

FIGURE 1.3 EL and Family Welcoming Checklist

EL and Family Welcome Strategy At our school, do we . . .	Yes	No
Display student work on the walls (including work in home languages)?		
Have visible signs in students' home languages?		
Communicate with families in a variety of ways (e.g., information sent home in home language, phone calls, and home visits)?		
Display maps and flags of students' home countries?		
Have a bilingual staff or bilingual volunteers who can meet with families as needed?		
Provide staff opportunities to learn some common phrases in families' home languages and key information about families' cultures?		
Invite EL families to volunteer in the school (e.g., helping in a classroom or being a resource for other families)?		
Provide services that remove barriers that prevent EL families from attending school events (e.g., childcare, interpreters, and transportation)?		
Have bilingual books in students' home languages in the school library and classrooms?		
Connect new families with a contact person who speaks their home language and offer tours of the schools in home languages?		
Host events specifically for EL families (e.g., back-to-school events and international picnics)?		
Have a parent room with bilingual magazines, school information, and a computer for families to use?		

Source: Adapted from Breiseth, L., Robertson, K., & Lafond, S. (2011). *A guide for engaging ELL families: 20 strategies for school leaders*. Washington, DC: Colorín Colorado. Retrieved from http://www.colorincolorado.org/sites/default/files/Engaging_ELL_Families_FINAL.pdf

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