Education of English Learners: A Data Equity Walk

Latino Summit 2018 Breakout Session
October 30th, 2018

Un “Paseo de Información” sobre los Estudiantes de Inglés
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Introduction

- Delaware Hispanic Commission
  - To advocate for and raise awareness of educational opportunities for Delaware Hispanic students and families
  - Build awareness of state and federal educational laws, policies, and rights within the Hispanic community

- Our work
  - Focus on English Learners
  - Advocate for state funding to support individual needs of ELs
  - Elevate voices of the community
  - Put information in the hands of the community and empower us all to be informed advocates to ensure that every English learner is afforded the resources and opportunities they deserve.
Education Equity
Delaware coalition

A group of organizations committed to **excellent** and **equitable** education **opportunities** for all Delaware students—who believe the underpinning of an equitable education is the funding system.

→ One big way that we are advocating to make sure that all ELs get the opportunities they deserve is by being a part of a broader coalition.

→ 30+ Community organizations dedicated to advocating for student-based funding system that meets the needs of individual students according to their need, including EL and low income youth.
Data Equity Walk

Objectives:

→ Connect our individual experiences
→ Create a common understanding
→ Identify solutions
→ Build our capacity as advocates

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<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual reflection</td>
<td>20 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Think-pair-share</td>
<td>10 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large-group share</td>
<td>20 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing and Calls to Action</td>
<td>5 min</td>
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All the data and information on the posters around the room come from the English Learner Fact Sheets found online here: [bit.ly/ELsInDE](bit.ly/ELsInDE)
Guiding Questions

What are your general reactions to the data?

¿Cuáles son sus reacciones generales a los datos?

What questions do these data raise for you?

¿Qué preguntas le plantean estos datos?

What solutions can you think of to address the issues raised by these data?

¿Qué soluciones puede pensar para abordar los problemas planteados por estos datos?
Participants at the 2018 Latino Summit in the first-ever Delaware English Learner Data Equity walk
## Discussion Summary

→ Participants in the English Learner Data Equity walk, and panelists from the morning plenary, discussed the following:

<table>
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<th>Themes</th>
<th>Data that stood out the most:</th>
<th>What participants say this means for Delaware going forward:</th>
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| **Early Learning and Literacy** | • 78% of ELs are in elementary school  
  • Evidence of the benefits of parent engagement  | • Emphasize the importance of starting to teach language (both the native language and the 2nd language) at an early age when the brain is most malleable to learn.  
  • Parents should exposing students to their native language even before they enter school  
  • Opportunity to provide two-generation literacy supports to both children and parents |
| **Immigrants**                | • 75% of ELs are native-born Americans  | • Recognize that even if students are native-born, they may have immigrant parents.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| **Growth**                   | • Over 13,000 ELs now, nearly 10% of total student population.  | • ELs are the fastest growing student population, and the state needs to recognize they cost more to education.                                                                                                                                               |
| **Certified, trained educators** | • 25% of all EL students do not have access to a certified EL teacher  | • Promote Teacher Academies, a new career and technical education pathway in Delaware, as an opportunity for bilingual students to enter the teaching profession.                                                                                              |
| **State funding for ELs**     | • Delaware is 1 / 4 states without dedicated state funding for all ELs  
  • States fund $1,500 – $2,000 per EL student on average  | • Legislators need to hear from the community about why this funding is important.  
  • Opportunity grants are a good first step to pursuing per-pupil funding for all ELs, and for showing how increased investment can make a difference.                                                                                                             |
| **College and career readiness** | • 72% of ELs graduate in 4 years, compared to 85% of all students.  
  • Yet all students need remedial courses before being able to take college credit-bearing coursework  | • Remember that a high school certificate does not mean students are college and career ready, in terms of both language and academics.  
  • ELs who arrive in high school (aka “newcomers”) require unique, intense programming and instruction, since it can take 5-7 years to learn a new language |
1. Read and share copies of the EL Fact Sheets and Delaware English Learner Strategic Plan
   ➔ Visit bit.ly/ELsInDE and request fact sheet copies from nkirschling@rodelfoundationde.org

2. Join the Delaware Hispanic Commission Education Subcommittee
   ➔ Email Neil Kirschling at nkirschling@rodelfoundationde.org

3. Host an EL data equity walk to help your community learn about English learners
   ➔ Email Neil Kirschling at nkirschling@rodelfoundationde.org

4. Connect with the Education Equity Delaware coalition for ways to advocate for resource equity (including student-based funding for English learners) through legislator outreach, community mobilization, and communications
   ➔ Sign up at www.educationequityde.org/subscribe-to-our-newsletter

5. Talk to your legislator about their views on creating a fair and equitable school funding system in Delaware
   ➔ Click here for a list of questions to ask
Thank You!  ¡Muchas gracias!

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