. Phone calls are best
 - e. Parent/Teacher conferences
 - i. Significant improvement
 - ii. Teachers do not discriminate
 - f. Occasional delay in getting messages
 - g. Sometimes a delay in translation
 - h. Monthly check with the Russian translator?
 - i. Want communications in Spanish
- 3) What would you like your classmates & teachers to know about your culture?
 - a. Background/history of traditions (i.e. Day of the Dead)
 - b. Reasons why they're here
 - c. Food culture
 - d. Help retain their native heritage
 - e. Teach more respect in school & respect themselves
 - f. Religion
 - g. Sharing of family
 - h. Respect elders
 - i. Family homework time
- 4) Do you attend parent/teacher conferences? Are you satisfied with the quality of the information share at these? Please share your experiences.
- 5) Are you comfortable in your classes outside of your ELL class? If not, what could be done to help with that?
 - a. Students are comfortable in other classes. First year was harder, since then ... fine.
 - b. One case ... teacher treated student like she was slow to learn and assumed it was due to language. But parent felt this was just how the student learned, slow and methodically. But, student was placed in a lower level class.
 - c. Writing generally provides more challenge than reading/understanding English.
- 6) What do you feel would improve your school experience?
 - a. Greeting at school – helps if someone speaks my language. Uncertainty if I will understand, or be understood. Makes me shy
 - b. Application/paperwork/surveys – confusion b/w school & district. Lost paperwork
 - c. Not comfortable – they don't understand me
 - d. Depends on teacher – teacher/student relationship
 - e. More silent reading time – with accountability

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- f. Every kid learns at own pace. Don't move ahead with whole class when one student is still learning
- g. More communication – transition from elementary → Middle → HS. Gets worse. Need more communication on homework ... more details. Show presentation – what to expect
- h. Help with adapting from single classroom to multiple classes/teachers. Background on how it works.
- i. “Web” – 6th graders come in before everyone else – Demo – something like that for parents/families
- j. Opportunities for more rigorous schedule
- k. More college prep
- l. Parent/teacher conferences could be more efficient. Allow 5 minutes with each teacher, but if problem in one class, then should be able to spend more time with that teacher
- m. Tools available to navigate ... infinite campus (better than conference)
- n. Idea*** - like “Web” or “Link” for parents
- o. Better this year than last – kids don't ask parents for help with homework