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Finishing the Year Strong

World Language is in bloom.

April has arrived and it's easy to see that spring is in full bloom in Georgia. Likewise, world language programs and activities are reaching a crescendo of energy as we prepare for the awarding of this year's [Georgia Seals of Biliteracy](#), [the International Skills Diploma Seal](#) awards ceremony, and the language AP and IB exams. In addition, we have a number of events taking place across the state including the upcoming [World Language Leadership Institute](#) on April 11 and 12, the [Inaugural Atlanta Global Studies Symposium](#) from April 25 to 27 and the upcoming [5th annual Global Language Leadership Meeting](#).

At the end of March, we had the honor of participating in the International Day at the Capitol for the second year. Governor Brian Kemp and State School Superintendent Richard Woods spoke and highlighted the important role language learning and cultural connections play in the economic and social life of our state. Three student performances in five languages highlighted some of the state's current Dual Language Immersion Programs.

[Governor Brian Kemp Remarks](#)
[Superintendent Mr. Richard Woods Remarks](#)
[Student Performance](#)

In addition, the Georgia Department of Education World Languages and Global Workforce Initiatives is proud to partner with ACTFL and the states of Virginia and North Carolina to bring you [the STARTALK Multi-State Pathways to Teaching program](#). This unique opportunity seeks to close the gap for heritage language school teachers by creating a Personalized Learning Plan with potential candidates to help them achieve certification. We encourage any interested Georgia participants to apply [via the program website](#).

A Reminder: These updates are archived on the bottom of our professional development page [here](#) and the online calendars have also been updated.

Seal the Deal!

LANGUAGE SEAL REPORTING DEADLINES



[The Seal of Biliteracy Portal is here.](#)

If your district has a world language coordinator, check with them prior to submitting to determine district policy. An informational webinar is available [here](#).

The deadline is May 1 for students earning the seal via previous AP or IB exams or who have taken a proficiency test in a non-AP/IB language via Tier 2 on the chart of approved tests (which you can also view at the [bottom of our Seal of Biliteracy Page](#)).

We have added promotional materials in a variety of languages to the Seal of Biliteracy Page linked above. [Please reference our Guidance at a Glance Doc](#) or contact pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us with questions.



[The International Skills Diploma Seal Portal is here.](#)

If your district has a world language coordinator, check with them prior to submitting to determine district policy. An informational webinar is available [here](#).

The deadline is April 15. The deadline to report ISDS STAR students for the ISDS awards ceremony is also April 15 [and can be done via this link](#). More information on our [our ISDS Website here](#).

[Please reference our Guidance at a Glance Doc](#) or pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us with questions.

What's New?

AP Summer Institute Opportunities

Attention Spanish teachers, are you interested in getting AP certified this summer for AP Spanish Language and Culture or AP Spanish Literature and Culture? Then the summer AP Institute at Sprayberry HS is for you! [Find out more and register here.](#)

GADII 2019

Come join us for the 6th Annual Georgia Dual Language Immersion Institute (GADII) on Saturday, August 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are proud to partner with Clayton County Schools to offer a full day of Dual Language Immersion sessions and training for language teachers, English partner teachers and school level and district level administrators. [Register free via this link!](#)

World Language News

The Inaugural Atlanta Global Studies Symposium launches this April!

The symposium fosters collaboration among institutions of higher education, the public and the community, and the k-12 sector in the Atlanta region and beyond. All events are free and open to the public with pre-registration and will take place at the Bill Moore Student Success Center (225 N Ave NW, Atlanta, GA 30332). [Visit their website here for more info!](#)

New Videos from Sprayberry High School

In March, we were delighted to once again take our camera on the road for the Georgia DLI Video Diary Series. This time, we visited Sprayberry High School in Cobb County which is home to one of the state's most innovative bilingual programs at the high school level.

Check out the videos below!

Part 1: [Sprayberry High School's Innovative Bilingual Program](#)

Part 2: [The Benefits of Bridging Two Languages](#)

Part 3: [Parent Support for Bilingual Programs at Sprayberry High School](#)

Part 4: [What Makes Sprayberry High School's International Spanish Language Academy Special?](#)

FLAG & SCOLT News

FLAG spoken language contest dates have been announced and registration is now open!

[More information via this link.](#) The FLES contest is Saturday, April 27 [at Warren T. Jackson ES.](#)

The FLAG conference for next year will be held in Atlanta with the theme: Roaring Through the 20's : BEST PRACTICES. If you are interested in submitting a proposal you can do [so via this link](#) until September 30.

Proficiency webinars and materials

Did you miss the free professional development webinars from some of our outstanding Georgia talent? We look forward to expanding this library in the months ahead! Check out the webinar from Mrs. White, An Introduction to Proficiency and Competency-Based Instruction and Mrs. Delgadillo's webinar, Being Intentional with Proficiency in the World Language Classroom. You can also download a set of [proficiency board printables](#). All of this and more is available on our [Professional Development Page here.](#)

First Korean Studies Workshop: Language Education and Teacher Development

We are proud to partner with our friends from the Korean Education Center of Atlanta and Georgia State University to offer a Korean Studies workshop featuring guest speakers from GaDOE, Gwinnett County Schools, Georgia State, Rutgers University, Duke University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

GaLearns World Language Courses

Have you gotten your badge yet? Three new courses are available that will introduce you to the NCSSFL-ACTFL Can-Do Statement Framework. [Find out more about all 3 courses by visiting our professional development page here.](#)

New DLI Guidance at A Glance

We are pleased to offer a [DLI Guidance at a Glance Document](#) to provide an easy reference for stakeholders. We will continue to update this document in the months to come.

Useful Links

- [World Language Calendar](#)
- [Job Postings for March](#)
- [State of World Language in GA overview](#)
- [Teacher and Student Spotlights for April!](#)
- [Program Spotlights for April!](#)
- [March FLAIR newsletter](#)
- [GLOBE Academy featured on DualLanguageSchools.org](#)
- [New video—DLI at Brandywine Elementary School](#)
- [New video—Russian program at North Forsyth High](#)
- [Georgia Milestones information available in Spanish](#)
- [Georgia sets international trade record in 2018](#)
- [GA fire department learning sign language](#)



The Administrative team at Unidos Dual Language School welcomed international visitors in March!

Final Thoughts

As we close out March let me thank you all again for your continued excellence and dedication to your work. One benefit of being the Program Specialist for World Languages is having an overview of the great things happening in our state — to be a witness to the impact your work has on our communities, state and region. It was a great honor this month to be awarded the Southern Conference on Language Teaching Leadership Award and to represent you and your efforts at the annual SCOLT conference. Our work is cooperative and interrelated in so many areas that are critical to our society — supporting language and seal programs, heritage speaking communities, global commerce and business and national security, to name just a few. It is therefore critically important for us to be engaged and prepared to lead, whether in the classroom or at the school, system, state or national level. I dedicate this award to our educators, who are the foundation upon which all successful educational programs are built and who strive and sacrifice daily to provide the best opportunities for the students they serve.

Patrick

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