

ESL TEAM FORMATION

It is best if you think of all those who will be working in the ESL School with you as a team. This mentality will help everyone take “ownership” of the ministry. It is not “your” ESL School – it is “our” ESL School. Below are some of the different groups that need to be on your team.

Prayer Support

The first people that you need on your team are prayer warriors. Actively recruit them for your ministry. Does your church have a weekly prayer meeting that you can submit prayer requests to? Is there a Bible Study group that will pray for the ministry regularly? All of your teachers should be regularly praying for the school in general and their students by name. You should be praying for your teachers by name.

“When we rely upon organization
We get what organization can do;

When we rely upon education
We get what education can do;

When we rely upon eloquence
We get what eloquence can do;

And so on.

But when we rely upon prayer –
We get what God can do.”

Dr A. C. Dixon

Teachers

It is your job to recruit teachers. (See separate section on teachers.)

Other Volunteers

Some people who are interested in your ministry are just never going to feel comfortable teaching in a classroom. That is ok. You can recruit them to be snack coordinators, nursery workers, conversation partners, etc.... You can always find a place

to put a willing volunteer. These people should also be Christians and fill out your volunteer application.

Church Staff

Although they would never realize that they are on your team, in reality they are. The people on your church staff are there to help you. Make sure that you have a good working relationship with them. Keep the “authorities” up-to-date on your ESL School. Always have a story about a student ready to tell. Personal stories about your students help others feel connected to your ministry.

APPRECIATION

Appreciation is not optional. It is mandatory. As the Director it is your job to make sure that everyone on your team feels appreciated, especially your teachers. This can be done in many different ways – weekly e-mails should have encouraging words in them. Small gifts of appreciation and little notes of gratitude go a long way.