

2026

Navigating ENL Programs in Schools  
as the Migrant Educator

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Mid-West RBERN



# Agenda

- Introductions
- Who is RBERN?
- Who are English language learners?
- What is my role as the migrant educator?
- Advocacy from the migrant educator lens

## Objectives

I will begin my learning journey with the basics of the English language learner experience and explain how it relates to my role as a migrant educator.

I will be able to list at least two ways that I can advocate for my ELL students. that are within my circle of control.

# In the Chat...

Name & METs Region

What is the number one question you have about English language learners?

... and fell in love with it.

... visited the Great Basket

... and fell in love with it.

# Regional Bilingual Education Resource Networks

Supporting Educators with Multilingual Education Topics

## Professional Development

- In School
- Regionally
- Professional Learning Communities

## Technical Assistance

- Policy
- testing
- Instructional techniques

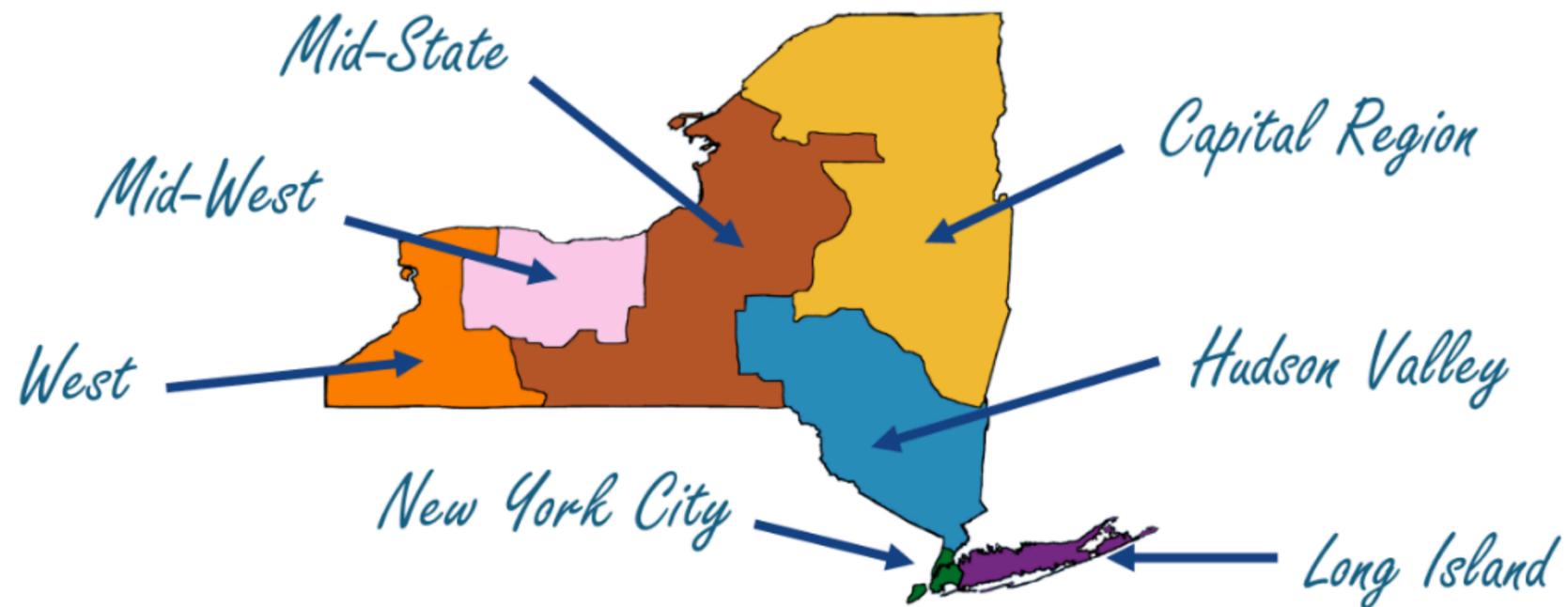
## Coaching

- In regional districts
- teacher and admin

## Advocacy for Students & Families

- ELL Student & Parent Rights
- Equitable School Systems

Which RBERN is in  
Your Region?



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# Acronyms

**ENL**

**SERVICE**

English as a New  
Language  
aka

ESL, ESOL

**ELL**

**STUDENT**

English Language  
Learner

**ML**

**STUDENT**

Multilingual Learner

# Let's Clarify

ELLs

Migrant Students

Spanish Speakers

# Let's Clarify

ELLs

Migrant Students

Spanish Speakers

Not all ELLs are Migrant Students

# Let's Clarify

ELLs

Migrant Students

Spanish Speakers

Not all Migrant Students are ELLs.

# Let's Clarify

ELLs

Migrant Students

Spanish Speakers

Not all migrant students nor ELLs are Spanish Speakers.

# ELL Basics

## Nikki's Top 10

- ELL services are mandated in NYS
- Students' levels determine the number of minutes of service received, the number of contiguous grade levels that can be in the same classroom, and whether the service is co-taught or in a pull-out class
- Students and families should be encouraged to read and speak to their child in their home language
- ELL education is dictated by state policy called CR Part 154
- Translation in the classroom is NOT always the best strategy

# ELL Basics

## Nikki's Top 10

- As a migrant educator, you can help support learning that
  - there isn't enough time to teach
  - students do not have the background knowledge needed
  - needs reinforcement
- Knowing your students' academic profiles is the best thing you can do
- Not all ELLs fit the same profile. There are many sub categories of ELLs
- We can all provide comprehensible input
- ALL ELLs and their families come with gifts

What is MY role?

My Role

Not My Role

and fell in love with it.

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Advocacy

# CIRCLE OF CONTROL

Things I have  
no control  
over in my  
role

Parents Being  
Informed about  
their options as a  
parent of an ELL  
with disabilities.

Things I can advocate for  
in my role

Things that I can  
ponder for the  
future or I need to  
understand better  
before advocating

The curriculum  
that teachers are  
following

The SPED ID  
process and  
rights of parents

I can advocate for

The rights of parents

By knowing and sharing  
the ELL Parent Bill of  
Rights

my students to  
graduate

Knowing and helping  
parents/students  
understand graduation  
requirements

Better  
Communication

Knowing the language  
surrounding translation &  
interpretation

# Parent Bill of Rights

Districts can NOT ask  
about immigration  
status  
programming and  
services

Right to an interpreter  
for critical interactions

Access to the same  
services and  
programming as  
English speaking  
students

# wrap up

What topics did you hear about today that you would like to go a bit deeper? Choose 3

Sub  
categories  
of ELLs

Parent  
Bill  
of  
Rights

Graduation  
Requirements

Comprehensible  
Input

Encouraging  
Families to  
use their  
language

Translation &  
Interpretation

ELL  
Lingo

ELL  
Accommodations

ELL  
ID

Your Role as  
the Migrant  
Educator

Advocacy

ELL Profiles

Before March 1<sup>st</sup>,  
Please submit your specific questions  
HERE

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Thank You!

See You on March 10 for Part II

Nikki Bell

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