

Good morning world language professionals,

Let me start by wishing you all a wonderful Friday! In some ways, it is hard to believe that August begins next week and many of you have already begun your pre-planning activities and a few Georgia systems have their first day of school today.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful school start in your respective systems and schools. As I've stated many times, your work is critical for our society and our students. Someone recently asked me about what I regarded as my greatest successes in my educational career. Honestly, as teachers, our successes are our students. Our successes are walking around in our communities every day. They are our mechanics, our doctors, our cooks, our cahiers, our pilots, our bankers and on and on. My point is that we make an impact in every effort we put forth in our classrooms whether we realize it or not. Sometimes, success was just seeing a student understand a new concept, making a student laugh or smile or getting a student to see a new possibility for their life. Successes can seem big or small, but they are equally meaningful. Being successful doesn't mean being perfect but rather rising above our imperfections to achieve more for ourselves and others. You will be successful this year and I'm confident of that. You will make an impact. You will be remembered.



A very special welcome to our new world language teachers this school year! Please do share with them this update about our programs and webpages and encourage them to get connected with other world language professionals via the world language professional organizations in our state and region. Together, we support one another and compound the effectiveness of our work.

As always, there is so much to inform you about in our work. I want to encourage you to stay informed and active in that work as we move forward into the new school year. ***World language education does indeed make a world of difference!***

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Announcements!

- **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 ongoing. 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](#) in this important work! To donate, navigate to the website for the Georgia Foundation for Public Education – www.gfpe.org. Click the Donate button in the top right and donate! We thank you in advance for your support! All Donations are tax deductible!

- **Related to the Biliteracy Seal**

- Official Results from the first reporting cycle have been tabulated and 549 Seals were issued by the first reporting deadline of May 1st. 417 in Spanish, 92 in French, 29 in German, 4 in Chinese, 1 in Latin and 6 others in other European Languages from 14 reporting districts. Since the AP and IB exams are the primary pathway to the Seal, we have a 2nd reporting deadline of Sept 1st to recognize those students that qualify for this historic seal via their results. *Let me encourage your schools and systems to recognize those students that qualify retroactively for the seal.* This will mean something for their future lives and it is important for us to recognize their efforts and abilities. Especially so as language ability is a rising workforce priority for our nation.
- 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.
- On July 21st, Delaware became the 27th state to offer a seal of [Biliteracy](#).

- **Related to the International Skills Diploma Seal**

- With this school year, the International Skills Diploma seal is entering its third year of implementation in the state of Georgia. Georgia is 1 of only a handful of states that recognizes students with a seal of global competence for graduating seniors. Participation is up 30% from last year with 80 high schools now offering the seal in 28 Georgia systems. A number that has been steadily rising since inception. 640 International Skills Diploma Seals were awarded last year.
- 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.*
- I recently recorded a webinar update to the ISDS Program. You can find the recording [here](#). The presentation accompanying this webinar is available for download from the Professional Development Homepage [here](#).

- **Related to DLI (Dual Language Immersion)**

- There are over 4,000 Georgia students learning via the dual language immersion model in Georgia. Recently, a newly publicized abstract by renowned immersion researchers Thomas & Collier, entitled [Validating the power of bilingual schooling: 32 year of Large-Scale Longitudinal Research](#), reaffirmed these advantages. Data collected by districts on these programs as well as supporting data at the state level supports these findings as well.

- We welcome two new Dual Language Immersion programs this year in Fulton county at Mimosa and Lake Forest elementary. This complete list of DLI programs can be found [here](#).
- Bilingual programs making news in Hall county.
<http://www.elnueveorgia.com/motivan-la-educacion-bilingue-y-multicultural-en-los-ninos/>
- How Georgia's K-12 students are learning bilingual skills
<https://georgia.gov/blog/2017-07-18/how-georgia%E2%80%99s-k-12-students-are-learning-bilingual-skills>

- **GaDOE World Language Teacher of the Month!**

- We have so many wonderful public-school world language K-12 educators in Georgia at all levels and we want to recognize the fabulous work they do! Starting this year, Teachers, students, parents, administrators and the public will be able to nominate world language teachers to receive recognition for their efforts! Nominations can be made via this [link](#). We encourage you to nominate and recognize an excellent world language educator today!



- **Updates to the website and to the professional development Calendar**

- It is time to look ahead into the year and I have been updating our 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.

- **Job Announcements**

- **Centennial High School** in Roswell is seeking a Spanish teacher. If you are interested, please contact glympho@fultonschools.org
- **The International Charter School of Atlanta** is seeking a French teacher in para pro for Kindergarten. Please contact barbara.wiren@icsatlanta.org
- **Savannah Chatham Schools** are seeking a French teacher for Richmond Hill High School. This is a high quality public school not far from Savannah in Bryan County. For additional information, please contact Dr. Mark Linsky for details. (Mark.Linsky@sccpss.com).
- The German school of Atlanta is seeking teachers, assistants and substitutes for the current school year. Please send your application (by email) including letter, CV, and references to info@germanschoolatlanta.com. More information is available at their [website](#).
- **Two Spanish positions are open in Henry County Georgia**

- Spanish Teacher at Hampton High
School: <https://www.applitrack.com/henry/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=HIGH+SCHOOL>
- Spanish Teacher at Luella Middle
School: <https://www.applitrack.com/henry/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=MIDDLE+SCHOOL>

Other Important Upcoming Events and Items

- **Upcoming AATSP-Georgia Conference** will be held on Saturday, September 23rd from 9am – 4pm at Baggett Elementary School, 2136 Old Norcross Road, Lawrenceville Ga. 30044. You can register and get more information about the event [here](#).
- **Join the Alliance Française d’Atlanta and the Goethe-Zentrum Atlanta** as we celebrate the European Day of Languages 2017! This year we’ll be focusing on the theme “Languages and the Media.” You can find out more at the event website [here](#).
- A **reminder**, if you haven’t joined [FLAG](#), I would encourage you to do so! Next year the [conference](#) will be combined with SCOLT in March! You can submit session proposals now for the SCOLT conference via this [link](#).
- Also, don’t forget about the **upcoming ACTFL Conference** in November! I hope to see you there! You can register via this [link](#).
- The **Third annual Atlanta German Business and Education Summit** is scheduled to take place at the Goethe-Zentrum on July 31st from 7:30am – 9:30am. You can register for the event by following this [link](#).
- [CIEE](#), a leader in international education is offering [summer study abroad programs](#) for Summer 2018. Any student graduating in 2019, 2020, or 2021 is eligible to apply for a [Global Navigator Scholarship](#). Scholarships will be awarded based on both merit and financial need. Applications for 2018 will go live at the end of summer. Check out this brief [CIEE Summer Abroad video](#). For more information, please contact Megan McInturff MMcInturff@ciee.org
- The **French School of Atlanta** is having an open house on Saturday, August 26, 2017 from 9:30 AM to noon. More information is available [here](#).
- Many **Georgia JCLers** attended the 64th annual NJCL Convention in Troy, Alabama this past week. Latin (and Greek) are alive and well in the 21st century! GA has 125 students and 11 teachers of the 1675 lovers of Classics in attendance!

Free online Resources

- Don’t forget about the great resources available for you on the **Lead with Languages** homepage. Some great videos [here](#) where students share how they are leading with languages.

- World language syllabus for proficiency.
<http://www.creativelanguageclass.com/proficiency-syllabus/>
- Printable proficiency descriptors <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Printable-Proficiency-Descriptors-3285553>
- What's my proficiency level printables
<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/ACTFL-chart-Whats-my-proficiency-level-1387034>
- Spanish ACTFL 5 Cs posters <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/SPANISH-ACTFL-5Cs-student-friendly-posters-2284772>
- Design your own infographics <https://piktochart.com/>
- Songs and videos for Spanish class
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dQPMkZ3K9_cx2o12NxDCUH3ITOWwVqbQDSUdli-4hiA/edit

Related local news

- Expansion of Hartsfield-Jackson airport underway
http://www.myaic.com/travel/hartsfield-jackson-begin-work-plane-train-tunnel-extension/k0oH23GPAqE0mI8MENMFrL/?ecmp=socialflow_aic
- Georgia Port Authority has busiest June and a record year. Board approves the purchase of 10 more cargo unloading cranes to total 36 by 2020 making it have the largest capacity to unload goods of any single terminal port in the US.
<http://www.gaports.com/Media/PressReleases/TabId/379/ArtMID/3569/ArticleID/133/GPA-marks-busiest-June-record-year.aspx>
- AJC report on language capability needed in the CIA
http://www.ajc.com/news/national/video-things-the-cia-looks-for-when-recruiting-members/Smu3Ag9sKV0JhEy97u2gFM/?ecmp=socialflow_aic
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Links to articles that came out this week related to World Language education.

- Speak my language and I will remember you better
<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fpsyg.2017.00709/full>
- Exposure to a foreign language ignites language learning for babies
http://www.washington.edu/news/2017/07/17/bilingual-babies-study-shows-how-exposure-to-a-foreign-language-ignites-infants-learning/?utm_content=bufferad4f9&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer
- Bilingual kids can pick up 3rd language more easily
<http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/education/bilingual-kids-can-pick-up-third-language-more-easily>
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- Coe and Cornell team up for language study
<http://www.thegazette.com/subject/news/education/higher-education/coe-and-cornell-team-up-for-foreign-language-experiment-20170724>

- Origin of Europe's oldest language <http://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20170719-the-mysterious-origins-of-europes-oldest-language>
- Students gain more foreign language learning in schools <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/07/22/schools-expand-foreign-language-offerings/103584518/>
- We still don't know why humans speak over 7,000 languages <https://qz.com/1033354/we-still-have-no-idea-why-humans-speak-over-7000-languages/>
- Babies can identify language in utero <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/babies-bilingual-understand-difference-two-languages-womb-unborn-science-university-of-kansas-in-a7848396.html>
- Thousands of English learners fall short on tests of language skills <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2017/07/19/thousands-of-english-learners-fall-short-on-test.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1>
- Learning Mandarin helps students engage with world's major economy http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/16/c_136446695.htm
- Language is the key to the door of international law <https://www.uq.edu.au/news/article/2017/07/language-key-door-of-international-law>
- Ending immigrant recruit deal could hurt the military https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2017/07/18/how-the-pentagons-plan-end-its-deal-with-immigrant-recruits-could-hurt-the-military/?hpid=hp_no-name_hp-in-the-news%3Apage%2Fin-the-news&utm_term=.56b2f5af2e03
- UW team shows a way to teach babies a 2nd language if one parent speaks it. <http://www.seattletimes.com/education-lab/if-parents-speak-one-language-uw-team-shows-a-good-way-to-teach-their-babies-a-second/>
- New York city expanding language access <https://slator.com/demand-drivers/new-york-city-expands-language-access-arabic-french-urdu-polish/>
- Iowa lagging in k-12 foreign language instruction <http://www.kwqc.com/content/news/Report-Iowa-lagging-in-K-12-foreign-language-instruction-436688283.html>

As always, thank you for your time and attention reading these updates. We appreciate all that you do!

Patrick