Assignment 2 Whitepaper

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Introduction

There are an increasing number of immigrants and refugees settling in the United States. The English language learners are children who come from homes where no English is spoken. Some ELL students come from homes where multiple languages are spoken. There are students who appear to have a difficult time in learning how to speak a foreign language, are the same students who have a difficult time speaking in their native language (Ganschow & Schnider, 2006).

Background/Problems

There are approximately 5.5 million students attending U. S. public schools whose native language is not English. Spanish is the language spoken by 80% children who attend public school. By the time Hispanic students enter kindergarten, academically they trail their classmates in reading and mathematics. African American and Hispanic children likely not to receive high scores on standardized test in the areas of reading, mathematics, and general knowledge. It is expected by year 2050, there will be 530 million Spanish speakers of which 100 million reside in the United States. There is a need so a child may access the gargantuan literary resources, he must, of course, learn to read. : (“The Spanish Language, 2013”).

Solutions

In September, Grove Street School implemented a new World Language class for grade 3, 4, and 5. We also received 4 new special education classes where students are bused throughout the district to attend the school. The World Language teacher was not provided with any textbooks and materials for classroom instruction. She asked if I, the Library Media Specialist had any books or other resources that could assist in her delivering instruction. I also have students requesting Spanish books. Due to the lack of funding, I did not receive a budget for the past few years. I spoke to the principal and superintendant and expressed interest in applying for the Laura Bush Foundation for American’s Libraries grant. There approved my mission and offered their assistance. Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries awards more than$1,000,000 books in grants to School Libraries. The winner will received $5,000.00 to go towards the purchase of books and magazines. In order to apply for the grant, I collected data from the school principal and guidance counselor in order to see if the school met the guidelines to apply for the grant. The school district must have at least 80 % of the school students receive free lunch. The library must be a functional one ran by a certified Library Media Specialist. There are a series of questions and based on a scoring rubric which will determine if my school will be one of the recipients of the grant. Last school year, there were two schools in my district that applied for the grant and successfully won. I completed the application by answering multiple questions and submitted data requested on the application. Once the principal review and made revisions, I submitted the application electronically and received a confirmation number.

Conclusion

Libraries equipped with resources such as Spanish books can be utilized by the World Language teacher to address common core standards for instruction. Students will be able to check books out from the school library to take home to read and complete homework assignments.

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