

2018-2019

ELL Professional Development Plan

It is the intention of Belmont Charter School to provide quality instruction to English Language Learners. This requires a general education teacher who is skilled in a variety of curricular and instructional strategies. General education teachers need to become familiar with the areas in which ELL students may encounter challenges in a school's curriculum. They need practical, research based information, resources, and strategies to teach, evaluate, and nurture ELL students.

Belmont Charter School's plan for a comprehensive professional development program for general education teachers and school staff working with ELLs will include the following essential components:

- > A process for integrating teachers' understanding of academic content and English-language proficiency standards with instruction in teaching methods and assessments.**
- > Methods for implementing instructional strategies that ensure that academic instruction in English is meaningful and comprehensible.**
- > Guidance on how to implement strategies that simultaneously integrate language acquisition, language development, and academic achievement.**
- > Exposure to a demonstration showing why increasing academic achievement of ELLs is dependent upon multiple instructional approaches or methodologies.**
- > Providing a "strategies toolkit" for teachers, which offers ways to enhance and improve instruction for struggling students, based on assessment results.**
- > Cultural awareness is also an important component of a professional development program. To maximize achievement opportunities for ELLs, educators must understand and appreciate students' different cultural backgrounds.**

Annual assessments of the professional development needs of general and specialized teachers, professional support personnel, and paraprofessionals.

- Review policies that shape ELL staff development and determine what changes may be needed to support improvements.
- Set standards and priorities for the design, implementation, and content of ELL professional development.
- Increase the time available for ELL staff development.
- Support efforts to ensure that all professional development activities include a significant, separate module for teaching English learners.
- Support efforts to address the needs of English Language Learners in all types of professional development activities for teachers.