Good afternoon world language educators!

I apologize for the delay in getting this week’s update out to you! We are so very excited about all that is going on across the state in world language education and the tremendous energy and efforts of our teachers and administrators to provide this crucial component of a well-rounded education to the children of our state. This past week, I was on the road and in several classrooms and it was an absolute pleasure to be able to connect with some of the nearly 3,000 world language teaching professionals in our state.

We love to share your successes and so we ask that you please remember to share them with us so that we can share these successes with others across the state. We know you are doing so many great projects, activities and events in your systems, schools and classrooms related to world language and cultural education so please don’t hesitate to share this information with us or reach out and invite us to attend. We are here to support all of Georgia’s systems, schools and students and we are proud to do so.

Thank you for the continued positive feedback on these weekly updates. Today, we will try a new format, listing the most important updates/events from the week first in bullet points with more detailed explanations following. We hope this makes it easier for those of you reading them via a tablet or mobile device and enable you to get a quick updates on the most important information in the beginning because we know your time is valuable.

Facebook: Georgia Department of Education World Languages
Instagram: gadoeworldlanguages
Twitter: gadoeworldlanguages

Quick Updates!

- The Deadline for the completion of the 2nd reporting cycle for Georgia’s Seal of Biliteracy is this Friday! Please make sure you have submitted your Seal request via this link by the close of the day on Friday, September 1st!

- The date of Georgia’s first statewide World Language Job Fair has been changed to Saturday, March 3rd at Whitewater High School in Fayette County.

- This Monday, we awarded the first Georgia World Language Educator of the Month award to Mrs. Melissa Radu at Smyrna Elementary School!

- The First Georgia Chinese Dual Immersion Teacher Workshop will be held on Sept 16th at 9am at the CI at KSU. For more information contact zli27@kennesaw.edu.

- The AATSP Georgia Annual conference will take place on Saturday, Sept 23rd at Baggett Elementary School in Lawrenceville starting at 9am.
• **The German State Convention will be held February 2-3rd at the FFA-FCCLA center in Covington Ga. More information is available here.**

• **The Goethe-Zentrum and the Alliance Française will be hosting the annual European Day of Languages on Sept 26th from 6:30 – 8:00pm. Register here.**

• **Spread the word, Guest speakers wanted to speak on global education, language learning and the importance of language skills in the marketplace. Volunteer speakers can sign up here.**

• **We are fundraising in collaboration with the Georgia Foundation for Public Education to support Dual Language Immersion programs and professional development for world language educators statewide. Pass the word! Donate here!**

• **GaDOE World Language Education Fall newsletter for Parents will be released in early October. Districts and Schools may submit stories for the newsletter via this link. Deadline for submissions in September 15th.**

• **Social Media Campaign for World Language Education in Georgia going strong!**

![Social Media Graph](image)

*Your Tweets earned 50.9K impressions over this 28 day period*

**Expanded Updates**

• **Save the date for Georgia’s first statewide World Language Teacher Job Fair**
• The date for Georgia’s first world language specific job fair has been changed to avoid conflicts with other local job fairs. Georgia’s first statewide World Language Job Fair will take place on **Saturday, March 3rd from 9am - 12pm** at Whitewater High School in Fayette County. District and School leaders can sign up to host a table at the event by following this [link](#). Representatives from the Professional Standards Commission will also be on hand to answer certification questions. More information will be forthcoming.

- **The First Georgia Chinese Dual Immersion Teacher Workshop coming in Sept**
  - On Sept 16th, starting at 9am – The Confucius Institute in Kennesaw will sponsor an Immersion training for Chinese Teacher. Please see attached flyer for more information. For more information contact zli27@kennesaw.edu.

- **Calling all teachers to share best practices**
  - Starting in late August and in September, we will begin our teacher to teacher professional development series and we invite current teachers to take part! If you are a DLI/World Language teacher and you would be willing to share a best practice for a 10-20 minute webinar/video session, please contact me so that I can provide you further information. Thank you in advance for sharing your best practices with other teachers across the state.

- **Fundraising for grant with the Georgia Foundation for Public Education**
  - The Fundraising Campaign to support language immersion and professional development for world language teachers statewide is ramping up. We are proud to be partnering with the Georgia Foundation for Public Education to raise a total of $60,000 dollars to be used this year to provide much needed support for dual language immersion programs as well as critical quality professional development opportunities for world language educators statewide! We are excited to partner with the [Georgia Foundation for Public Education](http://www.gfpe.org) in this important work! To donate, navigate to the website for the Georgia Foundation for Public Education – [www.gfpe.org](http://www.gfpe.org). Click the Donate button in the top right and designate World Language Education! We thank you in advance for your support! All Donations are tax deductible!

- **Related to the Biliteracy Seal**
  - Recently, I completed what I am calling a guidance at a glance sheet for Georgia’s Seal of Biliteracy. It can be found [here](#) and we encourage you to share widely within your networks. This is part of an effort to continue to communicate clearly the route to the Seal for all stakeholders.
A reminder that I have updated the reporting procedures for schools and systems for the **Seal of Biliteracy**. Biliteracy Seal requests can now be made via an online form accessed [here](#). This is also accessible via our website. When your school or system is ready to report your seal requests prior to the 2nd reporting deadline of Sept 1st, simply submit via this form and we will confirm the request via email.

- **Related to the International Skills Diploma Seal**
  - A reminder, I have also recently updated the reporting procedures for the International Skills Diploma Seal as well. Again, the intent is to simplify the reporting and application procedures, systems and schools can now report qualifying students via an online form [here](#). Additionally, I have added an additional form for ISDS schools or systems wishing to request that courses be considered for pre-approval on the home page [here](#). A reminder, the application process is now open and will be open through December 15th of 2017. The application along with the rubric the committee used to evaluate these applications are available via the website. *I want to encourage schools and world language programs to offer this important Seal and of course I am ready to assist in this process as requested.*

- **GaDOE World Language Educator of the Month!**
  - Congratulations to Mrs. Melissa Radu for receiving the first Georgia World Language Educator of the Month award for August! Nominations can be made via this [link](#). We encourage you to nominate and recognize an excellent world language educator today!

Melissa Radu, a Kindergarten teacher at Smyrna Elementary in Cobb County, certified in Early Childhood Education, ESOL and Spanish in Georgia, frequent presenter about dual language immersion at professional conferences and lead workshops on DLI. She was born and raised in Venezuela where she received her degree from Universidad José María Vargas in Caracas. In 2001, she moved to the United States to work as a Kindergarten teacher at Chase St. Elementary, served as an EIP teacher at Unidos Dual Language immersion school and continued teaching as a K-8 Spanish teacher in Fulton County, Georgia. She is married and has a son. She enjoys traveling, spending time with her family and going to the movies. They are a trilingual family now and all are citizens of the United States.
• **Upcoming Event dates to be aware of…..**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 24-26</td>
<td>2017 GaDOE Data Conference in Athens</td>
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• **Long term dates to be aware of…..**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Metro World Language District Coordinator Meeting at APS</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 14th</td>
<td>GaDOE WL University/College Advisory Meeting online 10am – 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 15th</td>
<td>Deadline for Article submissions for GaDOE WL Parent Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>Chinese Professional Development at CI in Kennesaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>German Immersion Day at the Goethe-Zentrum</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>AATSP GA Conference in Lawrenceville Ga</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>European Day of Languages – Goethe-Zentrum/Alliance Française</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>World Language District Coordinator Meeting at GaDOE</td>
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<td>September 29</td>
<td>World Languages Day at CULTR</td>
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<td>October 4th</td>
<td>National Teach German Day!</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>AATG-GA Fall Workshop in Athens</td>
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<td>November 17-19</td>
<td>ACTFL conference in Nashville</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2-3</td>
<td>German State Convention in Covington</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 3rd</td>
<td>Georgia World Language Job Fair at Whitewater High School 9am – 12pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 15-17 2018</td>
<td>FLAG/SCOLT conference in Atlanta</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20th</td>
<td>International Day at the Capitol</td>
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- This information and more is available via the professional development calendar on our webpages and on our professional development page [here](#).
- If you have any events that need to be added, please let me know.

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**Related local news**

- Check out these local French Students talking about why they learn a 2nd language! [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bbhhWY8xRnA&feature=share&app=desktop](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bbhhWY8xRnA&feature=share&app=desktop)
Global Trade with Georgia [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JM3Xn789BI&app=desktop](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JM3Xn789BI&app=desktop)

**Links to articles that came out this week related to World Language education.**


“Learning a foreign language, and the culture that goes with it, is one of the most useful things we can do to broaden the empathy and imaginative outlook of children.”

Michael Core

Selecting authentic resources that are...

- Authentic
  - Prepared by and for the target language users, not for language learners
  - Created solely for the use of target language speakers for pleasure or information

- Accessible
  - Appropriate to students' age and proficiency level
  - At an appropriate level of rigor or challenge
  - Rich in visual support, cognates, and known words
  - Linked to prior knowledge

- Appealing
  - Connected to real life
  - Interesting to students
  - Attention-grabbing
  - Novel, humorous
  - Tech-based

- Aligned
  - Matched to learning targets
  - Opportunities to practice interpretive skills
  - Springboards for interpersonal/presentational tasks
  - Examples of vocabulary, language structures, and culture in context
  - Sources of comprehensible input

Thank you and enjoy your Sunday evening!

Patrick