

# Bureau of Student Achievement through Language Acquisition (**SALA**)

## A Message from Lori

January, 2012

Welcome to a New Year. Each year, 'out with the old and in with the new' restores energy with a new perspective. The SALA office is working diligently to support districts and respond to their questions and concerns. This month, I will present at the FABES meeting in Orlando. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you will have access to the presentation on our website.

In conjunction with planting, the following Chinese proverb literally and figuratively sends us educators a message:

When planning for a year, plant corn. When planning for a decade, plant trees.

When planning for life, train and educate people. Let's all plant for life!

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## World Languages Update



The proposed World Languages Course Descriptions will be presented for approval at the State Board of Education meeting on February 28, 2012. Bureau Chief Lori Rodriguez will conduct a session on the course descriptions at the Florida Language Association for Managers in Education (FLAME) meeting on January 19, 2012.

## Summer Courses in Spain

Spain's Ministry of Education invites teachers and school administrators to the "Summer Courses in Universities in Spain" program. The program's goal is to update teaching materials and Spanish teaching methodologies towards perfecting the understanding and use of the Spanish language. Registration deadline is 2/29/2012. More information on eligibility and courses is available here.

[http://www.educacion.gob.es/eeuu/en\\_US/convocatorias-programas/convocatorias-eeuu/cursos-verano](http://www.educacion.gob.es/eeuu/en_US/convocatorias-programas/convocatorias-eeuu/cursos-verano)



## Title III **Roll Forward**

Districts with outstanding roll-forward funds from the 2010-2011 grant cycle must submit an amendment to receive the funds. Forms DOE 150 and 151 must be completed and sent to the FDOE Office of Grants Management by February 1, 2012. Obtain forms at <http://www.fldoe.org/grants/gform.asp>

## **District Obligations to Immigrant Students**

Earlier this year, the US Departments of Education and Justice jointly issued a letter to local educational agencies reminding them of federally mandated obligation to provide equal educational opportunities and access to public education for all elementary and secondary children residing and attending schools within their districts. The letter was issued because some districts were engaging in student enrollment practices that may chill or discourage the participation, or lead to the exclusion, of students based on their or their parents' or guardians' actual or perceived citizenship or immigration status. The letter can be found <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-201101.pdf>



## Program Monitoring

Onsite monitoring has been completed for Broward and Hendry counties for Title III and ESOL programs. Thanks for your diligence in completing the work papers and for providing great feedback. We look forward to upcoming onsite visits to DeSoto, Okaloosa and Sarasota in January. Districts that are not scheduled for onsite or desktop monitoring in 2011-12 are required to conduct self-monitoring of their programs and services. The ESOL contacts for districts that are self-monitoring should have received documents to complete and return to SALA. Please contact our office if you have any questions about the monitoring process.



Follow-up reminders resulting from the monitoring visits:

- Parents must be notified of ESOL participation every year. Sample letters can be found at <http://www.fldoe.org/aala/pdf/spnl-english.pdf>.
- Parents do not have to be informed of ELP testing; however, school-based personnel should ensure that parents understand the HLS testing and placement procedures.
- ELLs can enter and exit the ESOL program on assessment criteria alone within their first three years in the program. ELL committees do not need to be convened to enter and/or exit a student unless the specific situation warrants a meeting.
- Districts should ensure that their MIS departments accurately identify and report data on immigrant students, including K-2 students who meet the eligibility criteria for immigrant students and youth.
- According to Rule 6A-6.0908 FAC, bilingual instructional staff is required to assist ELLs in content areas at school sites with 15 or more ELLs speaking the same home language. When a bilingual paraprofessional is used to meet this mandate, job descriptions and daily work schedules must reflect exclusive instructional and native language support to ELLs.

## CELLA 2012 Schedule

**Delivery of 2012 CELLA Training Materials:** January 25, 2012

**Train-the-Trainer Sessions:** January 30, 2012 – February 3, 2012

-St. Augustine – January 30, 2012

-Celebration – February 1, 2012

-Ft. Myers – February 3, 2012

-Online Training – February 6, 2012

**Delivery of 2012 CELLA Testing Materials:** February 13, 2012

**2012 CELLA Testing Window:** March 5, 2012 to April 6, 2012\*

\*Districts deviating from the dates above must submit a written request to Florida Department of Education and receive written approval prior to testing.



## CELLA Reminders

1) Prior to test administration and if available, School Coordinators should provide a hardcopy of the CELLA Parent Information Brochure to parents in the student's home language. Go to <http://www.fldoe.org/grants/gform.asp> to download brochures in the following languages: English, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese/Zhongwen, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Russian, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

2) All secure materials **must** be returned to Questar after the CELLA test administration, between March 12, 2012 and April 13, 2012.

3) If there are updates to CELLA district personnel, please contact Sabrina Hooppell at [sabrina.hooppell@fldoe.org](mailto:sabrina.hooppell@fldoe.org)