

NSCCSTC ESL Core Workgroup
Agenda for October 12, 2018

1. "Re"- Introductions
2. Why are we here?
3. AB 705 & AB 2098
4. English Writing/Transitions Curriculum

2) The NSCCSTC ESL Core Workgroup is dedicated to the work of alignment and articulation of the ESL courses offered by the various institutions in our local consortium. We continue to work toward creating smooth pathways for our students to transition across institutions in pursuit of education and career goals.

3) AB 705 was passed by legislature to shorten pathways to college-level classes and limit remediation in Community Colleges. For English Composition, this means that students must have the option to place directly into college-level writing courses, and be given placement recommendations based on multiple measures. Implementation for English is currently in progress. For ESL, we have one year extra to decide how students will be placed. Using placement tools like Accuplacer will be allowed as part of a multiple measure, but placements cannot rely on placements testing alone. ESL departments across the state are feeling pressure to shorten ESL pathways even though ESL is not being held to the same strict limitations as the English departments. Implementation for ESL will begin next Fall (2019).

AB 2098 was just passed by the legislature and will result in adult schools reporting immigrant integration outcomes as part of their reportable data. Implementation will start 2019-2020, and details are pending.

4) Mountain View Los Altos shared pilot leveled writing exit goals. They will be doing ongoing professional development about writing instruction and hope to see improved writing skills for their students as a result.

Simone's Notes

4) The Palo Alto Adult School started the Writing Academy in 2012. Initially it cost \$150, then \$30 for the lower levels and \$70 for level 3, then all 3 levels cost \$30. For the last two years it has been free. It meets once a week for 2.5 hours and has been an 8, 9 and 10 week program. It is currently a 10 week program.

The goals of the program are

- to offer our ESL learners a fifth day of education for the morning learners and a third day for the evening learners.

- to address the fact that there's never enough time to teach writing in the traditional ESL classroom.
- to prepare students for entry level writing for community college.

We have three levels in the morning and two levels in the evening. We have also at times combined levels one and two. Additionally, in the beginning we ran a writing lab.

We use Cynthia Boardman's Writing to Communicate. We use book one for level one and two and book 2 for level three. We use CCR anchors and ELPs to guide our course outlines. The focus of level one is sentence development, the focus of level two is paragraph development, and the focus of level three is the five paragraph essay.

Students self place for the classes but during the first class we have them provide a writing sample. Based on a rubric and our assessment, we place them accordingly. Since all the levels are taught at the same time at the same location it's easy to move the students from one level to another as appropriate.

Because this class is now free/state supported we also must CASAS test them.

They can repeat each level once. At the end of all 3 levels if they have mastered the skills they can receive a certificate of proficiency. For the other levels they can receive a certificate of attendance and a certificate of accomplishment.