

*Socratic Seminar testimonial*

*Lisa Hammond ELD teacher, UniHill Elementary*

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*I want to say this is one of the BEST trainings I've attended in all my time in the district. One of my goals has been to help "grow" the use of Socratic Seminars at our school- especially with our ELD students. It's my belief that if our students gain experience with SS at the elementary level, they will be better equipped to handle the demands they encounter in middle school in terms of being able to effectively participate in them.*

*Check out the first link below as compelling evidence for why we need to do Socratic Seminars- especially with our ELD students. The photo shows a web tracking student participation (=talking) during a Socratic Seminar conducted in English in an integrated grouping. Spanish dominate students are the numbers circled in green. Notice who's doing the talking!*

*I would love to see Socratic Seminars become one of our common school wide structures- across grade levels and language environments.*

*It IS possible to begin the skill building for SS even in the primary grades! If anyone is interested in further information, I'd be happy to share what I know about the training and my experience with SS. I would also be happy to support any staff member who would like to give Socratic Seminars a try- however, I strongly recommend taking John Zola's training as Socratic Seminars are more than just "sitting around a table talking."*

