

Challenges Facing ENL Students

By: Rachel Heym



Agenda of Events

Day 1:

- A. Discuss the challenges facing ENL students
- B. Discuss some ways to mitigate these challenges
- C. Prepare for Culture Night: What are everyone's roles?

Day 2:

- A. Put these idea into practice through attending a Culture Night



A. What are some challenges facing ENL students?

- High levels of anxiety due to differences in cultural norms or recent moves (Mogel, 2016).
- Low levels of motivation which result in a high affective filter (Du, 2009).
- World events such as the Covid-19 pandemic that can disproportionately affect immigrant and non-white communities (U.S. House of Representatives, 2022).
- Coming from schools or living in low-income communities (McKillip & Farrie, 2020).



Reflection

- Have you had any experiences with your ENL students and these problems? If yes, share in your tables what these experiences were. If not, how do you think these aspects can negatively impact our students in our district?



Activity in groups:

Each person received a slip of paper when they walked in with a number on it (numbers 1-4). These are your groups for this activity. There are 4 questions on poster papers around the room. Each group starts at the table with their number on it, writes their answer to the question with a post-it that will stick to the poster, and then switches to the next table for a new question after 5 minutes.

Question #1: What challenges have you seen facing ENL students?

Question #2: What supports have you seen help ENL students succeed in school?

Question #3: How can teachers foster strong relationships with ENL students?

Question #4: How can teachers involve ENL students' families in their learning?



B. How can teachers mitigate the challenges facing ENL students?

- Teachers can make an effort to form strong relationships with their students (Kambouri et al., 2022). A strong student-teacher rapport allows students to thrive in school and be truly engaged in their classes (Sunha et al., 2015).
- Teachers can incorporate student interests in the class material (Chou, 2011).
- Teachers can contact parents regularly and show them they value their input (Kambouri et al., 2022).
- Teachers can include a wide representation of diverse cultures to allow students to learn about their own cultures in the classroom (Beghin, 2022).



C. Prepare for Culture Night

- When? Friday, September 29th from 7-9pm
- Where? Canandaigua Academy School gym
- Who? ENL learners k-12 and their families!
- What? Introduction, dinner, All About Me activity



Parent Survey

Culture Night
Canandaigua Academy School Gymnasium
Friday, September 29th, 7-9p.m.
435 East Street, Canandaigua N.Y.

Please mark the box for one of the following statements:

I am coming and I have my own transportation.

I am coming, but I need bus transportation including pick up and drop off to and from my house.

I cannot come, regardless of transportation.

Please have your child hand in this survey by placing it in the box in the Main Office labelled
Culture Night Transportation.

Thank you!



Parent Letter

Culture Night

Canandaigua Academy School Gymnasium

Friday, September 29th, 7-9p.m.

435 East Street, Canandaigua N.Y.

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are so happy you are attending our Culture Night on Friday, September 29th. Each family is encouraged to bring a dish to share for dinner representing their culture or home countries. If there are any ingredients you would like to sign up for at no cost, please indicate them below. You may sign up for 3 free ingredients. Your child will pick them up at school from their teacher.

Thank you,

Canandaigua ENL & Bilingual Teachers

Ingredients:

1.

2.

3.



All About Me activity

All About me

I speak _____ at home with my family!



(Draw a photo of the flag representing the country you come from)

Three things I like to do are:

1.

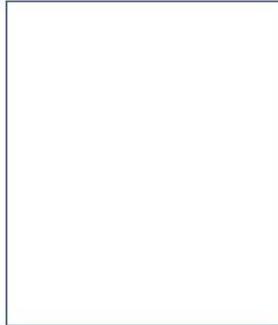
2.

3.

Favorite Food: (Draw below)

Here is my family:

(Draw your family and label their names!)





References

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Thank you!!! Questions or comments?