Immigrant and Refugee Struggles in Education

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Immigrant and Refugee Struggles
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Challenges to Immigrant and Refugee Education

- **Immigrant/ESL Needs**
  - Parents have low L2 proficiency and low SES
  - Overexposure to L2, decreased L1 abilities

- **Refugee Specific Needs:**
  - Experience: trauma, interrupted education, lack of trust in community
  - Institutional: lack of teacher knowledge and support services

Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

**Language**
- Bilingual Classrooms
  - 50-50 model or 90-10 model, includes dominant language and heritage language
  - Respect for cultures in addition to one’s own

**Instruction**
- Learner-Centered Pedagogy
  - Teachers of content and language
  - “Smart links” and “smart paths”
  - Alternative assessments
  - Professional Development
  - Team Teaching

**Community**
- Refugee Students:
  - Personal Relationships
  - Classroom: “big brother big sister” program
  - Local: non-profits, liaison programs, local landmarks