

IELLAAC Meeting Minutes
June 16th, 2011
Illinois Resource Center

This meeting was arranged specifically to discuss ways that the ISBE Student Information System (SIS) could be modified to better assist providers of ELL services use their data for program improvement. ISBE staff that manage SIS attended for direct discussion. Following introductions, notes were reviewed from a subcommittee meeting on the subject, held on June 8 in Wheeling.

The primary interest of the committee was to have the ability to study the progress of ELLs and former ELLs over several years of their education to gauge the effectiveness of program services. The SIS staff present gave a brief presentation on using SIS to get reports, and strongly urged that ELL providers get "view only" access to SIS online instead of having to work through another person. They also recommended the creation of specially designed reports in SIS because the data needed is already in the system, so it's unnecessary to establish a new data entry requirement.

Committee members also expressed interest in getting access to the testing history of enrollees who are new to the district before the first day of school. There might, possibly, be a Parent Report that schools can provide to relocating families to pass on to their new school. Appropriate planning and placement for these students requires knowing how they've previously performed on the most recent ACCESS administration, and what high school coursework they've had.

The main discussion between SIS staff and the committee examined the boundaries, issues and ramifications of data access during the summer months, when students are technically not enrolled, and what might be done to help programs get the information that they need. The decision to allow such access for this group of students would have to be made by management at the state agency.

The group then began a lengthy discussion of the design of reports to add to SIS that would be most useful. The SIS staff wanted to get a checklist of requirements to study and discuss with ISBE management for inclusion in the system. There were a few tangential discussions that occurred regarding the federal system for evaluating high school graduation rates, SIS web presentations given during a year, the creation of a data submission checklist that LEAs can use to stay on track, and Pre-K ELLs.

At the end of the discussion, SIS staff had a list of reports that the committee would like to see available:

1. Former LEP Student Assessment Scores History Report – a history of the testing results for currently enrolled students who were, but no longer are, LEP, available by school or district.
2. Former LEP Student ELL History Report – a history of the ELL enrollment for currently enrolled students who were, but no longer are, LEP, available by school or district.
3. Formerly Served LEP Students Progress Report – a history of testing results for former ELLs, formerly served, available by school year, school or district, and grade/all grades.
4. Formerly Served LEP Students Progress Report – a history of testing results for current ELLs, formerly served, available by school year, school or district, and grade/all grades.
5. Currently Enrolled Students that were Formerly LEP Report – simple list
6. Summary report including student cohort info and a percentage of students that Met and Exceeded standards (Similar to ISAT), includes LEP Graduations Rate
7. ACCESS Score Pre-K LEP – a history of ACCESS results for students identified as LEP in Pre-K.

After the reports discussion, the committee addressed a few quick items.

- Move up the September IELLAAC meeting from 9/28 to 9/14, so that it precedes the annual ELL directors meeting.
- Plan to look at ELL accountability testing results since the change of LEP transition criteria.
- Plan to consider the appropriate population for the Alternate ACCESS test that will become available in March of 2012. Perhaps someone from WIDA can attend the discussion.

Attendees (in order of sign in)

Barry Pedersen
Maria Lozano
John McNulty
Margo Gottlieb
Howard Hammel
Barbara Somogyi
Jodi Arvis
David Barker
Marilyn Krajenta
Doris Reynolds
Stephanie Jordan
Beatrice Reys-Childress
Diane Argueta
Rosemarie Meyer
Cathy Savage
Susan Ejona
Jolie Colgrove
Carmen Ayala
Adam Lowry
Harriette Herrera