



Promising Educational Practices *For Immigrant Students & For All Students*

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Immigrant Learning Center online workshop
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*Today, we are
going to talk
about...*

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Promising Practices

School **Models** and Curricular **Themes**
That Build on Immigrant Student
Assets and Value Diversity

Multi-generational Initiatives

Schools as Sites for Community Building
& **Comprehensive** Services

Increasing Awareness About **Cultural**
Bias and Methods for **Reducing** the
Negative Effects of Bias



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THE ASSET MODEL & HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF DIVERSITY

Two-way immersion

International
Baccalaureate

Microsociety Schools



TWO WAY IMMERSION MODEL: The State of Utah



*Much of the talk in the education world about English language learners is all, ‘Oh, they need this. Oh, they are such a challenge. . .’ But two-way turns all that on its head. It says, ‘Our Spanish speakers have skills and talents and let’s build with that.’ It says, ‘We all need to adapt to the 21st century.’ It’s not this crazy idea anymore about **them** needing to adapt to **us**.*

- Gregg Roberts, Utah Department of Education

TWO-WAY IMMERSION

The little rural communities, little towns are all changing. If you celebrate that, if you give young people a place to . . . grow and really integrate, if you create the opportunity for all of us to each come over to the others' perspective a little bit, how can that not be good for everyone?

**-State Sen Howard Stephenson
(R-Draper, UT)**



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MODEL: South Side High School *Rockville Center, New York*

Founded in 1971 --- 141 nations --- More than a million students –
Challenging curriculum with national standards – College credit

About 1,400 programs in the U.S.

Understanding, appreciating and sharing all cultures with none dominant
fundamental tenant of the curriculum

Though there are exceptions, still relatively exclusive and overwhelmingly
White and Asian

South Side High School moved to make the program more inclusive with
nearly 90 percent of its graduates last year taking at least one IB course.

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MICROSOCIETY CURRICULUM

Students from diverse backgrounds create "miniature societies" within the school. School bank, agencies, leadership roles, support roles all vary

Values = self-discipline, work habits, academic and life skills needed in a global society

Collaboration, Teamwork, Valuing Diverse Perspectives, Problem Solving, Conflict Resolution

MICROSOCIETY CURRICULUM MODEL: Wilson Focus School *Omaha, Nebraska*



MULTIGENERATIONAL MODELS



Federal grants previously available for initiatives that integrate early childhood and adult education, particularly for English acquisition for parents.

MULTIGENERATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Schools, generally, can serve students and their families regardless of immigrant status.

Goal is to create community within the school, enhance parent involvement, self-advocacy and educational achievement.

Job training also often a component of such programs.

Early childhood and English learning programs win wide support in communities that often are hostile to immigrants in other ways.

MODEL: LOGAN SQ. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN.
Chicago, Illinois

Established in 1995 – now in 45 schools in 13 communities

Parent Mentor Program trains mostly immigrant mothers as classroom assistants/tutors.

After 100 hours, parents receive a stipend. Parents can become teachers as well. Twenty-one have become certified teachers.

EXPANDED SERVICES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Schools open early in the morning as well as in the evening, summers and weekends.

Physical, mental and dental health services, recreation, adult education, immigration assistance

Public and private funding

Improved teacher satisfaction, student success, parent engagement

MODEL: CHILDREN'S AID COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS (21 since 2010)
New York City



BIAS and PUBLIC DIALOGUE: *Getting to “WE”*



“We’re not speaking about race to be politically correct. We’re helping people figure out how to talk to one another. We don’t think problems are going to be fixed by going through a study circle.”

- **John Landesman**, Montgomery County Public Schools

MODEL: STUDY CIRCLES *Montgomery County, Maryland*

*It was a little tense.
But then again,
nothing is going to
happen without a
little bit of tension.*

- **Leyla Fandey**, media specialist, MCPS



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