

Dates of Activity: April 2008 through June 2008
Seed Grant: English Language Learner Leadership Academy
Grantee Organization: Fresno County Office of Education
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Description of Activity by Goal and Objective

Academy Session Eight – April 2008

- Expected Outcome #1 Participants will gain knowledge of effective, research-based curriculum for English Learners which will allow them to make informed decisions when purchasing instructional materials.
- Expected Outcome #3 Participants will gain knowledge of effective, research-based instructional strategies for English Learners which will allow teachers to increase the impact of their lessons.
- Expected Outcome #5 Participants will understand the importance of using data to measure and assess progress of students acquiring English and at the same time learning academic content in a variety of settings and will create a culture of data collection and analysis to validate the effectiveness of the instructional program and to guide adjustments in program delivery.
- Expected Outcome #9 Participants will be able to develop systems for identifying struggling students and design research-based intervention programs, allowing more students to participate in grade level instruction.
- Session Outcomes included exploring the use of technology to assist English Learners (EL) in accessing content, improving academic performance and acquiring English; to become familiar with a districtwide instructional improvement initiative that focuses on standards and achievement, and learn of the reform strategies that took a local high school from “worst to first.”

Academy Session Nine – May 2008

- Expected Outcome #10 Participants will report an increase in their effectiveness as leaders.
- Expected Outcome #11 Participants will report an increase in their willingness to share their knowledge and experience with other administrators, creating a groundswell of schools believing it is possible for EL students to improve test scores.
- Session Outcomes included a courageous leadership assessment to determine personal strengths and/or areas in which participants might need support in order to take action, implement, and monitor progress for EL students, as well as an assessment of improvement strategies learned at the EL Academy and the level of implementation or intent to implement at their districts.

Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)

1. September 2008
 - Final EL Academy session to analyze current assessment data for EL students in the areas of Language Arts and Math, revisit and revise action plans, ensure a plan to implement and monitor effective strategies.
2. Coordinate continuation of partnership among the eight counties
3. Develop calendar of EL Academy sessions for Cohort II (Attachment 1)

Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

Challenges included:

1. Sustaining attendance at Academy sessions while busy spring schedules make pressing demands on administrators' time (ongoing)
2. Encouraging districts/schools to make a purposeful assessment of current programs, determine what practices are having a positive impact on student achievement, and continually monitor for effectiveness.

If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.

Presenters at the Academy to date include partnerships with and outreach to:

- California State University, Fresno
- Fresno County Office of Education
- Tulare County Office of Education
- Stanislaus County Office of Education
- Fresno Unified School District
- Sanger Unified School District
- Culter-Orosi Joint Union School District
- Waterford High School District

The following attachments may be downloaded from the [PreK-12 Education Work Group Document Library](#) located on the Partnership Web site:

1. Calendar of EL Academy Sessions