

RETELL: An Overview and Plan for Moving Forward

*A revised version of presentation
made at the*

RETELL Leadership Forum

May 17, 2013

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION



Agenda

1. RETELL: Context for the Work
2. SEI Endorsement: State Requirement Between Educators and DESE
3. Administrators and SEI
4. Quick Update: ACCESS and WIDA
5. Lessons Learned
6. New Self-Registration Process
7. Panel Discussion
8. Closing Thoughts



FOCUS: A Vision for Equity

The **RETELL Initiative** is guided by the principle that English Language Learners are entitled to *equity of access to effective teaching and learning*. By preparing educators to best serve the multifaceted needs of the ELL population, we work towards key ESE goals: closing proficiency gaps and ensuring *all* students are college and career ready.



Context for Today's Gathering: Strengthening Collaboration

RETELL realized requires:

1. District leaders working together as a team that includes the “ESL” voice.
2. Direct, effective communication.
3. Strengthened or new collaborations between regular educators and ESL teachers.



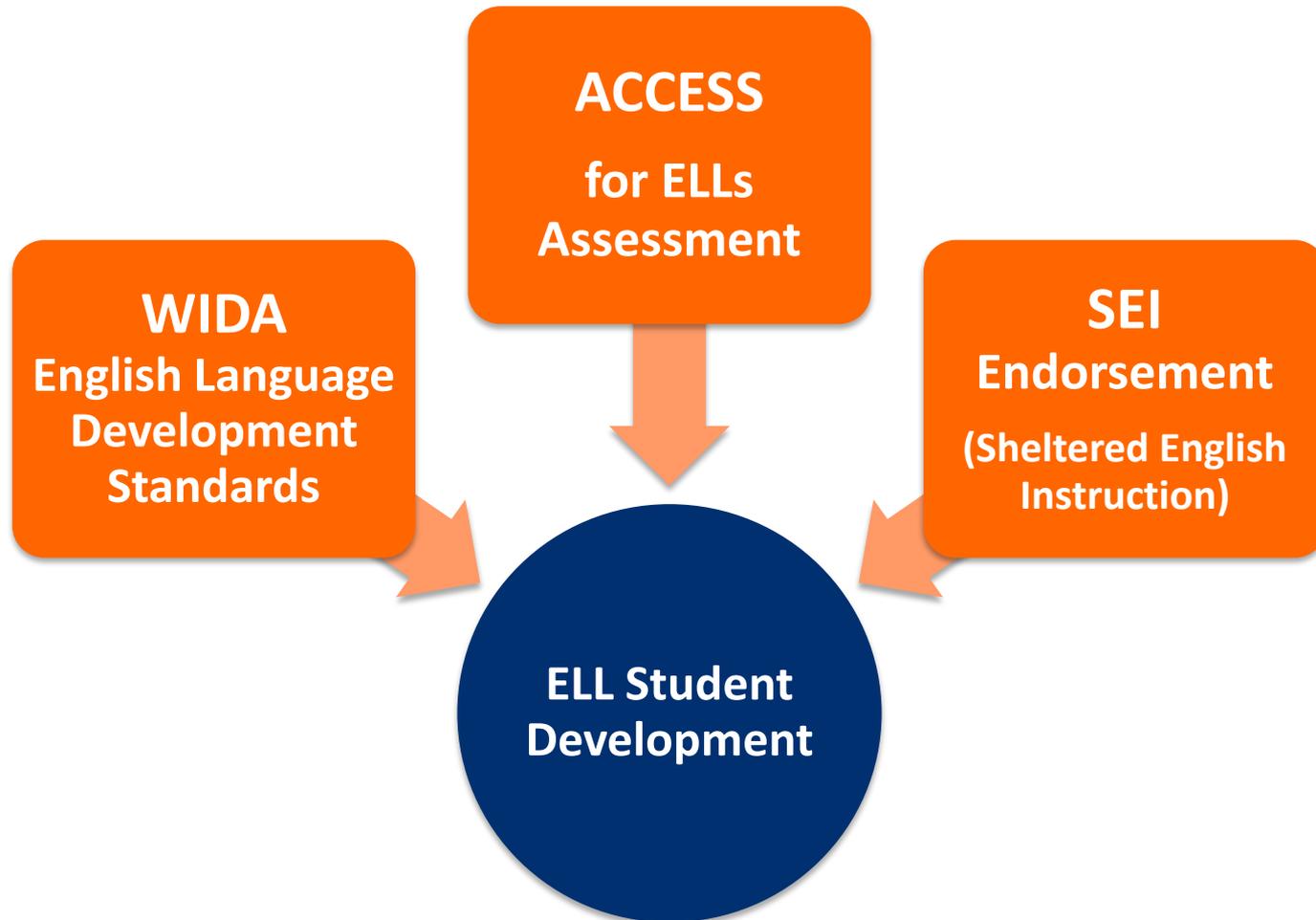
Context : Strengthening Collaboration and Communication

In this phase of the work, RETELL realized requires:

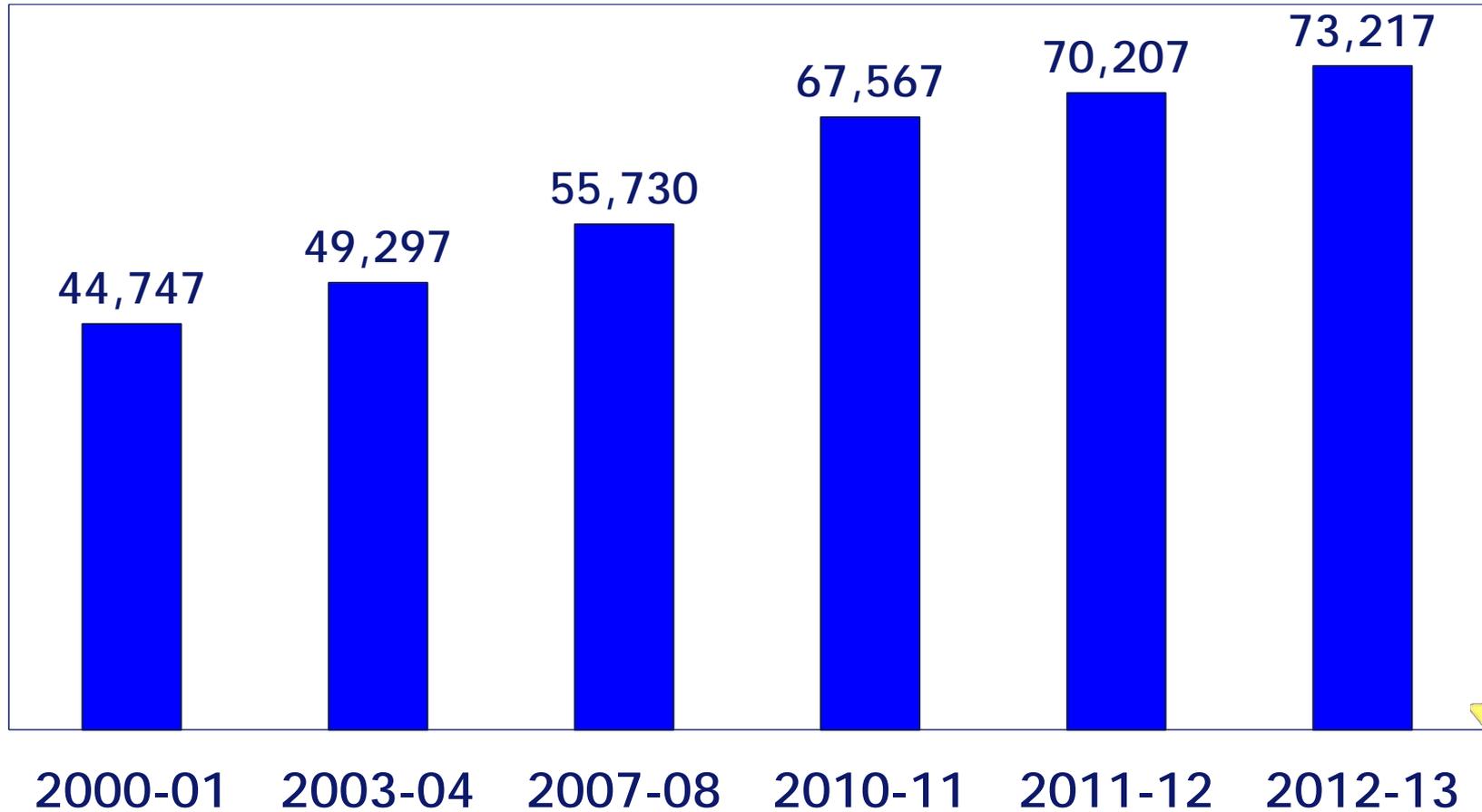
1. Direct, effective communication.
2. The District as the “facilitator” of interactions between ESE and individual teachers relative to:
 - a) Communication
 - b) Scheduling



How Does RETELL Impact Educators?



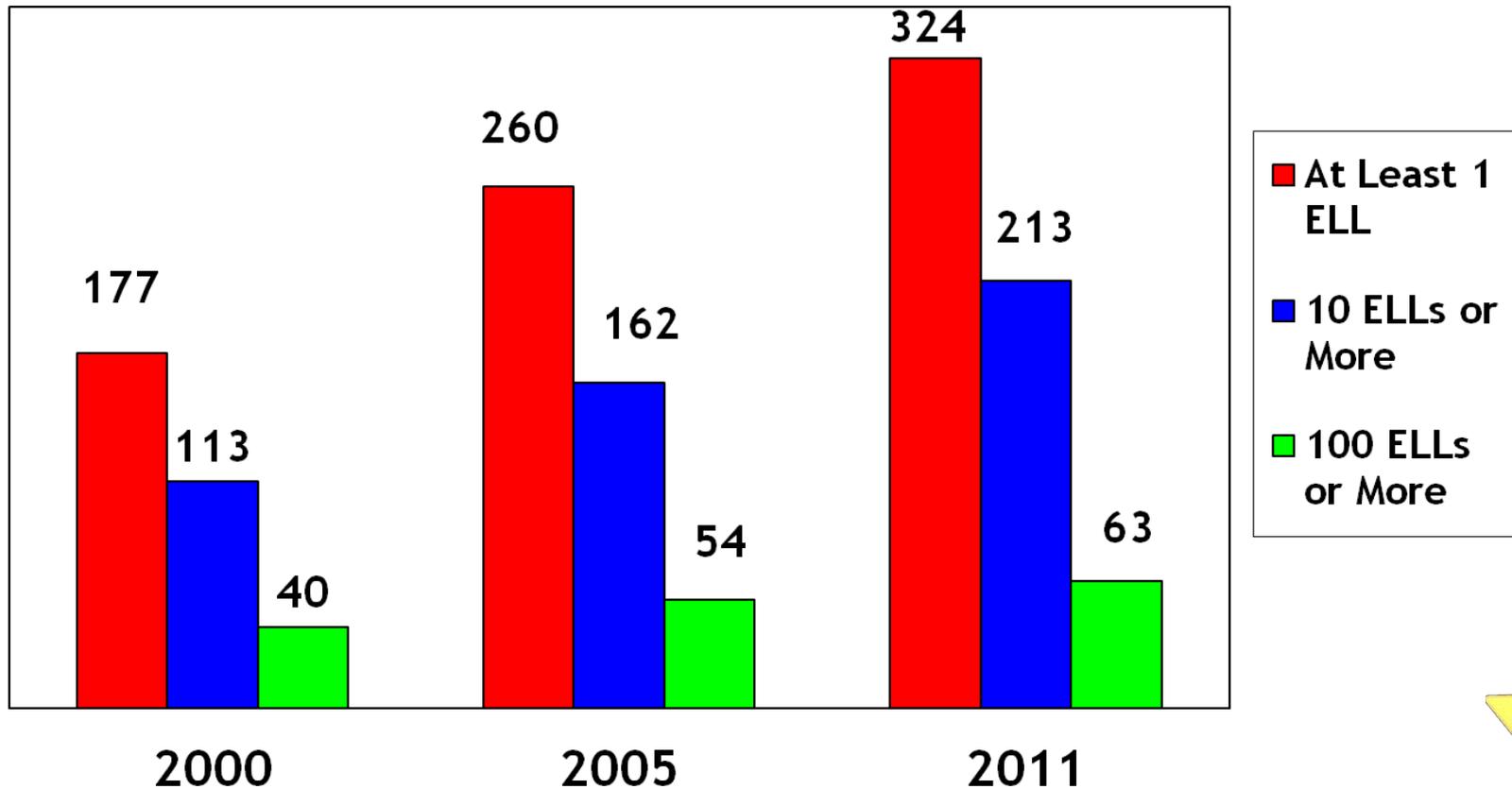
Why RETELL? ELL Enrollment Statewide is at 73,217: Increased 64% Since 2000



SiMS 2012

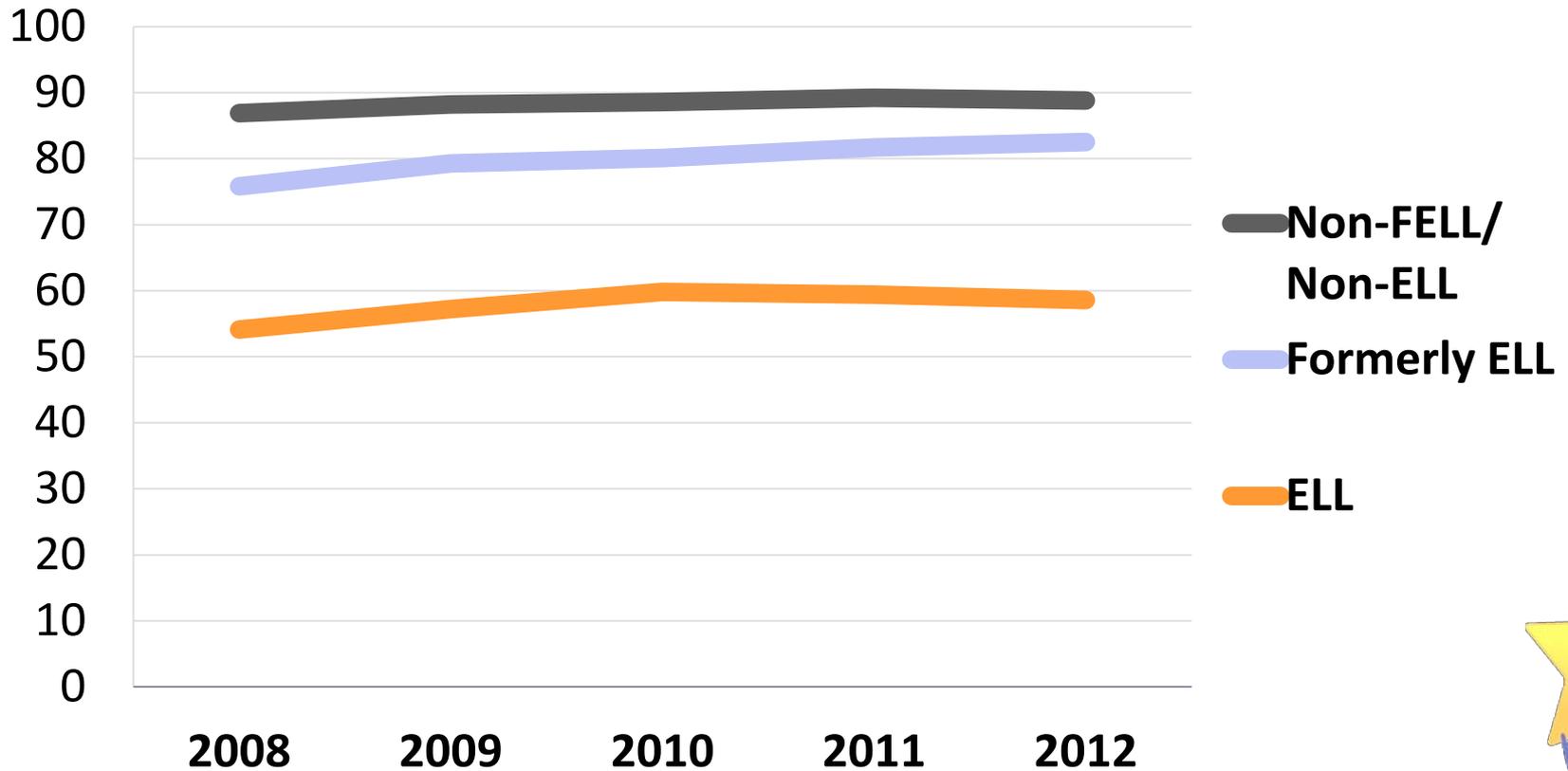


BACKGROUND for RETELL: Changing Demographics



Context: We Can Do Better!

Academic Achievement Gap – PPI



Why RETELL?

Category Training Review: In 2011, DESE initiated a review of Category Training and determined we needed to update the training to reflect recent research.

U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ):

- ★ Determined that the State had failed to take appropriate action to overcome ELL's language barriers by not **defining and mandating** the basic preparation and **training** that teachers and other educators must have to provide SEI.
- ★ U.S. DOJ's involvement accelerated pace of Department's work.



SEI Endorsement

State Requirement: Between Educators
and the DESE

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SEI Endorsement: It's the Law

- ★ This regulatory requirement applies to *Incumbent Core Academic Teachers of ELLs, and Principals/Assistant Principals and Supervisors/Directors* who supervise or evaluate core academic teachers of ELLs.
- ★ *Between 2012-16, the above teachers and building administrators are required to earn SEI endorsement at different times based on their assignment to a cohort year. See slide 30.*



SEI Endorsement – It's the Law (cont.)

On or after July 1, 2014:

- ★ Applicants for an initial license as a core academic teacher, or as a principal/assistant principal, or as a supervisor/director of core academic teachers must qualify for an SEI Endorsement.



SEI Endorsement: What is it?

Regulatory Requirement Involving Individual Educators and DESE

Credential is required of certain* teachers and administrators in public schools, including collaboratives and charter schools.

*See slides 12-13



CORE ACADEMIC TEACHERS of ELLs Who Must Earn the SEI Endorsement

Pre-K-12 Teachers

- ★ Early childhood and elementary teachers
- ★ Teachers of students with moderate disabilities
- ★ Teachers of students with severe disabilities

Subject Specific Teachers of ELLs

- ★ English, reading or language arts,
- ★ Mathematics,
- ★ Science,
- ★ Civics and Government
- ★ Economics
- ★ History, and Geography



What Have Participants Said About the SEI Course?

*As an ESL teacher I applaud this course and the directive that's driving it. I have long felt that **one teacher can't teach all the vocabulary, reading and writing strategies that ELLs need to know.** To have the academic language reinforced in multiple classrooms for a student is key. In 16 weeks SEI gives a great deal of socio-cultural background as well as many strategies that teachers can use for all their students. It also demands that they practice what they have learned and that they work together.... This course gets an A+ for teaching and learning. I applaud the team that created this.*



What are the Options for Incumbent Core Academic Teachers of ELLs to Earn the SEI Endorsement?

Full 45 Hour SEI Course

Bridge Course A
(Completed Category Trainings 1, 2, and 4)

Bridge Course B
(Completed 2 Category trainings : 1, 2, and/or 4)

Hold an ESL License (or meet criteria in 603 CMR 7.14(1)(a))

Passed SEI MTEL Test (available spring 2014)



Does the SEI Endorsement Requirement Apply to *Incumbent Non-Core Academic Teachers of ELLs* ?

No. However, these teachers will be required to meet new PDP requirements in order to renew a license as of July 1, 2016. See Slide 20.

What About Incumbent Core Academic Teachers Who Do Not Have An ELL?

- ★ From school year 2013 through school year 2016, an incumbent core academic teacher is not required to earn an SEI endorsement *if the educator does not have one or more ELLs* assigned to his/her classroom.
- ★ Beginning July 1, 2016, a core academic teacher who is *assigned an ELL*, must either hold an SEI endorsement or obtain one within a year.



New PDP Requirements for All: July 1, 2016

License renewal of the **Professional License** on or after July 1, 2016 will require a new distribution of the required 150 Professional Development Points (PDPs).

- a) **SEI:** at least 15 PDPs in SEI/ESL and
- b) **SPED:** 15 PDPs in strategies for effective schooling for students with disabilities and instruction of students with diverse learning styles.



Good News: PDP Carry Over

For this initiative DESE is permitting educators to “carry over” PDPs earned in one renewal cycle towards their next renewal cycle if they have taken the approved SEI Endorsement course of study and already accumulated more than enough PDPs.



Administrators and SEI

Planning for the SEI Course

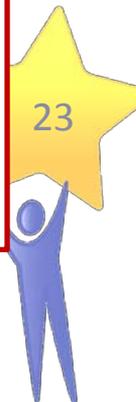
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What Are the SEI Endorsement Requirements for Incumbent Administrators?

Building administrators *who supervise or evaluate core academic teachers of ELLs* must earn the SEI Administrator Endorsement.

★ Length of Course: Five 3 hour Face- to- Face Sessions are planned.



SEI Administrator Endorsement – Applicants as of July 1, 2014

- ★ Applicants for an initial license as a principal/assistant principal must qualify for an SEI Administrator or SEI Teacher Endorsement.
- ★ Applicants for an initial license as a supervisor/director must qualify for an SEI Administrator or SEI Teacher Endorsement if they will supervise or evaluate a core academic teacher.

Scheduling of Administrators' Course

Districts will be able to schedule district-based sections of the administrators' course with a starting date on or after **October 1st 2013**.

*****Please note that we will not begin the scheduling process until we have hired a sufficient pool of qualified instructors (slated to be completed late June or July.)*

Quick Update

WIDA (World Class Instructional Design and Assessment)

ACCESS

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A Note on WIDA: World Class Instructional Design & Assessment

- ★ The WIDA standards are in effect beginning this school year. The standards can be viewed and downloaded on the WIDA website at <http://www.wida.us/standards/eld.aspx#2007>.
- ★ School districts are required to begin integrating WIDA English Language Development Standards into their ELD curriculum and content area curricula of classes where ELLs participate.



News Brief:

Quick Update on ACCESS

- ★ 2013 results arrive in schools by May 22.
- ★ DESE will conduct three 2-hour webinars on understanding, interpreting, and using ACCESS reports, as follows:
 - ★ May 23 – 9:00 a.m.
 - ★ May 28 – 1:00 p.m.
 - ★ May 29 – 9:00 a.m.
- ★ Agenda and registration information available at:
www.doe.mass.edu/conference/?ConferenceID=1565



Lessons Learned

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Cohorts

- ★ **Cohort 1** Districts are entering their **2nd cohort year** for SEI Endorsement course enrollment.
- ★ **Cohort 2 Districts** are entering their **1st cohort year** for SEI Endorsement course enrollment.
- ★ *These courses begin in October 2013.*



Guidance on Eligible Core Academic Teachers

DESE/District urges core academic teachers who **will have ELLs** in their classrooms in the next academic year to take the SEI Endorsement course.

- ★ *The SEI endorsement course is built upon a “model, practice, feedback” approach which requires practice in the classroom with ELLs. Teachers in this category should be enrolled only if the teacher will have ELLs in their classroom during their cohort year.*



Organizing for Success

1. Considerations Regarding Who is Eligible and Available for the Cohort Year:

- a) Eligible: Review core academic teachers' class assignments to determine who will have ELLs in their classroom in the upcoming cohort year.
- b) Available: Consider who will be on leave of absence, have profession-related educational commitments, or who might qualify for a hardship waiver.



Organizing for Success

2. Review Category Trainings for Eligibility for Bridge Courses:

Teachers who have completed Category Trainings 1, 2, and/or 4 can be enrolled in one of the two SEI Bridge Courses.



Organizing for Success: Encourage ESL Teacher Involvement

DESE encourages districts to invite **ESL staff to audit SEI Endorsement classes** so that they can develop a clear understanding of the training their colleagues are receiving and how they can reinforce and support colleagues' SEI practices in their work.

★ *ESL auditors do not count towards a district's target number.*



New Self-Registration Process

Target Date for Implementation:
August 2013

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Plans for New Enrollment System

In Progress: Development of new online and Internet-accessible enrollment system for the SEI Endorsement courses.

Goal: Enrollment system operational and accessible for teacher self-registration by August 1st.



Self-Enrollment Process

District Target Numbers:

- ★ DESE will provide district with a “target number” for enrollment.
- ★ District will identify all “eligible” core academic teachers of ELLs requiring the SEI Endorsement.





District Facilitation

- ★ Because districts may not yet know which core academic teachers will have ELLs in the fall 2013, **in June DESE will ask districts to forward an ESE-generated letter to ALL core academic teachers** urging them to check their district email on or around August 1, 2013.
- ★ **Those who will have ELLs in the 2013-2014 school year will receive an email on or around August 1** informing them of this fact and urging them to enroll in an SEI Endorsement course.



August 1st Communication

- ★ DESE will forward this communication to districts, who will forward it to all eligible and available teachers.
- ★ August 1st communication will:
 - ★ Encourage teachers to take advantage of their “no cost” opportunity to earn the SEI Endorsement.
 - ★ Explain the enrollment process, and provide a link to the enrollment system.
 - ★ Highlight the self-enrollment closing date.
 - ★ Explain that self-enrollment will result in assignment to a cohort year, and detail the implications of that.



Self-Enrollment Process

1. Educator Self-Enrollment:

Educators will go online, select a course section that fits his/her schedule, then self-register.

2. Significance of Assignment to Cohort Year:

- a) Once an SEI teacher has enrolled in an SEI course, the teacher is considered assigned to a cohort year.
- b) Assignment means that the SEI teacher must earn the SEI Endorsement by the end of the assigned cohort year or else the SEI teacher will not be able to renew, advance or extend his/her license until he/she earns the SEI Endorsement.





Process for Districts Falling Short of Target Number

1. DESE notifies district that target has not been met.
 2. District sends DESE list of all eligible and available core academic teachers. (See slide 32, above. This will not include those teachers who have already enrolled for the 2013-14 trainings.)
 3. DESE assigns teachers from the district's "eligible/available core academic teacher list" to the cohort year so they can sign up for an endorsement course.
- ★ *Teachers who are assigned to the cohort year who do not enroll will lose their no-cost option and will not be able to renew, extend or advance their license until they earn the endorsement.*



The Hardship Waiver: An Exception for a Time Extension

1. Teachers assigned to a Cohort Year may apply to the Commissioner for a “*hardship waiver*” to extend the time they have to complete the SEI Endorsement.
2. Caution: Remember this is a very limited option, for extraordinary circumstances***

*** 603 CMR 14.07(2), “*Hardship shall consist of serious illness or injury, or other circumstances that are beyond the control of the educator and impede the educator’s ability to complete the requirements for an SEI Endorsement.*”



Schedule Options

★ Course Calendar:

All courses commence October 1st or after.

★ Scheduling Models:

1. District-based Sections
2. Regional Sections

★ Course Length:

1. Full School Year: Full SEI course
2. Semester Offering: Full SEI course
3. Semester Offering: Long & Short Bridge Courses



A Scheduling Suggestion

Encourage core academic teachers of ELLs to self-enroll for a cohort year!



Panel Discussion

Leadership Teams: Brockton and
Fitchburg

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Closing Thoughts

It Will Take a Village

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Important Coming Attractions: Plans to Extend the Learning

*Sampling of **Voluntary Options** that will become available to the field:*

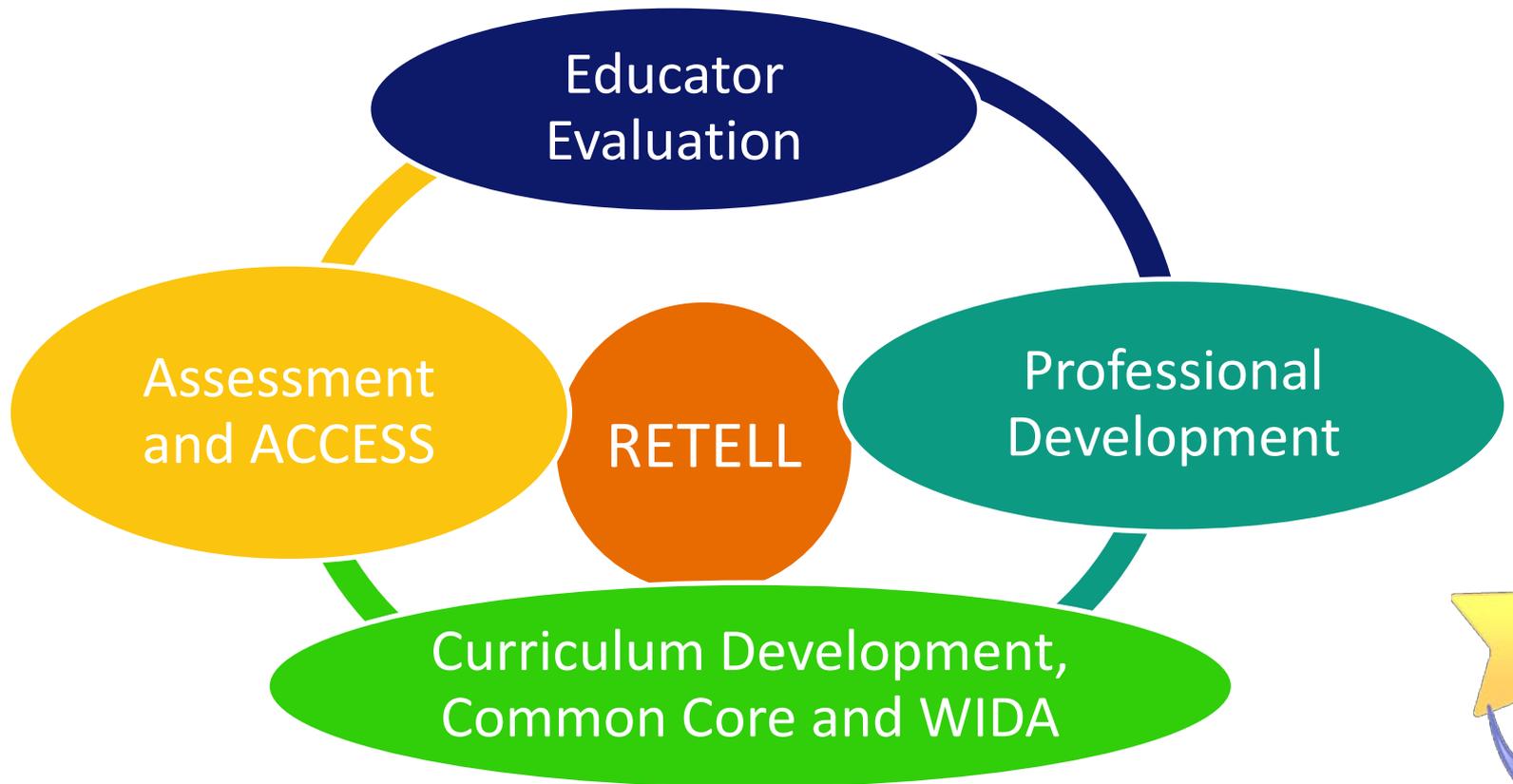
1. Shorter SEI workshops and courses
2. SEI training for Literacy and Math coaches
3. A course on collaboration, leadership and advocacy for ESL teachers
4. Piloting of an SEI Professional Learning Network



Request for Continued Partnership

1. Instructor Recruitment: Continue your efforts to help us build our cadre of teachers for the SEI, Bridge and Administrator courses.
 - ★ *A posting seeking administrative endorsement course instructors is now up on the COMM-Pass site. Please encourage qualified individuals to apply!*
2. Communication: Keep us informed about implementation problems so that we can respond.

USE RETELL To Organize Your Work



RETELL Web Resources

ESE Website

- ★ RETELL: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/retell/>
- ★ ACCESS: www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/access

WIDA Consortia Website

- ★ MA State Page:
- ★ Download Library:
- ★ ACCESS:

