E3 EXCELL ELL Rubric





E3 ExcELL - ELL Rubric

The *ELL Rubric* is a research-based tool originally developed in fall of 2009 and piloted in spring 2010 by members of the Central Texas ELL Collaborative. It has been updated to include promising practices supporting academic growth identified in the spring of 2013 through research conducted in the *Bright Spots Study for English Language Learners*.

The development of the ELL Rubric has been a joint effort of many districts and partners collaborating through the Central Texas ELL Collaborative:

- Austin ISD
- Bastrop ISD
- Del Valle ISD
- Elgin ISD
- Eanes ISD

- Hays CISD
- Hutto ISD
- Manor ISD
- Leander ISD
- Lake Travis ISD

- Pflugerville ISD
- Round Rock ISD
- San Marcos CISD
- Region XIII Education Service Center
- Texas Education Agency

- Texas State University at San Marcos
- University of Texas at Austin
- UT Elementary Charter

The *ELL Rubric* is comprised of four categories, which are: <u>Instructional Leadership</u>, <u>Teacher Effectiveness</u>, <u>Community Engagement</u>, and <u>School Climate</u>. For each category, there are concrete examples and descriptions of the evidence needed to show that a school:

- is excellent in their service to ELLs;
- is *good* in their service to ELLs; or
- needs additional support, knowledge and resources to serve ELLs.

To support teams in utilizing the *ELL Rubric*, E3 Alliance has designed **EXCELL**, a 3-day workshop where campus teams discover which systems and school processes support success for English language learners and develop campus-specific strategic action plans to increase achievement for ELLs.

The *ELL Rubric* is <u>not to be used as a compliance tool</u>. It has been designed to integrate the CIP, committee structures, and campus goals so that they yield a complementary focus on ELL academic achievement. The Central Texas ELL Collaborative developed the *ELL Rubric* as a tool to enable conversation among district leaders, principals, and school faculty around what a high functioning campus for ELLs should look and feel like in order to promote academic growth. The *ELL Rubric* is a tool for communicating and deliberating expectations, identifying opportunities for growth, and informing professional development criteria for your campus in service to ELLs. The Collaborative designed the *ELL Rubric* to be useful to elementary, middle, and high school campuses and useful as a continuous quality improvement tool for district and campus leadership teams.







	INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP				
	Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources	
<u>Adr</u>	Collaborate with faculty to ensure the development of goals for faculty and students with specific emphasis on academic achievement, student English language acquisition and literacy skills.	 Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) reflects and supports the goals to increase student academic achievement, English language acquisition and literacy skills. Administrators are cognizant of academic achievement and English language acquisition goals for ELLs and employ a process to ensure faculty implementation of these goals. 	 Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) has goals for raising student achievement by increasing English language and literacy skills. Administrators are cognizant of academic achievement and English language acquisition goals for ELLs and are developing a process to ensure faculty awareness of these goals. 	 Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) goals have little or no mention of student English language acquisition or raising academic achievement through language acquisition. Less than ¼ of the faculty refer to English language acquisition & student achievement when discussing their work. 	
2.	Demonstrate knowledge of TEKS and integration of ELPS and include areas of need in CIP.	☐ Principals are active instructional leaders for the growth and implementation of the TEKS and ELPS for all who serve ELLs.	Principals expect TEKS and ELPS to guide instruction and be included in lesson plans in all programs.	Little principal expectation of TEKS and ELPS informing instruction.	
3.	Provide ongoing professional development in content, second language acquisition and State/Federal compliance.	 Administrators collaborate with key personnel (i.e., LPAC, campus leadership team) to regularly review data (student achievement and campus needs assessment) to plan, provide and monitor appropriate professional development, including State and Federal mandates and Seek faculty input and recommendations, Supports faculty implementation. 	Administrators collaborate with key personnel (i.e., LPAC, campus leadership team), and periodically review data (student achievement and campus needs assessment) to plan, provide and monitor appropriate professional development, including state and federal mandates.	Administrators collaborate with key personnel (i.e., LPAC, campus leadership team) yet seldom review data (student achievement and campus needs assessment) to plan, provide and monitor appropriate professional development, including state and federal mandates.	
4.	Hire highly qualified bilingual/ESL teachers.	Recruiting administrators are committed to hiring highly qualified bilingual/ESL professionals (e.g., teachers, instructional specialists, counselors, and special programs) and establish systems of support for newly hired teachers.	 Recruiting administrators hire highly qualified bilingual/ESL teachers. 	 Recruiting administrators attempt to hire highly qualified bilingual/ESL teachers. 	
5.	Establish bilingual/ESL committees to ensure gains in academic achievement.	☐ Bilingual/ESL committee members meet regularly to identify needs and advocate for ELLs.	Bilingual/ESL committee members meet infrequently to identify needs and advocate for ELLs.	□ No Bilingual/ESL committee exists.	
<u>Car</u> 6.	npus Programs Show fidelity to current theory ¹ and logic of how students learn language and become literate.	☐ Faculty can describe how specific campus programs contribute to student language acquisition and academic achievement, explaining connections to current theory¹ around language acquisition.	☐ Faculty can describe how specific campus programs contribute to student language acquisition and academic achievement.	☐ Faculty has little understanding how campus programs contribute to student language acquisition.	







	INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP			
	Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources
7.	Detail specific goals that focus on language acquisition and student achievement.	 Campus programs directly address CIP goals on student cognitive learning, language acquisition and achievement, and Are used by over 1/2 of the faculty on a daily basis, Employ current theory 1 on how students learn language and become literate, and Strategically align goals with practices. 	 Campus programs, either in whole or with specific elements, address CIP goals for language acquisition or raising student achievement in language arts but 1/3 or less of faculty actively employ these programs, and/or Campus efforts do not adhere to current theory1 or logic on how students learn language and become literate. 	☐ Campus programs offer no specific efforts around or contribution towards CIP goals for language acquisition or raising student achievement in language arts.
8.	Articulate the goals and needs of the language learning programs and academic achievement clearly and consistently.	 Administrators and faculty can articulate student needs and programs to improve academic achievement. Administrators state specific goals for ELL student success in the acquisition of language skills and grade-level achievement in all subject areas including CTE. 	 At least 1/2 or more of administrators and faculty are similar in their description of academic performance goals and expectation for ELL students acquiring language skills and can explain how campus programs contribute to expectations and goals for ELL students. Administrators state specific goals for ELL student success in the acquisition of language skills and gradelevel achievement in core. 	 Only ELA and ELL faculty and their administrators articulate similar performance goals and expectations for ELL students acquiring language skills and can explain how campus programs contribute to expectations and goals for ELL students. Campus administrators speak of the need to raise student achievement for ELL students.
9.	Outline and meet State and Federal standards related to English language learners.	Administrators and faculty express the necessity for ELL and native-speaker students to be proficient or highly skilled in speaking, listening, writing, and reading academic English and are knowledgeable about State and Federal requirements.	At least 1/2 of the administrators and faculty express the necessity for ELL and native-speaker students to be proficient or highly skilled in speaking, listening, writing, and reading academic English.	 Only ELA and ELL faculty and their administrators express the necessity for all students to be proficient or highly skilled in speaking, listening, writing, and reading academic English.
10.	If the district has a language learning policy, the campus goals & efforts consistently align with this policy.	Administrator and faculty goals and efforts around student language learning are consistent with at least 90% of board policy for student language learning.	Administrator and faculty goals and efforts around student language learning strive to align with board policy for student language learning.	☐ Administrator and faculty goals and efforts around student language learning are inconsistent with board policy for student language learning.
11.	The Campus Advisory Team has strong ELL representation.	☐ ELL faculty and parents participate on the Campus Advisory Team.	☐ ELL faculty participate on the Campus Advisory Team.	☐ ELL faculty is yet to engage via the Campus Advisory Team.



¹ Appendix B documents research and theories held in consensus by the Central Texas ELL Collaborative.





	TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS			
	Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources
<u>Fact</u>	ulty Post and review learning objectives for both content and language acquisition that address grade-level TEKS and ELPS.	 Content objectives and language objectives are posted for all content areas including CTE courses. 	Content objectives are posted for all content areas including CTE courses.	☐ Content objectives and language objectives are inconsistently posted.
2.	Instruct for conceptual understanding using high-yield strategies for ELLs (e.g., mapping, visual support, vocabulary support; Gradual Increase of Student Responsibility; Monitoring Understanding; Spiraling & Applied Learning). ²	 Bulletin boards showcase student work using the high-yield strategies for ELLs.² Instruction targets grade-level content with scaffolding towards language acquisition goals or provides scaffolding towards both grade-level content and language acquisition goals. 	 Bulletin boards showcase student work using the high-yield strategies for ELLs.² Instruction targets grade-level content with scaffolding towards language acquisition goals or provides scaffolding towards both grade-level content and language acquisition goals. 	 No bulletin boards showing student work using the high-yield strategies for ELLs.² Instruction does not target grade-level content or lacks of scaffolding for language acquisition goals.
3.	Use sheltered instruction strategies in bilingual/dual language/ESL classrooms as well as monolingual/regular classrooms.	☐ Faculty incorporates sheltered instruction strategies throughout all classroom instruction.	Faculty incorporates sheltered instruction strategies during classroom instruction in bilingual/dual language/ESL classrooms.	☐ Faculty does not consistently incorporate sheltered instruction strategies during lessons.
4.	Use native language and culturally relevant topics during instruction in bilingual/dual language/ESL programs.	Faculty routinely incorporates native language and culturally relevant topics during lessons in bilingual/dual language/ESL programs.	☐ Faculty sometimes incorporates native language and culturally relevant topics during lessons in bilingual/dual language programs.	☐ Faculty does <u>not</u> incorporate native language and culturally relevant topics during lessons.
5.	Increase language and literacy skills for each student.	Research-based effective instructional practices related to language and literacy skills are evident in <u>all</u> content areas.	 Less than 1/2 of the faculty can describe their role in student language acquisition and/or raising student literacy levels across core subject areas. 	 Language Arts and ELL teachers understand their role and responsibility in student language acquisition and literacy.



 $^{^{2}}$ Appendix B documents high-yield strategies held in consensus by the Central Texas ELL Collaborative.



	TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS			
	Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources
6.	Monitor student learning through ongoing informal assessment and through frequent formative assessments and use data to adjust instruction and develop individual student learning plans.	 Faculty use student data to reflect on and Improve instruction and student learning, Increase relevancy of instruction to student cultural & linguistic origins, and Decrease bias of assessments towards native-English speakers. 	☐ Faculty use assessment data to reflect on <u>and</u> • Improve instruction and student learning.	☐ Campus walkthroughs show minimal resources specific to language acquisition for ELL and native-speaker students. ⁴
<u>Adr</u> 7.	ninistrators Provide equitable resources for ELL learning and success.	Classrooms show evidence of infusion of resources supporting ELL learning & success 3 (e.g., highly qualified teachers, specialized language programs, teacher professional development, instructional resources, reading materials in multiple languages, access to a variety of technology used to support higher order thinking skills, equitable access to all programs including GT and magnet).	Classrooms show evidence of resources supporting ELL learning & success, (e.g., instructional resources, reading materials in two languages, access to a variety of technology).	Classrooms show little evidence of resources supporting ELL learning & success.
8.	Value faculty growth and the development of content expertise within all programs.	 Principal provides professional development that is content and student population specific, where 3/4 or more of the faculty can describe professional development that increased their ability to cultivate student language acquisition and/or identify students in need of intervention for language acquisition & literacy in their subject matter, and Campus-based instructional specialist(s) or dean of instruction for language & literacy support literacy in content areas. 	 Principal provides professional development that is content specific, where ELL students assigned to teachers with most substantial record and/or credentials, and Campus-wide professional development day(s) devoted to student language acquisition and literacy. 	☐ Professional development is not relevant to teachers in bridging skills gaps for serving English language learners.
9.	Systematize collaboration across bilingual, ESL, and subject area teachers during PLCs and vertical alignment meetings.	 ELL teachers meet at least weekly to plan instruction with both ELL and subject area teachers and Collaborate with content experts through monthly/quarterly vertical team meetings. 	ELL teachers meet several times a month to strategize with ELL and subject area teachers.	☐ ELL teachers work in isolation or with few opportunities (less than twice a month) to strategize or plan lessons with other ELL teachers or subject area teachers.

³ Appendix B documents resources supporting ELL learning and success and resources supporting student language acquisition held in consensus by the Central Texas ELL Collaborative.







	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT				
	Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources	
<u>Par</u> 1.	ents Are encouraged by faculty to actively participate in the education of their children to meet state academic standards and learn English.	Parents and family members are welcomed at the campus and provided training/resources in native language to assist their children on test accommodations, strategies, coursework and English language development.	Parents and family members are welcomed at the campus and provided resources to assist their children to learn English, to complete their coursework and familiarize them with assessment requirements.	Parents and family members are provided minimal resources.	
2.	Engage to build sense of school community.	 Parents and members of the community are actively involved in the decision making process of school and community engagement activities (e.g., PTO/PTA, SBDM, LPAC, CAC). Parents and family members (siblings, grandparents, aunts, and uncles) frequently participate in Campus Family Nights. 	Parents are involved in the campus through classroom volunteering, bake sales, office work, chaperoning, teacher appreciation events, etc. (Attendance of athletic events does not count.)	Parents typically visit campus only when requested to meet with an administrator or faculty member.	
3.	Respect and value teachers.	 Parents' participation in parent conferences, family nights and campus activities is evident through agendas and signsheets. Parents and teachers are engaged in ongoing communication about school rules, policy, and instruction through family nights and campus activities. 	 Parents occasionally participate in parent conferences, family nights and campus activities. Parents and teachers are informed about school rules, policy, and instruction through family nights and campus activities. 	Parents' participation in parent conferences, family nights and campus activities is lacking.	
<u>Adı</u> 4.	ministrators & Faculty Respect, value and engage parents.	☐ Faculty engages parents for specific programs and activities related to their culture, knowledge, skills and expertise. (e.g., career days, tutoring, and volunteering)	☐ Faculty encourages parents to visit the classroom and to share of their culture and skills.	☐ Faculty has limited knowledge of parents' culture and skills.	
5.	Use intentional and effective strategies to promote two-way communication with parents and provide constructive feedback on their children.	 English-speaking faculty routinely utilizes readily accessible resources or staff for assistance in communicating with non-English speaking parents. At least 3/4 of the faculty telephone, write or meet each parent more than once a semester to discuss positive and negative aspects of students' academic achievement, behavior and attendance and operate with an open-door policy mindset. 	 English-speaking faculty enlists bilingual staff to help converse with non-English speaking parents. At least 1/2 of the faculty telephone, write or meet each parent more than once a semester to discuss positive and negative aspects of students' academic achievement and behavior. 	 English-speaking faculty rarely enlists bilingual staff to help communicate with non-English speaking parents. Faculty periodically/inconsistently calls parents to inform them of a failing report card grade, an assignment for detention, or a disciplinary referral. 	







	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT			
	Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources
6	 Engage parents and community members in relationships that are asset- based. 	Administrators hold meetings at least quarterly with parents to discuss emerging data patterns in student achievement, discipline, and attendance and to problem-solve on how to increase and sustain student academic achievement.	☐ Campus family nights occur at least twice a year, involve at least 3/4 of the faculty, and showcase student performances, academic work, or recognition for academics & school participation.	Family meetings with school personnel primarily occur during Back-to-School night, parent conference days, for disciplinary referrals or removals, or meetings on academic placement.
		Administrators and/or faculty meet with small groups of parents (at campus, church/synagogue hall or parent home) to discuss ways to help students with academic and social pressures, difficulties and age-appropriate expectations.		
7	 Are cognizant that the Campus Advisory Team membership is diverse and inclusive. 	Administrators and/or faculty meet with language program teachers, parents, district and community representatives of the campus advisory team on a consistent basis to design, implement and monitor district content and language goals.	Administrators and/or faculty meet with language program teachers, parents, and community representatives of the campus advisory team.	☐ Language program teachers, parents, and community representatives do not adequately represent the ELL population on the campus advisory team.







	SCHOOL CLIMATE			
	Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources
Adm 1.	inistrators & Faculty Promote a school climate where "All Children Can Learn" with high academic expectations for ELL students.	 Administrators and faculty through actions and effective modeling, demonstrate the belief that "All Children Can Learn" and hold everyone accountable. ELL students are proportionately represented in GT, IB, AP, Pre-AP and magnet school programs. 	 Administrators and faculty clearly articulate high expectations for students and one another. Administrators and faculty are working towards ensuring ELL students are proportionately represented in GT, IB, AP, Pre-AP and magnet school programs. 	 Administrators and faculty model postsecondary aspirations. ELL students are not proportionately represented in GT, IB, AP, Pre-AP and magnet school programs.
2.	Demonstrate the value for cultural and linguistic diversity in the school climate.	 A sense of belonging for ELL students and parents is evident and administrators and faculty embrace families for their cultural and linguistic diversity. Administrators and/or faculty continually update instructional strategies to reflect culturally responsive teaching practices for all students. Administrators and faculty provide systems which empower community members to be active participants/advocates in the success of ELLs and include parents, teachers, and administrators (e.g., PTO/PTA, SBDM, LPAC, CAC), and Faculty educate parents to be advocates for their children, Parents advocate for their families at district task forces. 	Administrators and faculty describe cultural and linguistic diversity as an asset and administrators and faculty respect families for their cultural and linguistic diversity. Administrators and/or faculty occasionally update instructional strategies to reflect culturally responsive teaching practices for all students. Administrators and faculty are working to provide systems which will empower community members to be active participants/advocates in the success of ELLs and include parents, teachers, and administrators (e.g., PTO/PTA, SBDM, LPAC, CAC).	 Administrators and faculty have little understanding of cultural and linguistic diversity and/or are not proactive in addressing the respective instructional needs of students. Administrators and/or faculty rarely update instructional strategies to reflect culturally responsive teaching practices for all students. Administrators and faculty have yet to develop systems which empower community members to be active participants/advocates in the success of ELLs and include parents, teachers, and administrators (e.g., PTO/PTA, SBDM, LPAC, CAC).
3.	Create a school climate that reaches out to families and provides structures for them to become involved.	Administrators and/or faculty establish frequent and positive school-to-home communication (e.g., parent conferences, home visits, phone calls, personal notes, progress reports, bilingual newsletters, coffee with the principal, and family academic nights).	Administrators and/or faculty reach out to families in forms of progress reports, newsletters, and conferences.	Administrators and faculty are inconsistent on home-to- school communication of any type.







	SCHOOL CLIMATE		
Desired Characteristics	Excellent	Good	Needs Additional Support/Knowledge/Resources
4. Establish a school climate that focuses on literacy development.	Administrators and/or faculty demonstrate a commitment to literacy development. Academic language development is supported through an emphasis on reading, storytelling, and self-selected reading, where All students, including ELLs have access to books in a variety of genres with ability to take books home, and The instructional day is structured to provide self-selected reading on a daily basis to develop a lifelong love of reading. Campus & districts support English language acquisition for parents (e.g., ESL parent classes).	Administrators and/or faculty demonstrate a commitment to literacy development. Academic language development is somewhat supported through an emphasis on reading, storytelling, and self-selected reading, where All students, including ELLs have access to books in a variety of genres with ability to take books home, and The instructional day is structured to provide self-selected reading on a daily basis to develop a lifelong love of reading and learning.	Administrators and/or faculty are yet to demonstrate a commitment to literacy development. Academic language development is inconsistently supported through an emphasis on reading, storytelling, and self-selected reading, and/or ELLs are inconsistently given access to books in a variety of genres with ability to take books home.
Campus Programs 5. Build a culture of respectful dialog and intrinsic motivation for academic success.	 Administrators and faculty implement a systems/structures for supporting social and emotional learning, where Stakeholders routinely meet to review outcomes data of struggling ELL students. 	Administrators and faculty implement a systems/structures for supporting social and emotional learning, where • LPAC routinely meet to review outcomes data of struggling ELL students.	Administrators and faculty implement systems/structures for supporting social and emotional learning.



⁴ Krashen 2013

⁵ Cite Social and Emotional Learning under campus programs

⁶ Chapter 89 for struggling ELLs