



SAVES



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

MDCPS

SAVES Specialists Provide Training to Targeted ESOL Teachers

The SAVES District Educational Specialists have recently focused their attention on providing SAVES Targeted ESOL teachers with training and professional development. Most of the adult centers where the SAVES program is offered have recently adapted the use of the CASAS Assessment. CASAS is the most widely used system for assessing basic reading, listening, writing and speaking skills for non-native speakers of English. In order for students to successfully complete a level of ESOL, they must first complete the class requirements, and most importantly, obtain a passing score on the CASAS assessment for that particular level. As a result, ESOL teachers are in need of more training to help them prepare their students for this standardized instrument.



ESOL Teachers compare notes

Along with Dr. Beatriz Diaz, District Supervisor of Adult ESOL, and Dr. Edwina Hoffman, Instructional Supervisor for SAVES,

Carlos Baena, Georges Legerme and Lawrence Ress, SAVES Educational Specialists, researched, planned, and prepared the "Instructional Listening Strategies for Adult ESOL Teachers" professional development course. Nine different training dates were offered at nine different SAVES adult centers.



Solutions to similar problems were discussed

Based on the evaluations received from the participants in the trainings, the professional development was a much needed and overwhelming success. Its main goal was to provide teachers with listening activities that could be used in the classroom to help in preparing their students for the CASAS Assessment. The evaluations stated that the teachers appreciated the training and want more of this type of training to keep them abreast of recent trends and developments, especially in the often neglected field of listening.

Prepared with funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Refugee Services.

If you know anyone else who would like to receive future newsletters, please send your request to Jtravieso1@dadeschools.net.