Collaboration in Action: Supporting Dual Language Learners and their Families

featuring

Margie McHugh
Director
National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy
Migration Policy Institute

with

Erin Arango-Escalante
Director, Early Years

Tricia Blanco
Early Years Program Manager

WIDA - University of Wisconsin-Madison

December 10, 2015

Turf Valley Conference Center
Ellicott City, Maryland
Program

Registration 8:30 am
Continental Breakfast

Welcome Remarks 9:00 – 9:20 am
Louise J. Corwin, Executive Director
Ready At Five

Meredith Callanan, T. Rowe Price; Chair
Ready At Five’s Executive Leadership Committee

Rolf H. Grafwallner, Ph.D., Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Early Childhood Development, MSDE

Keynote 9:20 am
DLLs and their Families: National and Maryland Perspectives: Population, Share and Characteristics
Margie McHugh, Director, National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy
Migration Policy Institute

Break 10:30 am

Presentations 10:45 am
Collaborating to Support Young DLLs Part 1: WIDA Early Language Development Standards Framework
Erin Arango-Escalante, Director, Early Years
Tricia Blanco, Early Years Program Manager
WIDA - University of Wisconsin-Madison

Maryland Programs and Practices that Support DLLs

Lunch 12:15 pm

Greetings 1:00 – 1:15 pm
Jack R. Smith, Ph.D., Interim State Superintendent of Schools

Presentation 1:15 pm
Collaborating to Support Young DLLs Part 2: Implementing the WIDA Early Language Development Standards Framework
Erin Arango-Escalante and Tricia Blanco

Adjournment 3:45 PM
Keynote Speaker

Margie McHugh

Margie McHugh is Director of the Migration Policy Institute’s National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy. The Center is a national hub for leaders in government, community affairs, business and academia to obtain the insights and knowledge they need to respond to the challenges and opportunities that today’s high rates of immigration pose for communities across the United States. It provides in-depth research, policy analysis, technical assistance, training, and information resources on a broad range of immigrant integration issues. Ms. McHugh’s work focuses on education quality and access issues for immigrants and their children from early childhood through K-12 and adult, post-secondary and workforce skills programs. She also leads the Center’s work seeking a more coordinated federal response to immigrant integration needs and impacts, and more workable systems for recognition of the education and work experience immigrants bring with them to the United States.

Presenters

Erin Arango-Escalante

Erin Arango-Escalante is guiding WIDA in developing Early Language Development Standards in English and Spanish and future assessments to be used nationally by early care and education practitioners.

Erin’s educational background and experience are in Cross-Categorical Special Education (birth to age 21), English as a Second Language, and Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Certified in Special Education and English for Speakers of Other Languages, Erin has taught children and adults with and without disabilities in the school, home, hospital, Head Start, and various community-based settings. She has been a special education teacher, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapist, director of a New York City school within a hospital, executive director of child care centers, and Wisconsin IDEA Part B 619 Coordinator.

Erin has in-depth experience and knowledge working with families and local, state, and national partners across Early Childhood sectors and Special Education organizations. Her successful collaborative efforts include: development of Head Start, local education agency (LEA), and child care collaborative programs; development of an Early Dual Language Learner Initiative; implementation of CSEFEL with connections to Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS); and development of an early childhood Response to Intervention (RtI) model and implementation across early childhood sectors with connections to K-12 RtI.

Tricia Blanco

Tricia Blanco is the Early Years Program Manager for WIDA at the Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin - Madison. Tricia has 30+ years of experience in the field of early childhood and elementary education, specifically in the areas of bilingual and special education. She has served as an ELL/dual language director, curriculum specialist, university adjunct professor, dual language/ELL teacher and a special educator, both in the United States and Honduras. Her current work focuses on the development of tools, resources and professional development to help support, assess and instruct young dual language learners.
Ready At Five wishes to thank our Symposium Partner

Division of Early Childhood Development

our sponsor

and the
Columbia Branch, Howard County Public Library; Office of Communications MSDE and the
Mid Atlantic Equity Center (MAEC) for their Resource Tables

Ready At Five is a dynamic, statewide organization that elevates the discussion, practice and quality of early childhood education in Maryland. Our vision is that all children will have the foundational skills needed for success in school, career and life.

We achieve our mission by:

- Developing and implementing data-driven solutions based on analysis and dissemination of Maryland’s early childhood data and national research
- Advancing the knowledge and skills of the early childhood workforce through high quality professional development, curriculum and resources
- Supporting children and their families through information, publications and tools, and
- Engaging educational and health leaders, policymakers, the philanthropic and business communities through education and advocacy.

For more information on Ready At Five, contact:

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Maryland Programs and Practices that Support DLLs

CENTRONIA
CentroNía, a nationally recognized, award-winning educational organization, provides affordable, quality education; professional development to educators; and family support services to more than 2,400 low-income children and families in the District of Columbia metropolitan region. Founded in 1986, CentroNía is a multicultural learning community with a pioneering approach to bilingual education. Our holistic approach ensures that the children and families we serve receive the support and encouragement they need to succeed academically, develop a strong sense of community, and live healthy and active lives.
Contact: Estaban Morales - cmorales@centronia.org

HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - FREDERICK COUNTY
Hillcrest Elementary serves a population of roughly 78% native Spanish speakers. The Dual Language program at Hillcrest is in its 2nd year of implementation, and is a one-way- bilingual immersion program in which students receive 50/50 instruction in English and Spanish. Serving Kindergarten and 1st grade, there are roughly 80 students enrolled in Dual Language; all of whom are native Spanish Speakers and receive ELL services.
Contact: Kaitlin Moore - kaitlin.moore@fcps.org

HILLTOP JUDY CENTER – ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
Judith P. Hoyer Early Child Care and Family Education Centers (known as "Judy Centers") provide a central location for early childhood education and support services for children birth through Kindergarten and their families who reside in specific Title I school districts across the State of Maryland. The Anne Arundel County Judy Center strives for every child to enter kindergarten ready to learn. It serves two school catchment areas offering a variety of family engagement activities and family support, including:
- Bilingual playgroups and parent education
- Bilingual home visiting
- Hanen training for Spanish speaking parents in partnership with ITP
- Outreach events, community events

The Judy Center at Hilltop builds school readiness through partnerships with community organizations, agencies, and friends.
Contact: Amy Beal - ADBeal@aacps.org
LATINO CHILDCARE ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND (LCAM)

LCAM works with providers to help them understand that a well-planned and well-structured early education program is required for quality education. Our association provides: 1) Training in early education and in parenting; 2) Explanation/clarification of rules and regulations of MSDE (COMAR); and 3) Spanish language books and other materials.

We coordinate regular trainings in early education in conjunction with the Resource and Referral Center and Montgomery College. We organize small working committees for the providers to plan their work for the coming month. We strive to help providers achieve better socialization among their children and support and involve the parents/families to promote their children’s learning at home. Our providers follow a curriculum that does not allow the use of TV or other electronic devices, instead they focus on having the children learn-by-doing. Many of our members offer a Spanish-immersion program in which children from non-Spanish-speaking families learn Spanish throughout the day and are encouraged to repeat words and simple phrase.

Contact: Rossana Espinosa - rossanaeq@hotmail.com

WOLFE STREET ACADEMY – BALTIMORE CITY

Wolfe Street Academy has been a Baltimore City Public Community School, serving the families and neighborhoods of southeast Baltimore, for nearly a decade. We use the Community School Strategy to identify the needs of our students, families and community and then to gather resources to empower families to overcome the barriers to success they face. The strength of the strategy lies in a full-time Community School Coordinator who is able to develop lasting and long term relationships with and between families, neighbors, businesses, non-profits and government agencies. The resources with which the Community School Strategy has empowered our community include adult English classes for parents speaking another language, food pantry giveaways and assistance in maintaining electronic benefits (Food Stamps) in order to address food scarcity, yearly dental screenings and dental hygiene instruction for all students, full time, on site mental health services for students and their families, and expanded after school experiences that provide academic acceleration, enrichment activities, and supper to 80% of our students.

Contact: Mark Gaither - cgaither@bcps.k12.md.us