

# Strategies for Supporting and Instructing EL Newcomer Students

Alamance-Burlington School System ESL Dept. (NC)

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# District Overview

- **Total of 2000+ ELs** in the Alamance-Burlington School System - Burlington, NC
- **7th largest** EL Population NC

## **Enrolled Since July 1, 2015:**

60 High School EL Newcomers

46 Middle School EL Newcomers

61 Elementary School EL Newcomers



## District Overview Part 2

EL Native Languages		
Native Language	Speakers	Percentage
Spanish	3767	94.29%
<b>Vietnamese</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0.83%</b>
Chinese	29	0.73%
Arabic/Egyptian/Lebanese/Syrian	25	0.63%
Lao/Laotian Tai/Eastern Tai	25	0.63%
Gujarati/Gujarathi	15	0.38%
Hindi/Indian/Urdu	12	0.30%
Portuguese	12	0.30%
29 additional languages with less than 10 speakers per		

# History of the EL Newcomer Support Process in ABSS

Started 4 years ago

Regular Classroom teachers or administrator Requests for EL Newcomer support

Started Visiting Classrooms with EL Newcomers - shared limited resources, over time formalized the support and EL Newcomer Process



# What is Culture Shock?

It is an experience a person may have when one moves to a cultural environment which is different from one's own; it is also the personal disorientation a person may feel when experiencing an unfamiliar way of life due to immigration or a visit to a new country, a move between social environments, or simply transition to another type of life.

# Four Stages of Culture Shock

## 1. Honeymoon or Euphoric Stage

Eager to please even though they have little understanding

## 2. Hostility or Culture Shock Stage

Overwhelmed and sometimes difficult to work with

## 3. Humor or Integration Stage

Regained a sense of confidence

## 4. Home or Acceptance Stage

Adjusted to norms and standards and lives successfully in two cultures



# Acculturation vs. Assimilation

## Activity/Discussion:

Quick Write and Whole Group Review of Personal Acculturation vs. Assimilation Experiences:

Acculturation is positive/negative for immigrants because...

Assimilation is positive/negative for immigrants because...



# EL Newcomer Classroom Visit Process

## Before Visiting The Classroom

US Entry Date

Country of Birth and Native Language (possible L1 resources)

ACCESS or WAPT scores

Student with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE)

Sociocultural Factors (arrival in US, culture shock, et.)

L1 Literacy Pre-Assessment





# EL Newcomer Classroom Visit Process

## During Classroom Visit

### Observing Teacher Strategies & Behaviors

Placement of Student Seating

Integration of Visuals to Match Oral Instruction

Monitoring of EL Newcomer Engagement

Best Instructional Practices Inclusive of EL Newcomer

Promotion of Listening/Speaking/Reading/Writing skills

Modified assignments and assessments to match English language proficiency

Text-Rich Classroom Environment

Comprehensible Speech


WIDA Classroom Supports



# EL Newcomer Classroom Visit Process

## During Classroom Visit

### Observing EL Newcomer Student Participation & Behaviors

- Proximity of EL Newcomer to teacher
  - Level of Student Focus and Engagement on Teacher during Whole Group Instruction
  - Appropriate use of Language Buddy Pairs
  - Comprehensibility of Assigned Academic language and content tasks
  - Appropriateness of student behaviors impacted by cultural factors
  - Student Materials Available and Organized
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# EL Newcomer Classroom Visit Process

## After Visiting the Classroom

- Feedback/Notes from Teacher and Student Classroom Observation(s)  
Feedback Form

Share the Toolkit “Strategies for Supporting and Instructing EL Newcomer Students”

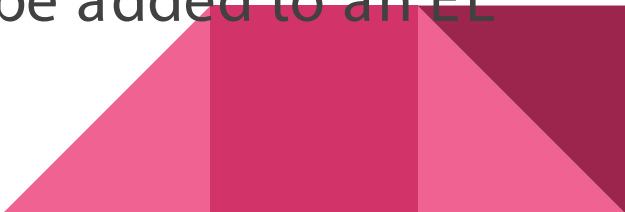
Follow-up with content and language rich resources

Plan for Possible Future EL Newcomer Observations and ongoing Support

\* ABSS “Strategies for Supporting and Instructing EL Newcomer Students” Toolkit

# EL Newcomer Toolkit

## Activity/Discussion:

- In your district/school teams or with a partner from another district or school, identify the 2-3 Document resources in the Toolkit that would best meet the needs of your EL Newcomers if shared in a similar process?
  - What other document resources could be added to an EL Newcomer Toolkit?
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# EL Newcomer Support Process Implementation

## **Activity/Discussion:**

What are the Action Steps and Considerations that your district/school need to Implement and Support a similar EL Newcomer process?



# Contact Information

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