BOARD MEMO

SUBJECT: English Language Learner Program Evaluation

TYPE: Action

MOTION: Approve English Language Learner Program Evaluation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
As required by the Missouri School Improvement Plan (MSIP) standards, school districts must evaluate English Language Learner (ELL) programs biennially. The focus of the present report is: *Does SSD ELL meet MSIP, state and federal guidelines? Has the district implemented recommendations from previous ELL evaluation? What is the level of ELL implementation*?

The purpose of the English Language Learner (ELL) program is to teach and advocate for beginning English learners so they can become successful within our community both socially and academically. The program consists of two parts. All SSD students are screened for ELL needs according to NCLB guidelines and those who are identified as ELL are provided services. Currently there are no students identified as ELL in the district.

This program's processes are in alignment with the stated goals. It is compliant with state and federal mandates. Identification procedures are in place to provide screening upon enrollment. SSD has eight ELL endorsed teachers who are able to provide services to any student identified as requiring ELL intervention.

Strengths, opportunities for improvement and recommendations are based on staff and stakeholder review of the data.

COST: The costs are included in the budget.

ENCLOSURES: English Language Learner Program Evaluation

ITEM PREPARED BY: Joan Zavitsky
                        Randy Barnes

Board Approved: 4/12/2011

Coordinator Name
Mary Lee Burlemann

Planning Team
Mary Lee Burlemann, Intake Coordinator
Martha Garrett, Facilitator of Research, Data and Evaluation
Jim Hieger, Assistant Principal, North Tech
Kirsta Armistead, Assessment Facilitator, North Tech
Krista Sherman, Social Worker, North Tech
Cathy Kippenberger, Instructional Facilitator, North Tech
Paul Bauer, Director, Special Education Schools
Pat Waddle, English Teacher, South Tech
Alma Atkins, Spanish Teacher, North Tech
David Baker, Principal, South Tech
Mike Powers, Principal, North Tech
Phyllis Kulp, Administrator, Federal Programs

Description of the Program
The purpose of the English Language Learner (ELL) program is to teach and advocate for beginning English learners so they can become successful within our community both socially and academically. The program consists of two parts. All SSD students are screened for ELL needs according to NCLB guidelines and those who are identified as ELL are provided services. Currently there are no students identified as ELL in the district.

Description of How the Program's Services are Developed and Delivered
Service delivery is determined by a Home Language Survey is given to all students at the time of enrollment. Two questions are asked. *Was English the first language you learned? Is a language other than English used in your home? If so, what language?* If either of the answers to these questions is "yes", then the student is eligible to be screened for English proficiency using the WIDA W-APT* screening assessment. Reading, writing, speaking and listening are screened. Students who do not pass the W-APT are administered the Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS) for ELLs. ACCESS for ELLs is the English language proficiency assessment that the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has selected to meet the requirement of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) to annually assess Missouri's students who are eligible for ELL services. ACCESS assesses the academic English language proficiency of students in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Results are also calculated to determine if the district has met the Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs). This test replaces the LAS Links assessment that Missouri has used over the past two years. Identified ELL students scoring "below proficient" are provided English language services offered within the district.

Key Program Stakeholder Groups

☒ Students   ☐ Board of Education
☒ Parents   ☐ Taxpayers
☒ Staff   ☐ Other (0T)
☒ Administrators

Student and/or Stakeholder Needs Addressed by the Program.
The limited English proficiency of ELL students inhibits their ability to be successful in school. This program will screen our student population to identify ELL students and provide them with the English language skills they need in order to be proficient and successful.

Overall Goals of the Program

Goal 1:   The program will meet Federal Compliance guidelines.

Goal 2: SSD will systematically identify students who speak languages other than English at home and provide effective programs to meet assessed needs.

Expected Measureable Outcomes

SSD will annually meet 100% of all Federal compliance requirements as measured by DESE self-monitored checklist.

100 % of SSD students will be screened in order to identify ELL students and provide them with appropriate services.

Evaluation Questions
- What is the status of the program's progress toward achieving the goals?
- What do key stakeholders and staff consider to be the strengths of and opportunities for the program?
- How well aligned are the program's priorities and processes with the goals of the program?
- How does the program's actual implementation compare with the program's design?

Data Collection Methods
- ☒ Surveys and questionnaires
- ☒ Interviews
- ☒ Document reviews
- ☐ Observations
- ☐ Focus groups
- ☐ Case studies
- ☐ Assessments
- ☐ Other (Specify)

* WIDA W-APT is developed by World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA). Missouri is a member of the WIDA consortium specifically to meet NCLB standards for ELL. W-APT stands for the WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test™. This assessment tool, known as the "screener", is used by educators to measure the English language proficiency of students who have recently arrived in the U.S. or in a particular district. It can help to determine whether or not a child is in need of English language instructional services, and if so, at what level.

Evaluation Results

What is the status of the program's progress toward achieving the goals?

Goal 1: The Program will meet Federal Compliance requirements

Measureable Objective 1:	SSD will annually meet 100% of all Federal compliance requirements as measured by DESE self-monitored checklist.
Results: SSD is in 100% compliance with the Federal guidelines as measured by the NCLB checklist for ELL http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/fedprog/documents/NCLB_Checklist2010.pdf	

Goal 2: Students who speak a language other than English at home will be systematically identified and provided effective programs to meet assessed needs.

Measureable Objective 1:	100 % of SSD students will be screened in order to identify ELL students and provide them with appropriate services.
Results: Based on the results of the Home Language Survey, no students were administered the W-WPT or the ACCESS. No students qualified for ELL services. Five SSD evaluation staff were trained in the administration and interpretation of the W-WPT.	

What do key stakeholders and staff consider to be the strengths of and opportunities for the program?

Strengths:
- There is a board-appointed ELL coordinator which is required by DESE and federal mandates.   - SSD has five evaluation staff who are trained in the administration of the W-APT.   - The annual Home Language Survey was sent to parents in accordance with state mandates.
Weaknesses/Opportunities for Improvement: - A workflow process needs to be developed for the identification of and provision of services to students that meets all state and Federal guidelines as specified in the NCLB Self-Monitoring Checklist.   - A second workflow process needs to be developed for the purpose of providing translated materials to non-English speaking parents whether their child qualifies for ELL services or not.   - A committee of individuals should be formed to explore options for providing translated documents as well as SSD website information to non-English speaking parents.

How well aligned are the program's priorities and processes with the goals of the program?

> This program's processes are in alignment with the stated goals. It is compliant with state and federal mandates. Identification procedures are in place to provide screening upon enrollment. SSD has eight ELL endorsed teachers who are able to provide services to any student identified as requiring ELL intervention.

Deployment Level of Program Services: The plan is in place, but no students have been identified in order to test its efficacy.

Evaluation Implications

General Recommendation Resulting from the Evaluation
Select from the following possible recommendations resulting from the evaluation:

- ☒ Continue the program as is. It is meeting or exceeding all expected outcomes.
- ☐ Expand the program, replicating effective components.
- ☒ Streamline, refine, or consolidate elements of the program.
- ☐ Redesign the program.
- ☐ Reevaluate the purpose and/or goals of the program.
- ☐ Discontinue ineffective or nonessential program components.
- ☐ Discontinue the program.
- ☐ Other (1T)

Action Plan

The following are action steps that will be taken to meet the overall goals of the program where appropriate:
- The ELL teachers will use the elementary and middle school scoring guides of the ACCESS to gather evidence of ELL student learning.
- The ELL teachers will utilize W-APT and ACCESS data to drive instruction and plan for student differentiation.
- The ELL teachers will explore opportunities to support instructional learning in the classroom.
- The ELL evaluators will continue to screen SSD students for English language needs.

Cost and Funding Source
The action steps listed above do not reflect a necessity for additional funds.