

# TREASURES AND DIBELS TRAININGS FOR ELEMENTARY TEACHERS QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Q&A)

UTLA has asked for clarification from LAUSD about the summer trainings being offered for elementary teachers through local Districts for the Treasures program and DIBELS (*Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills*). Below are answers we have received from the District.

## Treasures-Related Questions

1. **Do all K-5/6 teachers have to take the *Treasures* training?**

Yes. In order to provide all our students with the best possible instruction using Treasures as a tool, we need to ensure all our teachers have an opportunity to study the new materials. More importantly, participants will have the opportunity to collaborate with other teachers in local districts, have a platform to ask questions regarding the new curriculum, and engage in problem solving and lesson planning. Teachers will be able to earn a stipend if they attend the training when they are off track. Teachers who do some additional hours will qualify for a salary point. Teachers who do not attend a summer training will be released during the school year and a substitute will be provided. However, teachers will not qualify for a stipend or salary point credit if the training is done during their contractual assigned days.

2. **Do teachers have to take the *Treasures* training offered by their local district?**

Yes, each Local District is catering its training to support the uniqueness of its own district.

3. **Can 6th grade teachers in K-6 elementary schools take the *Treasures* training? How about Middle School 6th grade teachers?**

6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers at elementary schools go to Treasures PD. 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers at Middle schools can attend the Effective Practices Summer Institutes for secondary teachers. For courses, log in at the LAUSD Learning Zone at <https://lz.lausd.net>.

4. **For the *Treasures* training: What can teachers do if they live far away from their local district or cannot attend the dates for their local district but could attend dates being offered by another local district?**

Teachers must attend the Treasures professional development offered by their Local District. Teachers who cannot attend the summer trainings will be sent to the training at the beginning of the school year.

5. **Is there a training planned for schools with a dual language or basic bilingual program?**

Yes, there is training in Tesoros for teachers in the dual language or basic bilingual programs (Spanish only).

6. **Do teachers who teach in these programs also take the English training?**

Yes, teachers of dual language or basic bilingual programs (Spanish only), should

take the English 3-day professional development first, and then can attend a Tesoros follow-up professional development. At this time, registration is open for Dual Language. Stay tuned for Waiver-to-Basic training opportunities.

## **DIBELS-Related Questions**

7. **Do all K-5 teachers have to take the DIBELS-U/DIBELS training or just K-2?**  
All general education teachers working with students in grades Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> are required to attend 3-day *DIBELS Next* professional development. All Resource Specialist and Special Day Program teachers working with students in grades K-5/6 are required to attend 3-day *DIBELS Next* professional development.

8. **If a teacher needs 1 day of DIBELS-U/DIBELS training for technology because they already had the 2-day, do they get the \$102? Do they also get PD hours?**  
3-day professional development consists of 2-days on how to administer the DIBELS assessment and 1-day on how to use the technology and teaching tools. A teacher who has already attended the 2-day, should attend the 1-day, and yes, will get a \$102 stipend or PD hours.

Professional development will be available at four strategic locations throughout the District. Each site will have weekday sessions and two sites will also have weekend sessions. Teacher release time will be paid for teachers attending on school time. Attendees will be paid a \$306 stipend for attending weekends, off-track, or during the summer for completion of 3 consecutive days of professional development, or \$102 for one complete day of attendance. Teachers can accumulate credit toward ongoing professional development certifications (NA credit).

9. **Can all elementary teachers take DIBELS?**  
At this time, priority for DIBELS training is open to the teachers listed in #7 above. If there is additional space in a class, then a teacher not listed in the answer above, may ask to attend on a space-available basis.
10. **Can teachers take the DIBELS-U/DIBELS training at any of the sites?**  
Unlike the Treasures, the DIBELS training will be offered in collaboration with the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and School Support and the Division of Special Education. Teachers attend a training location of their choice.

## **Questions regarding both DIBELS and Treasures**

11. **If teachers don't take the training during the summer who has to pay for the substitute?**  
Teachers are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to earn a stipend or a salary point, and start the year ready to start using the new series. Teachers who attend the summer training will also minimize the impact on students by attending professional development during their off-track time. Because this is a required training, the contract requires that teachers have the option to attend training in

September during on-track time with teacher release time paid by the District. (Note: a change in policy that the District pays the school for teacher release time, and the school is responsible for reimbursing substitutes.)

**12. If a teacher can't take either the DIBELS-U/DIBELS or Treasures training during the summer will there be weekend trainings?**

There will be trainings in the fall to ensure every teacher had had an opportunity to attend professional development.

**13. Is there a place on the District website where I can find additional information about these trainings or just on the learning zone?**

Learning Zone (<https://lz.lausd.net> ) is the primary conduit of professional development information for both DIBELS and Treasures; however, by visiting the K-12 Literacy/Language Arts office, and clicking on "Elementary Resources," one can find additional information that is updated regularly.

**14. Is there an email or phone contact that will be available at the local district offices or central office during the summer if teachers have additional questions?**

Should teachers have additional questions, they can email their local district contact person who is listed in their Learning Zone confirmation when they register for training, or call the Local District office and ask for support.

**15. What funding source is paying for these trainings?**

Categorical funding is being used, some of which is earmarked for professional development and the remaining is from stimulus funds that expire in September 2011.

**16. What is the bulletin or memo that details the policies for these trainings?**

Information has gone out in inter-office correspondences or flyers to all elementary schools. Reference guides or memos will be posted for the upcoming school year.