

NDDPI English Language Proficiency Assessment Memo 2009 – 2010 #1

TO: School District LEP/ELL Program Directors/School Contacts
FROM: Mari B. Rasmussen, NDDPI
RE: State English Language Proficiency Assessment and Training Schedule
DATE: August 27, 2009

Welcome back to a new school year! I am looking forward to working with you in supporting the education of your multicultural and language minority students in 2009 – 2010! Following are some updates on the North Dakota English Language Proficiency Standards and Assessment Program.

Identification, Reporting and Exiting of English Language Learners

All students who are limited in English language proficiency must be identified and reported. More information on reporting is available at http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/bilingul/seclang/gen_guidance.pdf. Students who have attained English language proficiency must be exited. North Dakota's definition of proficiency for exiting is available at <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/bilingul/standards/definition.pdf>.

Assessment Schedule

Annual English language proficiency assessment will take place March 1 – April 9, 2010. The schedule is available at <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/bilingul/standards/schedule.pdf>.

Training Schedule

DPI will be providing training on the state English language proficiency standards and assessments in 2009 – 2010. A list of training opportunities is available at <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/bilingul/standards/train.shtm>.

October 1 – 2, 2009 Training

Training on several components of the standards and assessments will be provided in conjunction with the DakotaTESL conference “Closer Connections” in Sioux Falls, SD. Enclosed is a schedule of the training that will take place as part of the conference. If you are attending the training you must register for the conference. Registration information is available at http://dakotatesl.com/2009_conference. DPI will provide reimbursement for those attending training as part of the conference. Reimbursement will include registration, substitute teacher and travel costs and be based on the number of trainings in which the individual participates. For example, someone who only attends one training will be partially reimbursed. You must specify that you are attending the DPI training upon registering for the conference.

Please contact me at 701-328-2958 or mrasmussen@nd.gov for more information.

Thank you!