



The ND ExcELLing Educator

North Dakota ELL Newsletter

August 2015

Professional Development

- ◆ **WIDA Data Analysis - Focus on Schools and Districts:** December 1-2, 2015 at the Radisson Hotel—Bismarck, ND; www.nd.gov/dpi/events/dataanalysis/
- ◆ **ACCESS 2.0 Training:** Training modules for current test coordinators, administrators, and technology coordinators are available at www.wida.us/access_2.0. There will be a special ACCESS 2.0 face-to-face training session after the national conference in Las Vegas, NV.

ELL Reminders

- ◆ The Non-Participation report is **PAST DUE**. Please access your district's report and submit the report in STARS.
- ◆ **TRACK DOWN YOUR SCHOOLS' HEADSETS!!** Schools that received headsets for the upcoming ACCESS 2.0 testing. The number of headsets districts/schools received were based on ELL student counts from the 2014-2015 school year.
- ◆ Registration: Be sure you are giving Home Language Surveys to ALL students, not just those who you "suspect" may be ELLs. Review the identification and screening guidance on the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) website.
- ◆ Consolidated applications for Title III funds are due August 28, 2015. Title III final allocations have been sent to the district authorized representatives. Be sure all Title III consortia members discuss how funds will be spent and the information gets submitted with the consolidated application.

General Information

- ◆ Welcome back for another great school year!
- ◆ The new NDDPI website has great resources for parents, administrators, educators, and community. Check out the [ELL requirements](#) to be sure you are prepared for the year.
- ◆ Please review the [Q&A](#) from the U.S. Department of Education posted on the NDDPI website regarding ELLs with disabilities.
- ◆ Be SURE your technology coordinator, ELL test coordinator and ELL test administrator have reviewed their responsibilities for the upcoming WIDA ACCESS 2.0 online assessment. We don't want them to have any surprises in January.
- ◆ ELL coordinators please verify WIDA user accounts to ensure they are up-to-date and you are aware of staff training needs.
- ◆ WIDA AMS (Assessment Management System) will be available September 4, 2015. Once it is live, webinars will be available.
- ◆ Educators can find interactive online [SAMPLE ACCESS 2.0](#) items on the WIDA website.

WIDA™ **WIDA 2015 National Conference:** October 15-17, 2015 in Las Vegas, NV; for more information or to register, go to <http://widaconference.us>



2015 Closer Connections Conference
November 8-9, 2015
Holiday Inn City Centre, Sioux Falls, SD

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If you have an ELL event or resources to include in the newsletter, please send to Lodee Arnold for consideration.