

A District's Perspective on Referring EL students for Special Education Consideration

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McMinnville School District
Achieving Excellence in Education

The Beginnings...Our District's Story

- Need identified
- Forming the committee
- Challenges

EL



SpEd

Action Research Plan



- Reenvisioning the PST (Problem Solving Team) Process
- Revised PST Forms
- More Resources and Supports for Teachers

Barriers

- Confusion around Difference vs. Disability
- Lack of understanding of language development and how it's compounded for EL students
- Reluctance to complete paperwork when referring student to PST
- Lack of understanding regarding:
 - Practices within the Learning Resource Center
 - Purpose of Special Education
 - Tiers of intervention
 - Finding resources to target area of concern
 - Implementation of interventions in the classroom



Next Steps



- Continued collaboration among specialists
- Continue to collect the data on the action research
- Continue to provide professional development
 - Difference vs. Disability
- Maintain consistency to avoid “drift”
- Flowchart of steps for teachers prior to referring a student to PST
- Flowchart for the PST process
- New forms completed for students currently being monitored by PST

Questions?

