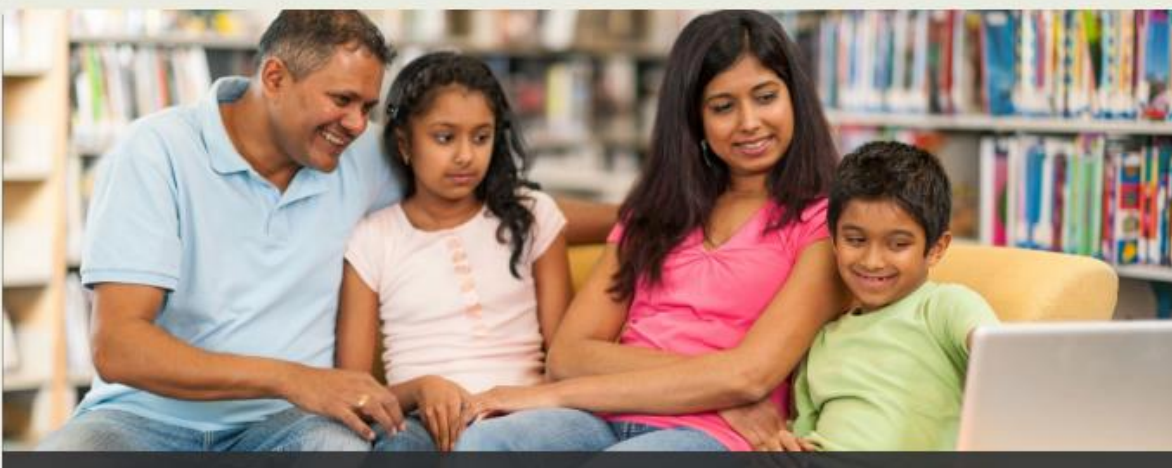


National **Charter School** Resource Center

at Safal Partners

Breaking Barriers: Successful Strategies for Serving English Learners and Their Families

California Charter
School Association
Conference
March 17, 2015



Agenda

- Context:
 - Overview of Data on ELs and ELs in Charter Schools
 - Challenges of Engaging with EL Families
- Overview of school approaches
 - El Sol
 - Camino Nuevo
 - Video Vignettes
- Strategies for Schools with Fewer ELs: Panel Discussion
- Q and A

About the National Charter School Resource Center

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Charter School Resource Center. At the top left, it says "National Charter School Resource Center at Safal Partners". Below that is the tagline "CONNECT. Resources to Build Top-Notch Charter Schools." The navigation menu includes "Our Work", "Focus Areas", "Resource Library", "Education & Training", "Funding Opportunities", "Events", "Teachers", and "Parents". A search bar is located in the top right, along with links for "About", "Contact", and "Events". A "Subscribe to our Newsletter" checkbox is also present. The main content area features a large image of a family (father, mother, and two children) sitting together and looking at a laptop. Below the image is a "NEW RELEASE: PUBLICATION" banner for "English Learners in Charter Schools". To the right of the image is a "GET STARTED" sidebar with five options: "Start a Charter School", "Understanding Charter Schools", "Watch a Webinar", "View Authorizer-School Catalog", "Read our Latest Newsletter", and "Log In to online Exchanges".

- Funded through the **U.S. Department of Education**
- Makes accessible **high-quality resources to support the charter school sector**

Please visit: www.charterschoolcenter.org for news, resources, and information on charter schools.



**EL Sol, 750+ students k-8
Santa Ana, California**

The mission of El Sol Science and Arts Academy is to provide a rigorous academic environment that prepares students for entrance into a college preparatory track and to create a culture of kindness, creativity, courage, and honesty that will permit our graduates to assume leadership roles. El Sol works to achieve that mission through a variety of curricular areas of focus. In particular, El Sol provides a dual immersion program.



**Camino
Nuevo
Charter
Academy**
*Celebrating
15 years*

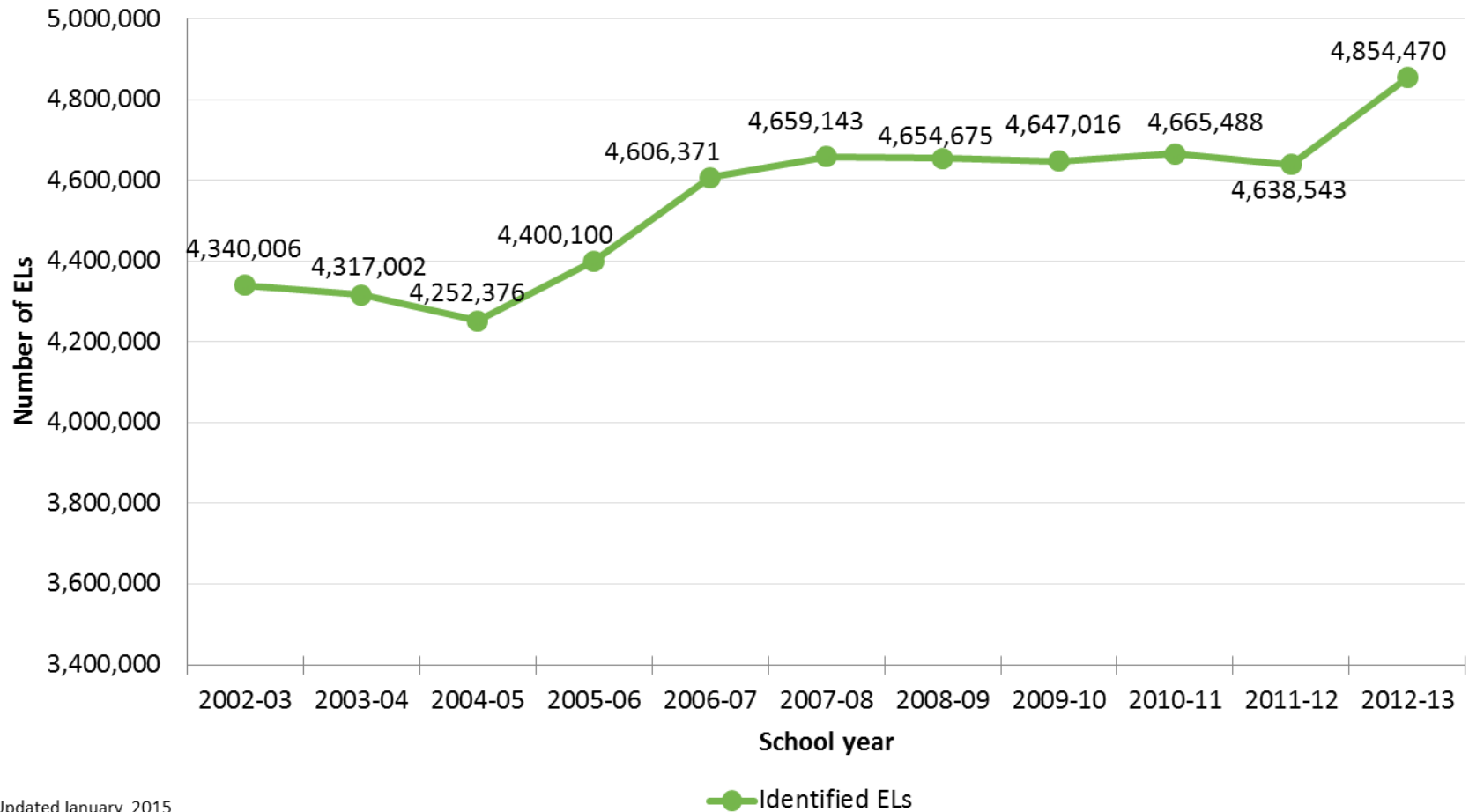
Los Angeles, CA

Serving 3,300 students from some of the most challenged neighborhoods in Los Angeles, CNCA utilizes a comprehensive approach to prepare students from preschool through high school for success in college and in life. We integrate academic rigor, community focus, family, and wellness to empower students to thrive in a culturally connected and changing world.

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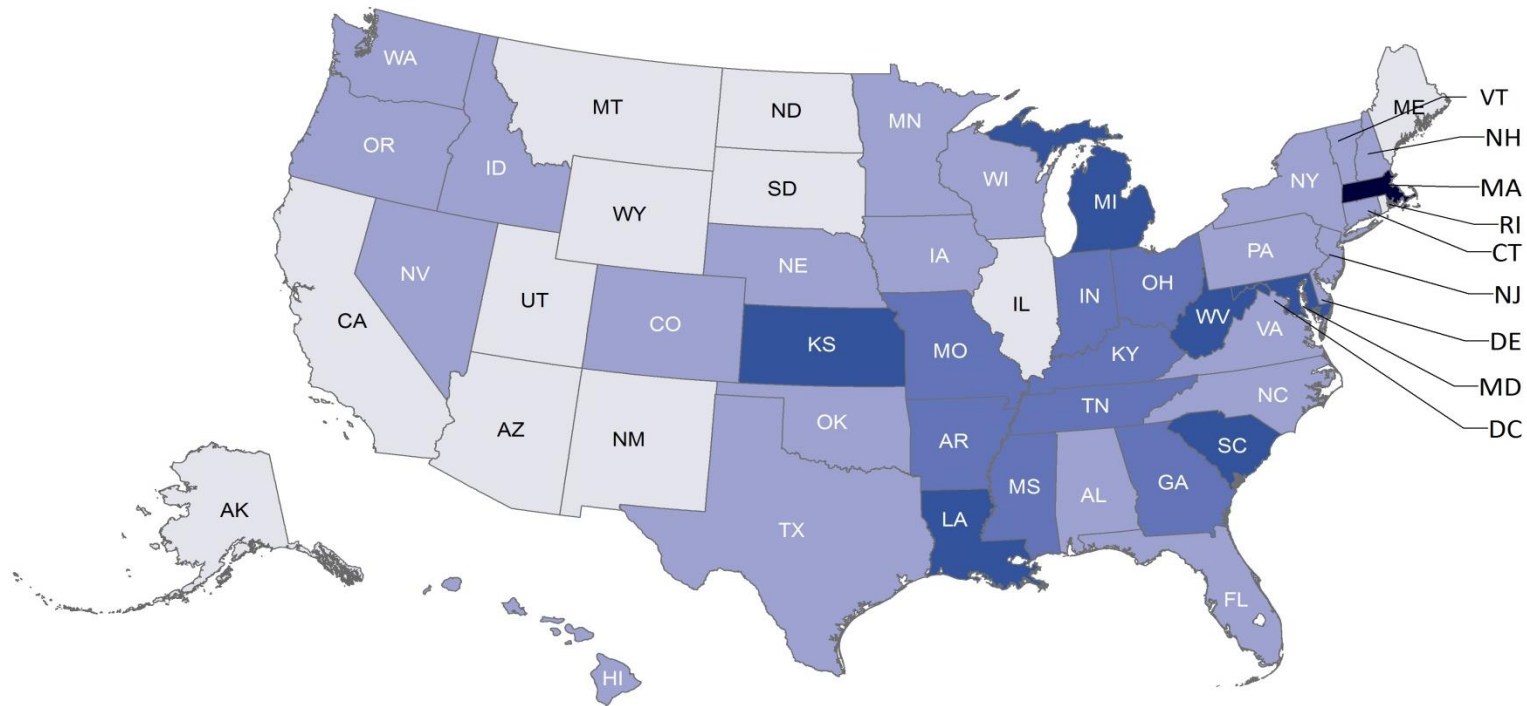
Number of K-12 English Learners SY 2002-2013



Source: U.S. Department of Education, 2008-10 Biennial Report to Congress and EDFacts/Consolidated State Performance Reports, SYs 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13



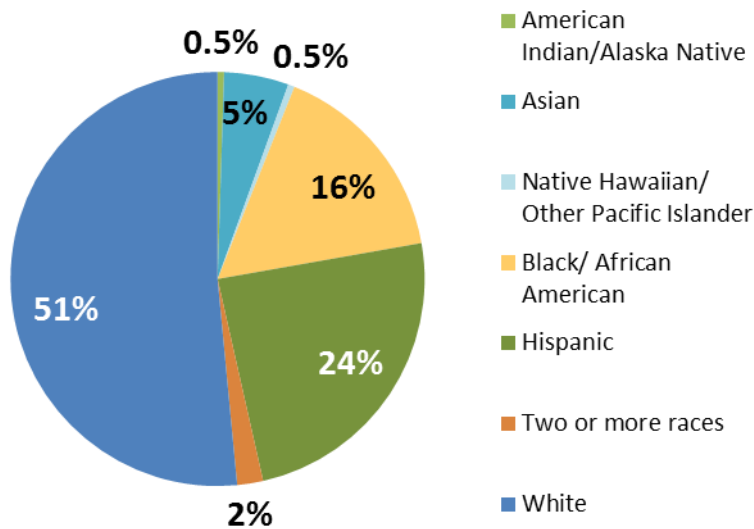
Percentage Change in Number of ELs SYs 2004-05 to 2011-12



Source: EDFacts/Consolidated State Performance Reports, 2004-05 to 2011-12. Retrieved from <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/consolidated/index.html> Updated 1.15.15

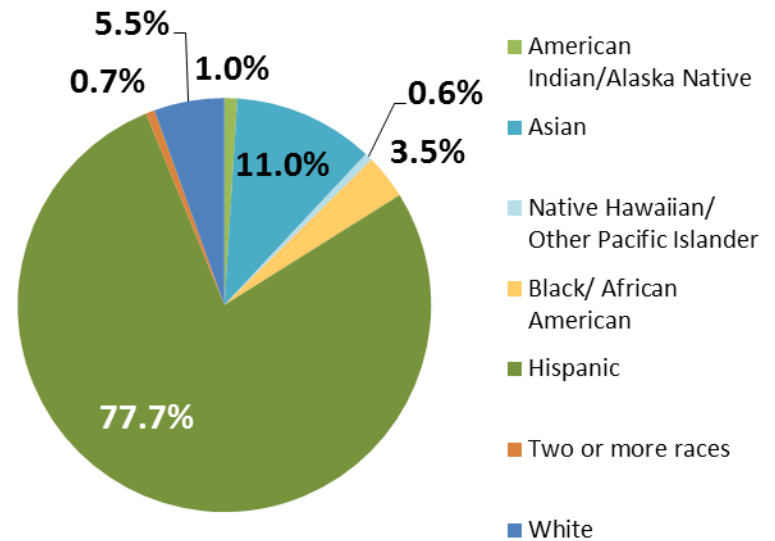
English Learners Demographics

Student Enrollment



49 million students

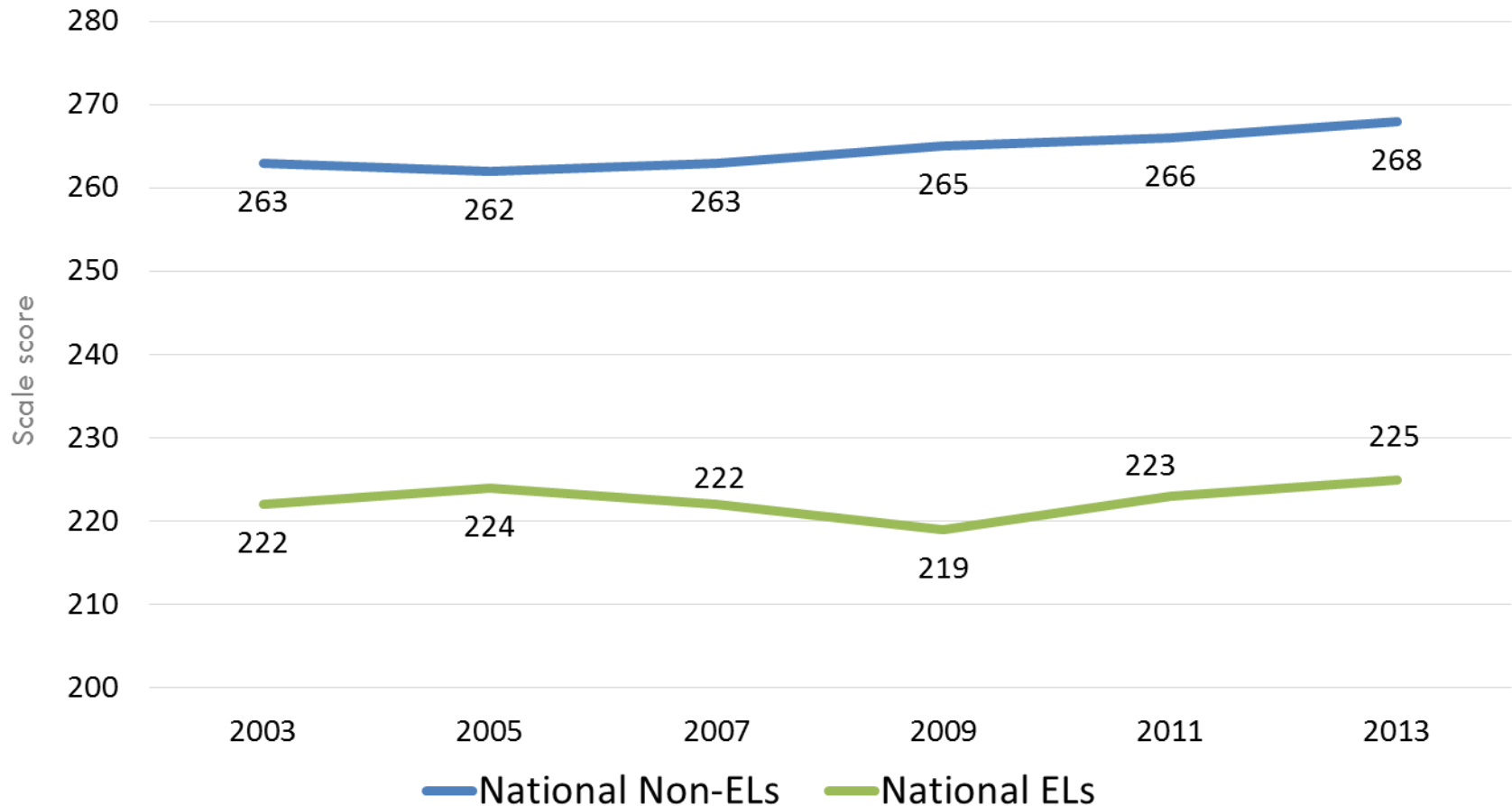
EL Students



5 million students



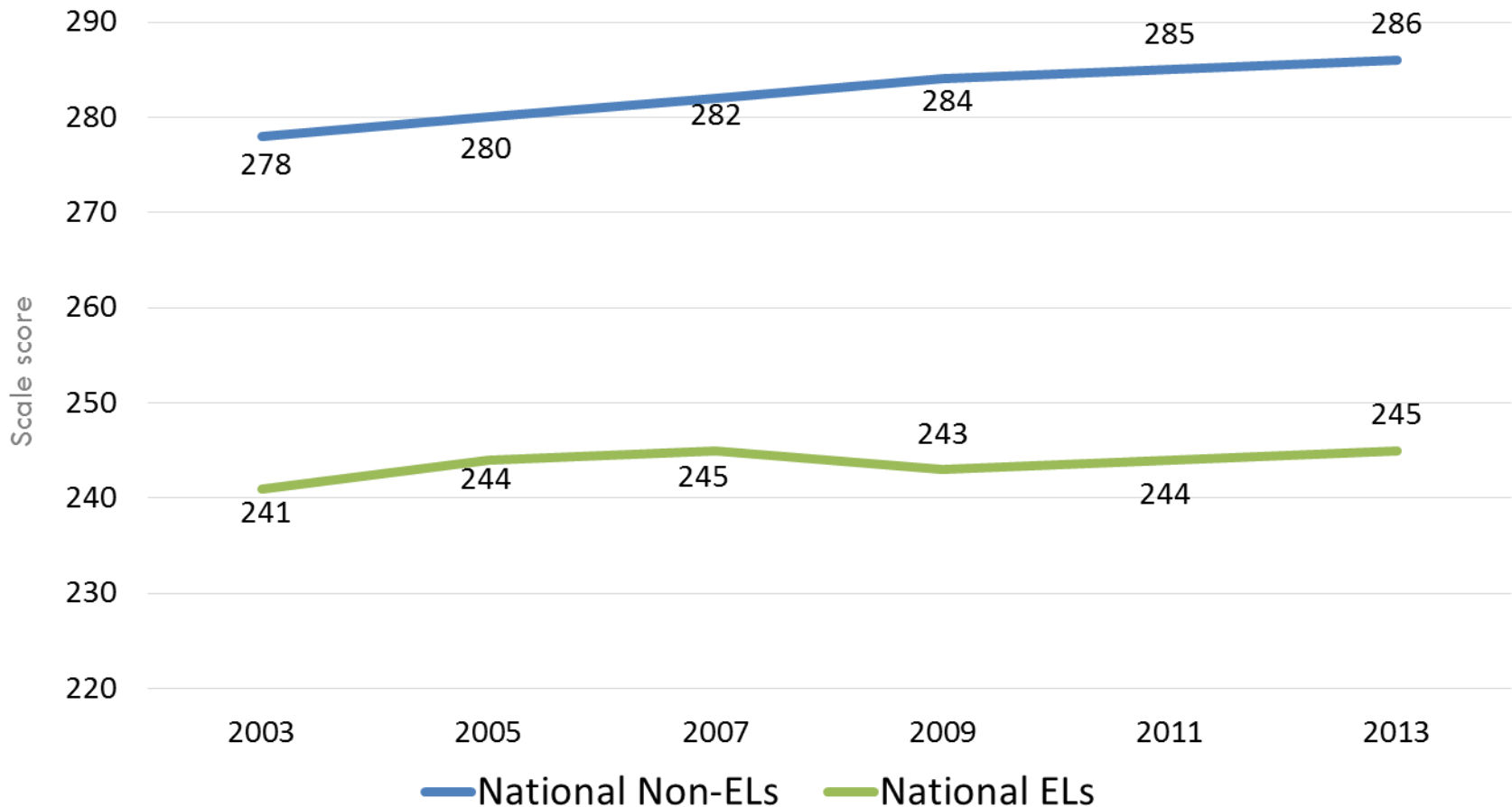
NAEP Grade 8 Reading Scores for ELs and Non-ELs: 2003-2013



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013 Reading Assessments.



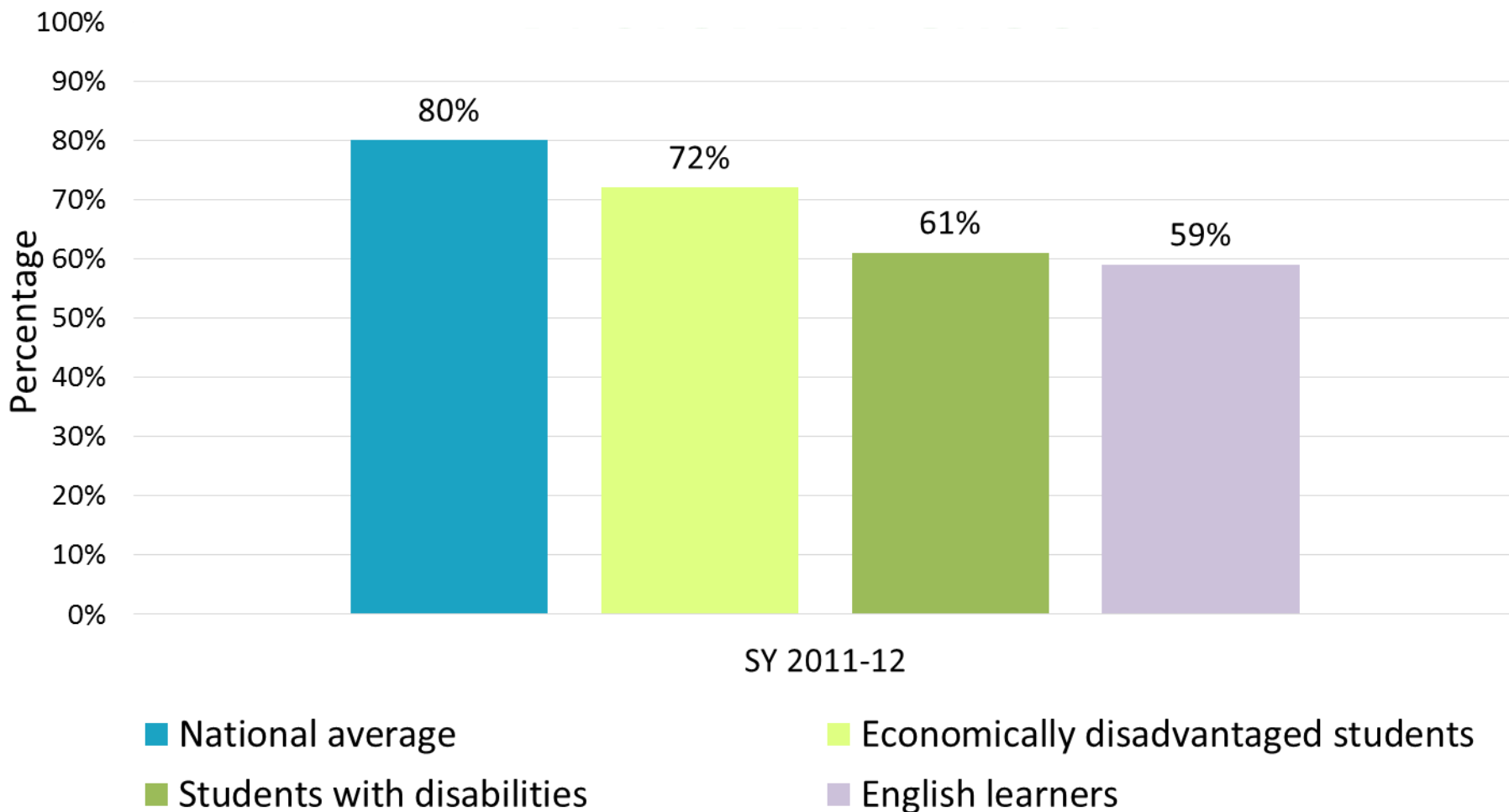
NAEP Grade 8 Mathematics Scores for ELs and Non-ELs: 2003-2013



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013 Mathematics Assessments.



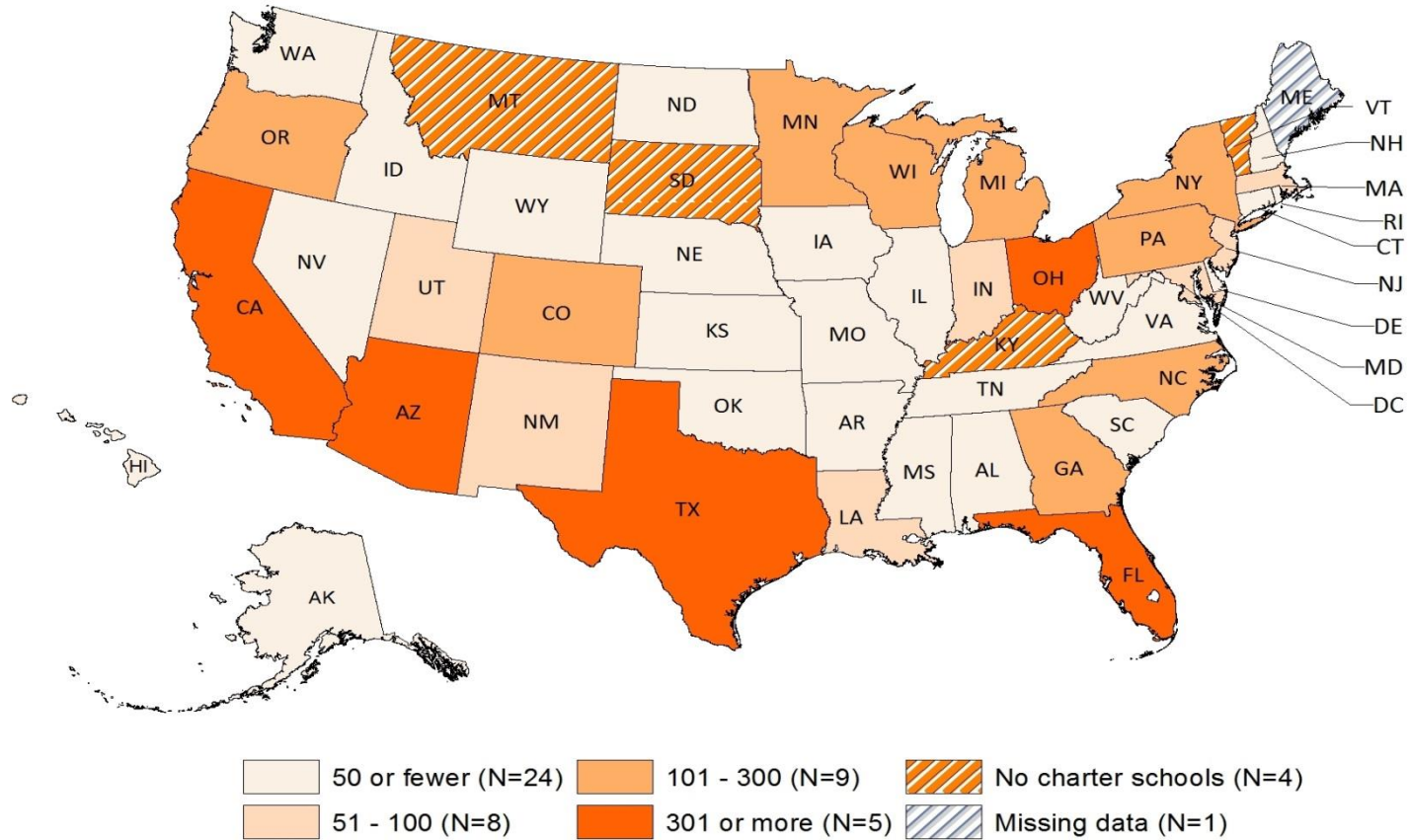
High School Graduation Rates by Student Group



Source: Stetser, M.C., and Stillwell, R. (2014). *Public High School Four-Year On-Time Graduation Rates and Event Dropout Rates: School Years 2010-11 and 2011-12*. First Look (NCES 2014-391). U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics.



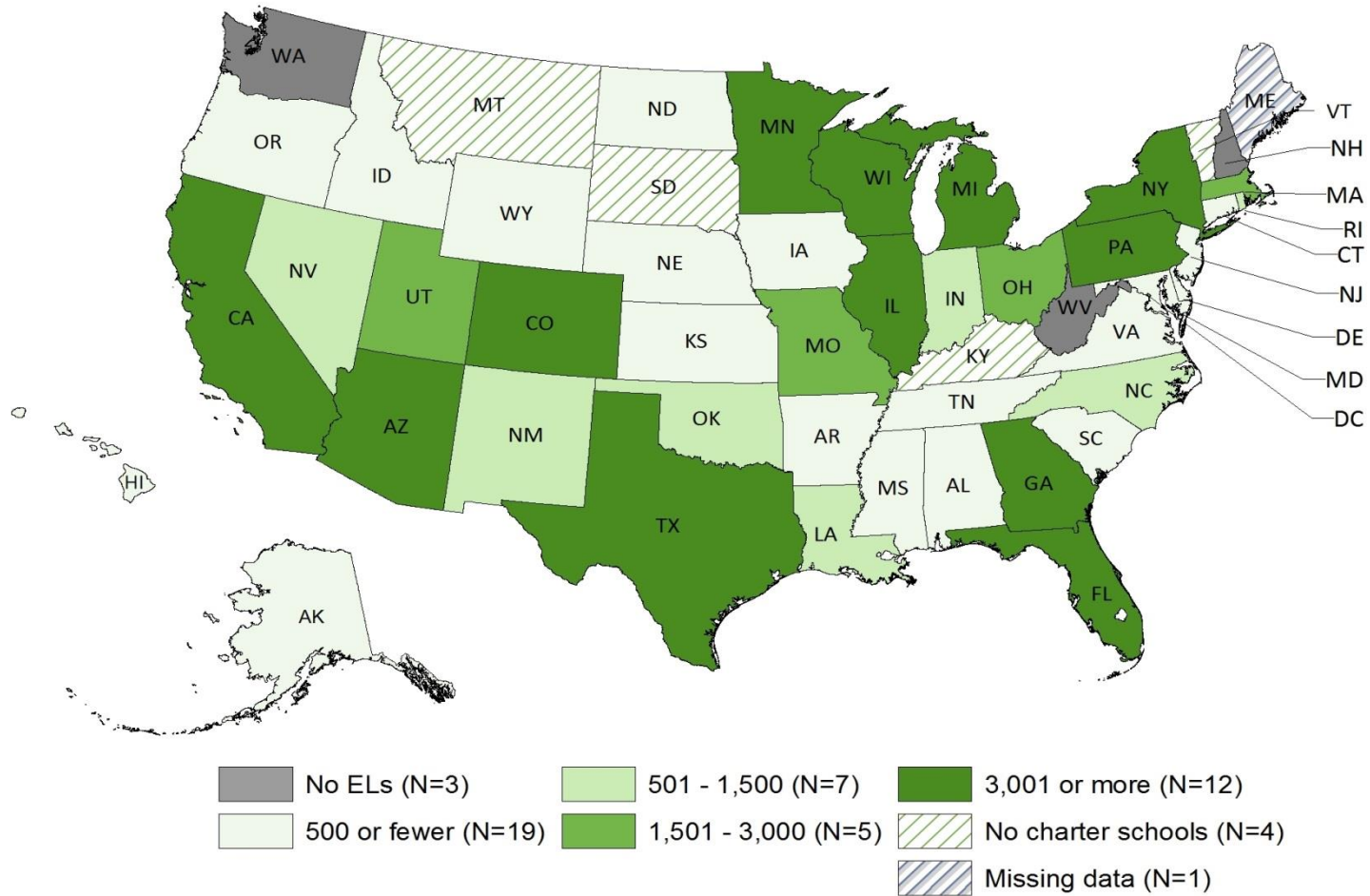
Number of Charter Schools, by State, Including DC: SY 2011-12



Source: U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, Civil Rights Data Collection.
Released March 2014. Retrieved from www.ocrdata.ed.gov Jan 2015



Number of ELs in Charter Schools, by State, Including DC: SY 2011-12



Source: U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, Civil Rights Data Collection.
Released March 2014. Retrieved from www.ocrdata.ed.gov Jan 2015



States with the Largest Numbers of EL Charter School Students: SY 2011-12

	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Charter School Students	Number of ELs in Charter Schools	Percentage of Charter School Students who Were ELs
California	899	392,149	72,655	18.5%
Texas	522	173,143	31,215	18.0%
Florida	514	181,051	14,616	8.1%
Michigan	285	115,118	7,959	6.9%
Arizona	465	139,544	7,836	5.6%
Colorado	170	81,921	7,092	8.7%
Georgia	138	90,606	6,182	6.8%
Minnesota	157	59,880	6,134	10.2%
Illinois	50	49,337	3,955	8.0%
New York	172	62,505	3,278	5.2%

Source: U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Collection. Released March 2014.

Retrieved from www.ocrdata.ed.gov

Jan 2015



Why Engage with EL Families

- Greater family engagement with schools can be a critical lever for ensuring academic success of ELs.
- Three dimensions of family engagement:
 1. Recruiting EL families
 2. Communicating with EL families
 3. Involving EL families in school activities

Barriers to Engaging with EL Families

- Limited family contact with social networks through which information regarding schools is exchanged
- Socioeconomic status
- Language barriers
- Perception that charter schools may not offer adequate services to EL students and families
- Differing cultural perspectives about what constitutes family engagement
- Lack of familiarity with U.S. school procedures
- Constraints on abilities to transport children to school

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El Sol Science And Arts Academy



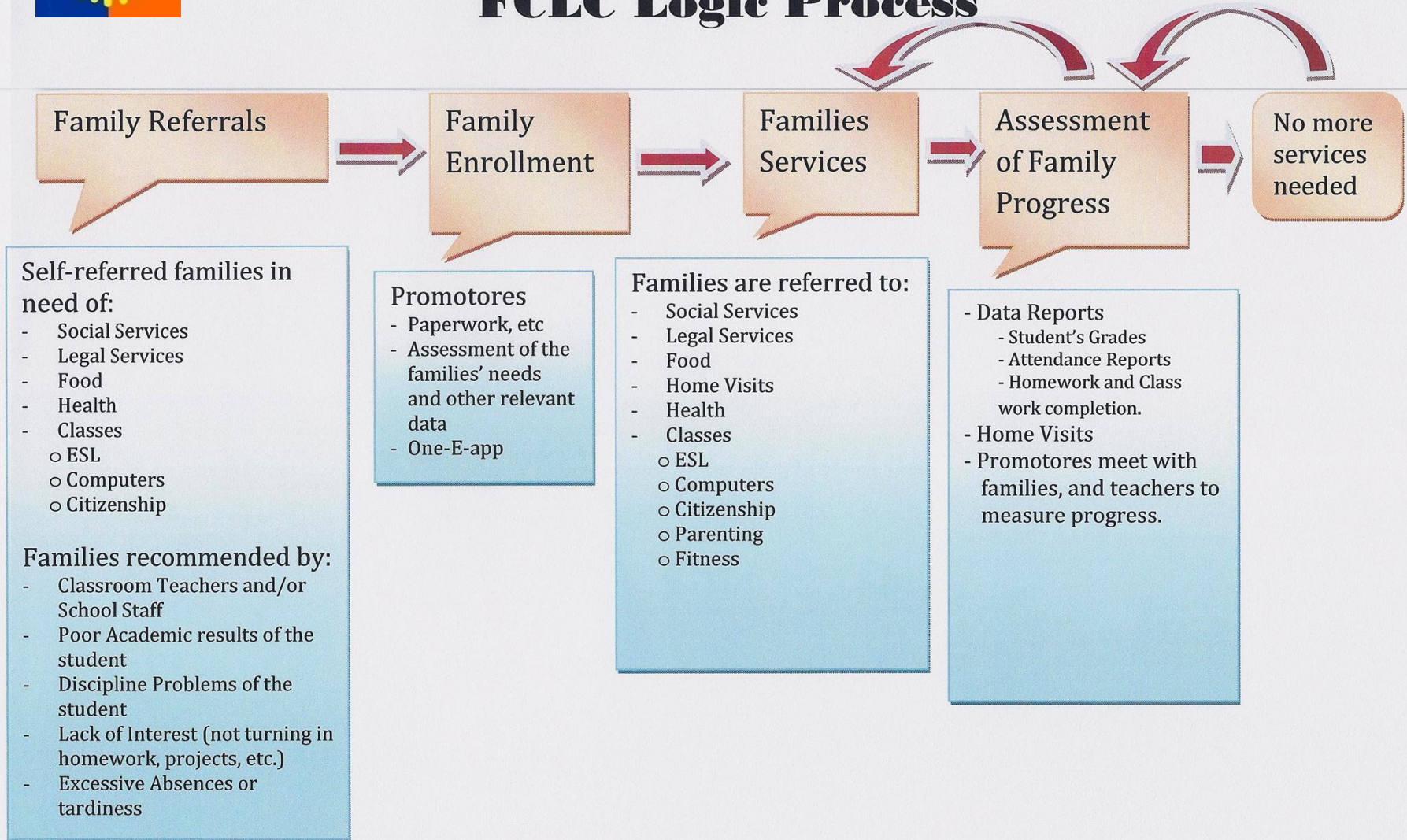


El Sol Science And Arts Academy

- Current student population: 878 K – 8 and 75 Preschoolers = 954 total students
- Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible: 75%
- English Language Learners: 70%
- Dual Language Immersion: 90/10 model
- Arts and Sciences, Extended Day, Community partnerships, Family oriented



FCLC Logic Process





Programs for Families

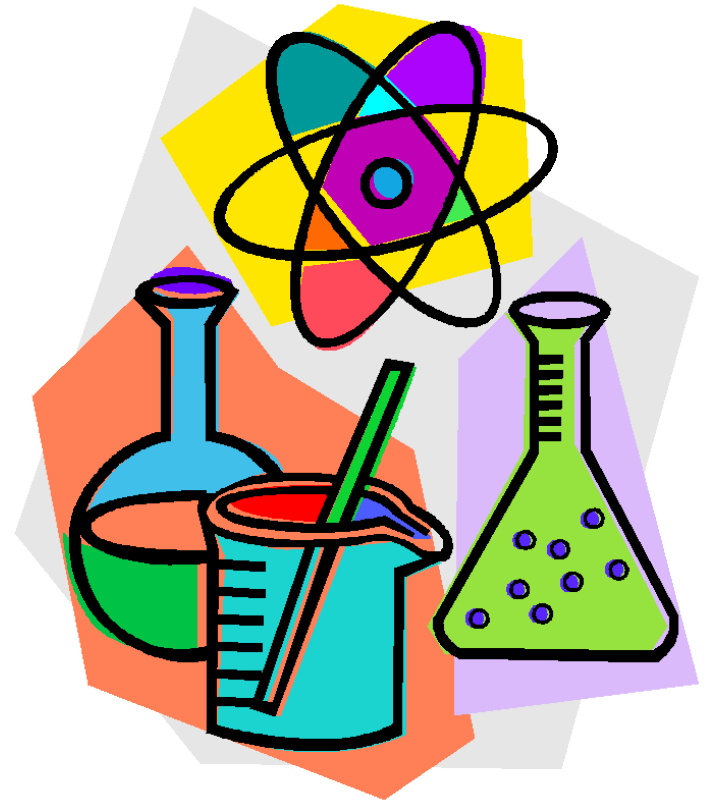
- **English as a Second Language (ESL) Program**
- **Spanish Classes Liberia Martinez de Chapman**
- **Middle School Parent Support Group**
- **Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD) Parent Support Group**
- **Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**
- **Children Investigating Science with Parents and Afterschool (CHISPA)**
- **Science Demonstrations**
- **Padres Comprometidos-NCLR**
- **We've got your back Community-Based Program**
- **Zumba classes**
- **Providence Speech & Hearing**



Programs for Families

Science Demonstrations

- Monthly hands-on science experiments led by parents and community volunteers
- Every month is a different experiment, with experiments done in every classroom Kinder-5th grade and some middle school classes
- Parents are taught the lesson and give the demonstration to a classroom and do the experiment with the students: 25 classrooms, about 20 parents and 20 community volunteers





Programs for Families

Providence Speech & Hearing

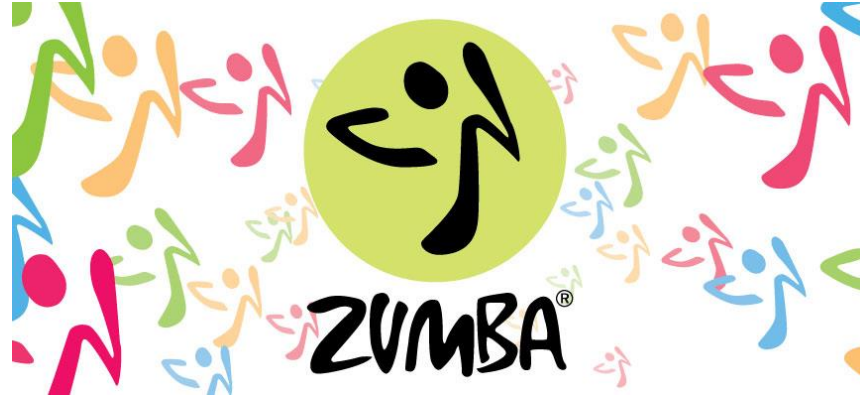
- Offers a variety of speech and hearing services for children and adults
- Accepting most major insurance companies and medical groups, they also provide grants, scholarships, and financing options for patients from low-income families
- They do screenings for our preschool program in the beginning of the year, in October and refer students and families if needed; approximately 80 students are screened every year



World Federation of the Deaf



Programs for Families



Zumba classes-

- Parents lead a morning Zumba class and it is mostly moms that attend this class but they love it!
- It gives them a good workout and energy for the remainder of the day. Parents use one of the classrooms, which gets full very quickly
- When possible, they have the Zumba class outdoors (for instance on a Saturday when there are no students on campus)



Other Family Opportunities

Events

- Noche De Altares
- Fall Festival/Music & Arts Festival
- World Read Aloud Day
- Family Movie Nights
- Resource Fair
- Pacific Symphony Family Days
- Family Shakespeare in the Park at UCI
- Field Trips
 - Sage Hill
 - Pretend City

Services

- Buss Passes
- Uniforms Scholarships
- Computers for parents/families
- Vision Screenings
- BMI
- Dental Screenings
- Medical services
- Covered California eligibility

- **Backpacks- Back to School-** we reach out to different resources to have new backpacks with supplies for students in the beginning of the school year and throughout the year, if needed. We give about 400 backpacks in the beginning of the school year and about 75 throughout the year. Families sign-up at school registration and their information is kept confidential.
- **Parent Meetings** (child care available= good turnout)
 - LCAP – multiple meetings and groups
 - Wellness Policy – worked on with parents, partners, and staff
 - Immigration Reform – parent hosted
- **Food Distribution**
 - Produce Education Program
 - UCI Parent Meetings – Wellness Education
 - McKinney-Vento - 71 students and their families



Building a Culture of Family Involvement

- **Intentional Design** – staffing, funding, hiring
- **Programmatic Dynamism**– variety of services AND opportunities to serve
- **Flexible and reflective** – continuous loop of communication and feedback
 - **RELATIONSHIPS**
 - **RELATIONSHIPS**
 - **RELATIONSHIPS**

Serving EL students to College Success

Camino Nuevo Charter Academy



Camino Nuevo Charter Academy

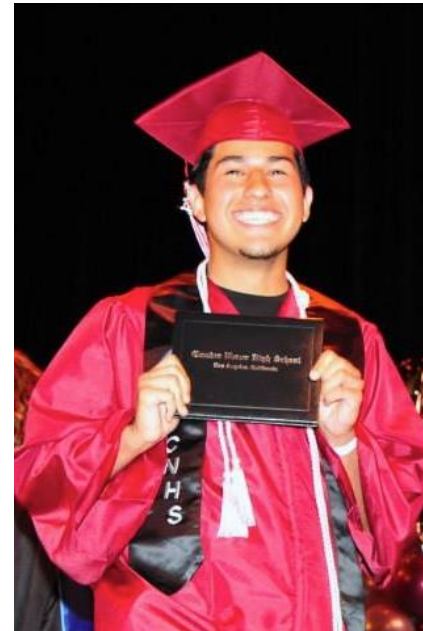
Mission

Camino Nuevo Charter Academy's mission is to educate students in a college preparatory program to be literate, critical thinkers and independent problem solvers who are agents of social justice with a sensitivity towards the world around them.



Our Goal: College Completion

By 2022, more than 2,000 CNCA graduates will be equipped with skills, knowledge, and worldview necessary to be literate, critical thinkers and independent problem solvers. As a result of this success, **90%** will be accepted to, **80%** will attend and **60%** will graduate from a 4-year college within 6 years. (CNCA 5-Year Strategic Plan, 2011)



CNCA Demographic Profile

Campuses: 8

Grades: PreK – 12th

Enrollment: 3391

Qualifying for free or reduced lunch - 96%

Receiving Special Education Services - 10%

English Language Learners - 44%

Previously designated as English Learners (RFEP) - 36%

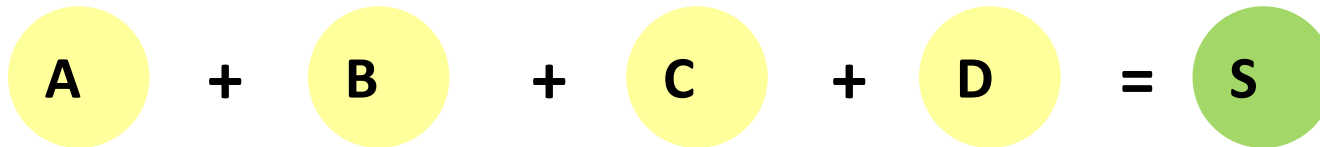
Currently/previously designated as English learners - 80%

- Ethnicity:
- Latino/Hispanic: 96%
- African American: 1%
- Filipino: 2%
- Other: 1%



THE CNCA WAY

CNCA's Equation for expanding impact



By 2022, 2,000 CNCA graduates are equipped with the skills, knowledge, and worldview necessary to be literate, critical thinkers and independent problem solvers.

As a result of this success, 90% have been accepted to, 80% have attended and 60% have graduated from a 4-year college within 6 years.¹

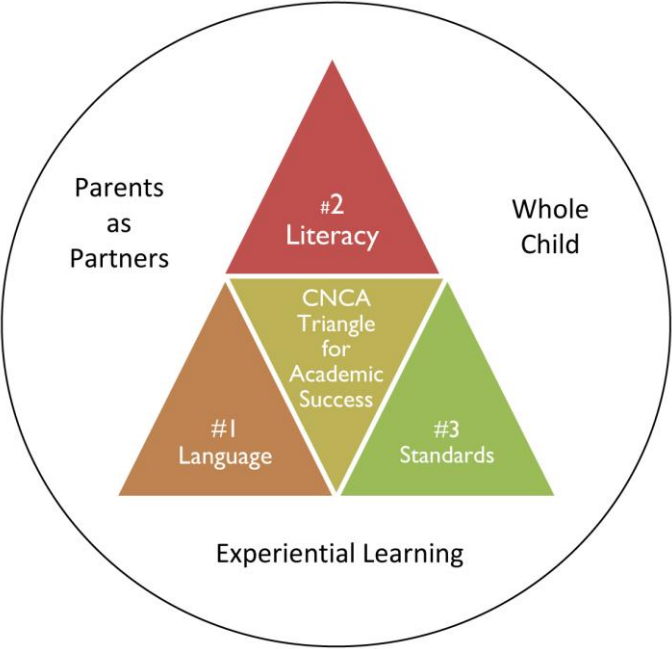
In order to achieve this success (“S”), CNCA must:

- A. Through extended investment and engagement in students, produce students who have the ability to engage in rigorous reading, writing, critical thinking, speaking, and mathematical & scientific reasoning
- B. Use a place-based approach to support the social and emotional development of students, and expose them to diverse cultural experiences and critical social perspectives
- C. Recruit and develop quality educators and leaders committed to the “CNCA Way”
- D. Ensure organizational sustainability with respect to financial management and human capital.



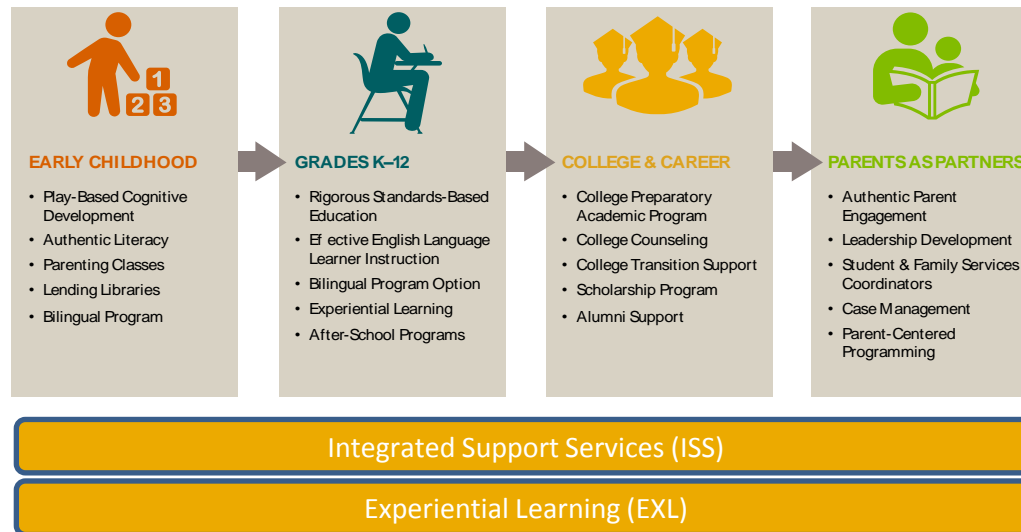
(1) This represents a 95% high school graduation rate. Nationally, 60% of college students graduate within six years. National Center for Education Statistics, 2010

Triangle for Academic Success



Our Strategy: Continuum of Care

Ingredient B: Use a place-based approach to support the social and emotional development of students, and expose them to diverse cultural experiences and critical social perspectives.



Parents as Partners: Program Components



Academic Workshops

- Understanding the Academic Language
- Common Core Transition
- Eureka Math
- Successful Parent Conferences (Student Led at the MS Level)
- Reading & Literacy



Socio-Emotional Workshops

- Love & Discipline
- Parent Support Groups
- Protective Factors
- Community Building Engagement (i.e.,



Wellness Workshops

- Preventing Chronic Illnesses
- Nutrition and Physical Activity
- Healthy Living



Case Management

- Parent Coordinators
- Wellness Referrals
- Community Resource Guide
- Resource



Volunteer Opportunities

- Site Based Council
- Cross-site Planning Committees
- Fundraising Committees
- Fieldtrips &

CNCA Parent Leadership Training

- Defining Leadership & Styles: The Five Dimensions
- Discovering our True North
- Working with Diverse Personalities
- From Me to Ours
- Ten Commandments of a Good Leader
- The Power of Your Words
- The Elevator Speech
- Successful Event Planning



Integrated Support Services

Parents as Partners



Goals

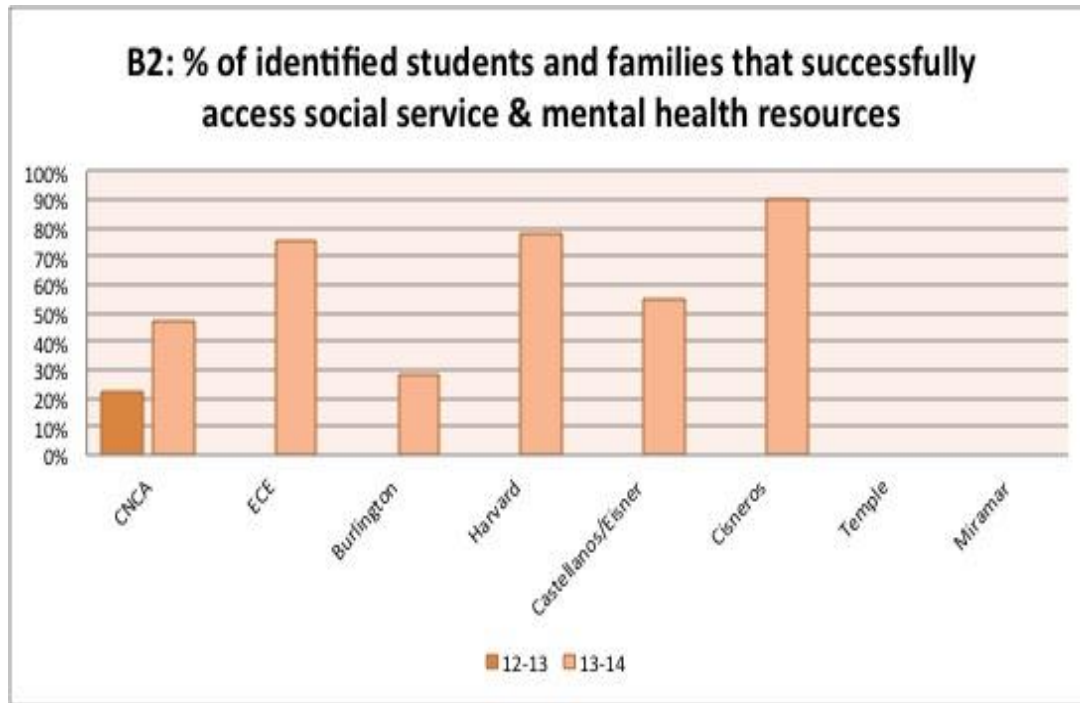
- Develop new partnerships with CBO's for support services to families
- Deliver and expand mental health services
- Launch new case management system for improved connection to services and follow up
- Strengthen curriculum for parent leadership training series
- Develop sustainable org-wide practices for positive and effective partnerships with families.

Progress

- Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services expanded
- New mental health partner: Children's Bureau
- Mental health partners facilitated a session at the CNCA Success Conference
- A 'Community Resource Guide' was developed and a new 'Wellness Referral' form created
- A data tracking system was implemented for integrated support services
- Site-Based Council quarterly leadership development classes continue
- Monthly PD and Coaching sessions for Student & Family Services Coordinators continue



Place-Based Approach Dashboard Goals



- By 2015-2016, 75% of identified students and families successfully access social services and mental health resources.
- 2012-13 = 22%
- 2013-14 = 47%



CNCA Graduation Rate

Class Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total/ Average
# of Graduates (CalPads)*	99	85	95	93	115	114	111	711
Class Size (CalPads)	108	87	96	94	118	117	116	736
% Graduation	92%	98%	99%	99%	97%	97%	95%	97%
Enrollment Status Upon HS Graduation								
% of Graduates Enrolled in Post-Secondary	72%	78%	76%	82%	99%	98%	95%	86%
# of Graduates Enrolled in Post-Secondary	71	66	72	76	114	112	105	616
% of Graduates Enrolled in a 4-Year	23%	32%	40%	51%	67%	72%	73%	51%
# of Graduates Enrolled in a 4-Year	23	27	38	47	77	82	80	375



CNCA Alumni 2008-2014: Data

College Persistence

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Enrollment Status Fall Term Following HS Graduation								
# Enrolled in a 2 or 4-Year	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	TBD	TBD
% Enrolled in a 2 or 4-Year	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	TBD	TBD
% Known	82%	80%	82%	83%	85%	100%	100%	87%
% College Grad Rate By HS Graduating Class ¹	17%	19%	17%	1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	18%
% College Grad By Enrollment in 4-YR at HS Grad ²	75%	59%	42%	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	59%
# of College Grads Who Received CNCA Scholarship	12	11	12	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	12
% of College Grads Who Received CNCA Scholarship	71%	69%	75%	100%	n/a	n/a	n/a	71%
% Retention: CC & 4-YR By Enrollment at HS Grad**	76%	69%	91%	75%	73%	88%	100%	82%
¹ Calculated by dividing # of grads from 4-year colleges by # of students who graduated from CNCA that class year. ² Calculated by dividing # of grads from 4-year colleges by # of students who indicated enrollment in a 4-year upon CNCA graduation. ** Calculated by totaling # enrolled in/graduated from CC, trade, 4-YR dividing by # indicating enrollment in 4-or 2-yr college at CNCA graduation. Sources: Alumni, Facebook, National Student Clearinghouse, friends and family of Alumni								



Examples from the Field

Alma del Mar Parental Engagement in New Bedford, MA



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Questions & Answers

Links to Resources

NCSRC EL Case Studies:

<http://www.charterschoolcenter.org/case-studies/all>

ED and DoJ Guidance on English Language Learners

<http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/edu/documents/elsguide.php>

NCSRC Report: Legal Guidelines For Educating English Learners In Charter Schools

<http://www.charterschoolcenter.org/resource/legal-guidelines-educating-english-learners-charter-schools>

NCSRC Report: Engaging English Learner Families In Charter Schools

www.charterschoolcenter.org/resource/engaging-english-learner-families-charter-schools

Tools and Resources for Identifying all ELs

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/eltoolkitchap1.pdf>

Schools' Civil Rights Obligations to English Learner Students and Limited English Proficient Parents

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/ellresources.html>

Contact Us

mukta@safalpartners.com

Visit Us

charterschoolcenter.org/, elsolacademy.net/, &
www.caminonuevo.org/

Follow Us

Twitter: [@EISolAcademy](https://twitter.com/EISolAcademy) & [@SafalPartners](https://twitter.com/SafalPartners)

Thank You!

