

## POSITIONS AND POLICIES ON EDUCATION

English Language Learner; Bilingual/Bicultural

FILE CODE

6142.2

### Programs

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that English Language Learner curriculum should be an integral component of any bilingual program. *[Authority: DA 12/81-CR Bilingual; DA 11/97-SR]*
- B. **The NJSBA believes** that local boards of education should have flexibility in implementing alternative instructional approaches when they are unable to implement a bilingual education program and, to the extent deemed educationally appropriate, should have flexibility in establishing dual-language immersion programs even if they are unable to strictly comply with regulatory requirements. *[Authority: DA 12/81-CR Bilingual; DA 6/88-5; DA 12/89-4; DA 6/90-2; DA 11/97-SR; DA 5/24-5]*
- C. **The NJSBA believes** that increased parental involvement in bilingual/ELL programs, including informed parental consent, should be supported. *[Authority: DA 12/81-CR Bilingual; DA 6/88-5; DA 12/89-4; DA 6/90-2; DA 11/97-SR]*
- D. **The NJSBA believes** that local school boards should have the ability to choose from a full array of state-approved programs (including full-time bilingual education) and whatever instructional approach is deemed most effective by the school board for educating LEP students in the school district. *[Authority: DA 5/98-8, DA 11/02-SR, DA 11/07-SR, DA 11/12-SR, DA 11/17-SR, DA 11/22-SR]*

### Funding

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that the federal government should provide the financial support for bilingual education to ensure that students of limited English proficiency are learning English and receiving equal educational opportunities. *[Authority: DA 12/81-CR Bilingual; DA 11/97-SR]*
- B. **The NJSBA believes** that bilingual education should be treated as part of a “thorough and efficient” education and that the state should pay for the full cost of bilingual programs. *[Authority: BD 11/74; DA 12/81-CR; DA 11/97-SR]*
- C. **The NJSBA believes** the state should provide funding for technical assistance and special programs of highly intensive instruction to school districts with large numbers of LEP students who are failing to meet the high school graduation standards. *[Authority: BD 11/74; DA 12/81-CR; DA 11/97-SR, DA 11/02-SR, DA 11/07-SR, DA 11/12-SR, DA 11/17-SR, DA 11/22-SR]*

**Cross References:**

3220	State funds
3230	Federal funds
4112.2	Certification
5020	Role of parents/guardians
6140	Curriculum adoption
6146	Graduation requirements
6171.3	Economically Disadvantaged and Title 1

Key Words: curriculum, funding, bilingual