

Linking School with the Community:

ASU and DCSS Collaboration Model with ESOL/Migrant Group as Focus



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Presentation Objectives

- **Background** to Albany State University (ASU) and Dougherty County School System's (DCSS) collaboration
- **Rationale for collaboration:**
 - Institutional mission & strategic goals
 - Learning theory - educational psychology and ESL learning theory
- **Goal**- Motivation of ESOL students and families to aspire for success, attend college, and attain career goals



Objectives continued

- **Process- MOU: Formalize for more contacts of faculty/ teacher/staff, meetings etc.**
- **What was done?** Examples of events and activities of collaboration:
 - ASU Global Ambassadors' school visits with presentations after study abroad
 - Motivational speech at ESOL Parents' Forum
 - International Education Week (IEW) Collaboration (Nov 1- 5, 2014)- (involved all ESOL & community)



Rationale for collaboration: Goals of Institutions

- **Strategic goals of both institutions**
 - For ASU: Leadership in Global and community engagement and service
 - DCSS Schools' retention favors ASU
 - College enrollment and retention



Rationale for Collaboration

**Dougherty County School System(DCSS)
with International Studies Elementary Charter
School(ISECS)**

- **Realizing DCSS's mission statement**
 - providing opportunity for students (ESL included) to achieve in academics beyond expectation
 - Get students to view learning as lifelong opportunity preparing them for a global society



WHY?

Effective schools collaborate:

- Educational theory and research
- Behavioral and socio-linguistic theorist supports creating positive environment to enhance L2 Learners
- **Carnegie Foundation** for Advancement of Teaching, led by its president, Anthony S. Bryk, in their research found that “the most effective schools had developed an unusually high degree of ‘relational trust’ among stakeholders”



Greg Anrig, Washington Post, May 3 2013.

WHY?

Theoretical Framework

Erica Loop, writer on child development and parenting articles since 2009 discusses and notes advantages of collaboration in education:

- **“creating a collaborative educational environment can build a community of caring individuals who are all working towards one common goal: increasing the students' positive outcomes.”**



GlobalPost, 2015.

Theoretical Framework

Research in educational psychology of learning supports collaboration, which enhances positive identity, positive learning environment and social interaction, especially for the ESOL group. Examples:

- **Psychoanalytical Theory: Freud** – Stresses need for acceptance(ESOL group)
- **Psychosocial Theory of Human Development: Erik Erikson-** Varied traits develop early in life and become life long traits for ESL learners. Collaboration creates opportunities and environment for effective adjustment to enhance learning.
- **Sociolinguistic Theory- Stephen Krashin-** Affective factors; need to reduce anxiety



Rationale:

ESOL Enhancement

Major ESOL collaboration referenced in research:

- **Content & ESOL Teacher collaboration**
- **Other collaborations** beyond the classroom matter a lot for motivation, learning, academic achievement, and achievement of life-long goals by ESOL students.
- **Examples-beyond- the- classroom collaboration includes:** Community and institutional collaboration with schools(ESOL group) for target goals with events/and activities (ASU and DCSS-ESOL)



HOW?

**The Process: MOU, formal contacts-
faculty/teacher, staff meetings**

- The process of collaboration was formalized 2013 with a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** between the two institutions signed by:
 - ASU-President Art Dunning and
 - DCSS Superintendent Dr. David Mosely (though collaboration existed before then)

**Agreement helped to formalize
contacts with staff, faculty, teachers of
both institutions.**



Events and Activities for ESOL Enhancement

Motivational Presentation at ESOL/ Parents forum

- Used personal stories to motivate ESL students and parents to believe in their power to achieve



ESOL Enhancement Event

Example 1

ESOL Parents Forum

Parent Forum for motivation & support = a critical component. Parents were involved and they asked questions



**Event Example 2:
2014 International Education Week(IEW)
Collaborative Event Planning Committee**

**IEW Goal: To promote and showcase
importance of globalization**

- **Event was planned and implemented through
a joint committee**



2014 IEW Joint committee of ASU and DCSS members

ASU-DCSS's ESOL/Migrant Dept. Joint IEW Activities

Committee met weekly for 10 weeks before event in November 2014

Collaboration was sustained at all levels of planning and implementing of activities. Activities include:

- **Poster Competition with theme: "Global Connectivity One World One Humanity"**
 - 8 Dougherty County Schools were involved
 - Altogether- **145 participants** from all the schools
 - **Winners- nine 1st- 3rd place received plaques**
 - All participants including staff and faculty organizers received certificates.



Other IEW activities include:

- **FIFA Shootout** football for all grades and college students
- **Fashion Show** and cultural dance fair
- **International Food Fest**
- **Dorm competition** with joint judges (see flyer and sample programs)



IEW Activity: Joint International Parade of Flags

ASU Community and DCSS/ESOL team
parade to cultural explosion venue- ASU
Student Center



IEW Activity: Joint International Parade of Flags

ASU & DCSS's ESOL Team parade to event hall for flag presentation.



Joint Intercultural Fashion Parade Activity



Intercultural Fashion Group Pictures

ASU/DCSS ESOL Community



Cultural Dance and Food Fest



President's Luncheon

Awards for DCSS and ASU Participants



Pair/ Group-Activity:

1. Who can you collaborate with in your community?

Brain storm- list possible collaborators

2. How would you collaborate?

3. What events and activities can you do together?

4. How would that motivate or enhance Learning in ESOL?

5. Group rep. shares with audience



Thank You!!

- Questions???

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