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TTA Position: Structured English Immersion Instruction/ English Only

TTA's position is based on the following guiding principles:

- All stakeholders should have a place to offer feedback and professional expertise.
- Teachers represent a huge wealth of “in the trenches” professional expertise that should always be consulted in matters of educational importance.
- Concerns and questions should be encouraged and viewed as critical information that is positive and central to the process rather than seen as a sign of dissent.
- True educational debate and discussion provides a broad base for clarification of purpose and products for the highest good.

To these ends, TTA adopts the following position regarding the Structured English Immersion (SEI) Program and English Only (EO) Program in TUSD.

TTA believes that the SEI and EO teachers at the same site should be treated equitably and be afforded the resources to successfully teach in either program. It has been a problem because there are inequities between the two sites, Carr and Torrance Elementary. It is important that this innovative program is successful and that it continues with a well-vetted plan that includes all stakeholders moving forward.

TTA suggests the following solutions:

1. Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) creates five and ten-year plans for the TK-12 SEI program and the facilities that are available. The plans should include specific dates that classrooms will be added to the sites. It should be clear which middle and high schools will be included and in what capacity. These plans should be shared and vetted with all stakeholders.
2. TUSD commits to communicating with SEI sites no later than March 15th on what buildings will be available each fall so that each site can make a plan for moving classrooms, if necessary.
3. TUSD ensures that there are equitable facilities between SEI and EO at the current sites.
4. TUSD provides SEI sites with built-in collaboration time during PLC and Professional Development (PD) days.
5. TUSD provides ample time for training and implementing any new curriculum for the SEI program using PD Days during either summer or the school year.
6. The contract will apply to SEI and EO classes regarding class sizes. This includes the creation of combination classes and class size leveling. Having one program bear the brunt of all combination classes is inequitable.
7. TUSD provides a full-time District-funded Intervention teacher for the EO program and a full-time District-funded Intervention teacher for the SEI program at each site.
8. TUSD creates an oversight committee for the program that includes principals, SEI and EO teachers, parents, and other impacted stakeholders. This committee will meet regularly to discuss the things that are going well and things that need to be addressed, changed and/or modified.
9. TUSD has clear and transparent protocols for the initial enrollment, placement, and exit processes for SEI and EO programs.