

Good Morning world language professionals!

It is time once again for a world language update! As usual, there is much I find that I need to share with you and many developments that are ongoing with regards to world language education in Georgia. Before we get to that, I wanted to introduce you to something you may have already seen or heard of and that is [Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement](#). In short, The Georgia Department of Education's strategic plan emphasizes transforming the agency into one that provides meaningful support to schools and districts. GaDOE has developed a common, continuous improvement framework to ensure that these efforts are aligned across all agency divisions, departments, and programs. The Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement framework focuses on the systems and structures (the "what") that must be in place for sustained improvement in student outcomes.

What does this have to do with world languages and how does it impact our work? Let's look first at the model, the idea of a cycle of continuous improvement is not new to us as teachers. Indeed, as teachers we strive to continuously improve our craft, and our programs to better serve our students. The idea is, first and foremost, that education is intrinsically a cycle where we are continuously reevaluating our processes and interventions at all levels, whether in a classroom, at the school, district or state level. The model, therefore, is relevant on many different structural levels and the identified segments (Family and Community Engagement, Supportive Learning Environment, etc) of the outer rings identify areas of engagement, investigation and thoughtful evaluation periodically at each of these levels. On the teacher level it may be easier to think of these as a series of questions that we need to ask ourselves occasionally as we evaluate our programs and methods. What am I (or my department) doing to provide coherent instruction? How am I providing a supportive learning environment? What am I doing to improve my professional understanding of my craft? (etc...) What you need to also know is that there is no perfect solution or truly end destination that fits every variable either in the classroom or at any of the other levels because the nature of our challenges in education at all levels are ever changing. Maya Angelou I think summed this up well when she said, "Do the best that you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." – This is what we are all about....learning, adjusting, implementing and reevaluating...again, a cycle of improvement. Teachers do this instinctively. Someone once told me that fluency is not a destination but rather a continuously unfolding process and that is a powerful truth. Think of this then, as just another tool that you can use to examine your work at whatever level you are engaged in education. There is of course more to say about the individual components and how this fits into the ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) but this we can save for another day.....now to the update.



“Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things, but learning another way to think about things.” – Flora Lewis

Facebook: [Georgia Department of Education World Languages](#)

Instagram: [gadoeworldlanguages](#)

Twitter: [gadoeworldlanguages](#)

Programs Spotlight!

East Coweta High School recently welcomed over 75 students from 7 different schools (both public and private) representing 4 different counties for the annual world languages and poetry recitation

competition. Coweta County schools included: The Heritage School, Northgate HS, and East Coweta HS. Muscogee County schools were Columbus HS and the Brookstone School. Fayette County was represented by Whitewater HS, and Henry County was represented by Woodland HS. Guest judges have included both present and retired language teachers from local schools, as well as college professors from both University of West Georgia and Oglethorpe University. Next year's event has tentatively been scheduled for Saturday, November 10, 2018. Please direct any questions to Cecilia de Aza or Kelli Barber (cecilia.deazapost@cowetaschools.net & kelli.barber@cowetaschools.net).

Congratulations to the students in Douglas County who earned Georgia's Seal of Biliteracy at the completion of the first year of this historic Seal! Douglas County had 159 students who earned the Seal placing them 2nd behind **Fulton County**, who had 173 students who earned the seal! Congratulations to these counties and congratulations to all Georgia's 1,133 total students who earned the Seal of Biliteracy last school year in districts throughout Georgia! We look forward to the continued expansion of this valuable recognition of a student's linguistic and cultural competencies!



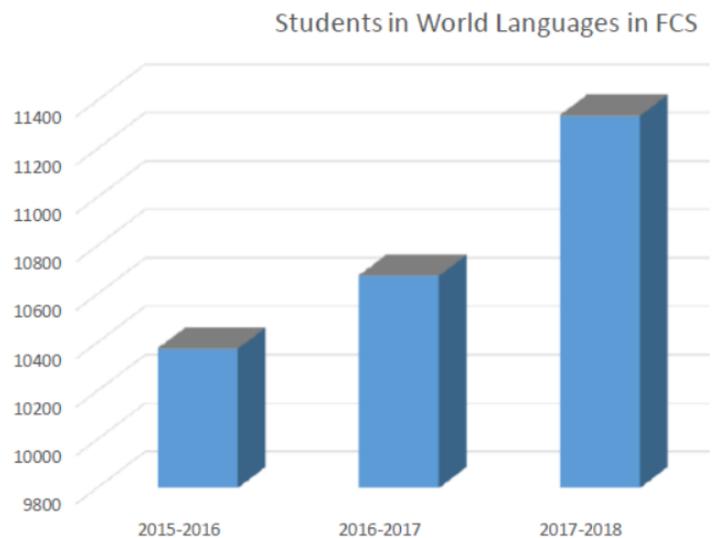
The Third Jiangsu Cup Chinese Speech Contest for High School Students in the Southern States was a Resounding Success! The contest gave students the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of the Chinese language by reciting a speech they wrote themselves. Students were also challenged in their knowledge of aspects of Jiangsu culture – including history and geography. In this year, 19 contestants from high schools across the southern states participated in the contest.

Congratulations to Forsyth County Schools for continuing to lead with languages. In addition to opening 3 new Dual Language Immersion programs next year and hosting the first International Parent Night Event in November, they have seen a steady rise in the number of students learning world languages!

Webinar Spotlight!

Recently, Mrs. Meredith White, World Language Educator of the Month for September, sat down with us to record a webinar entitled "Performance, Proficiency, and "The Modes": Baby Steps". A description is provided below. You can now freely access the webinar recording at your convenience [here!](#)

Let me encourage you as well to share your best practices! Contact me if you are interested – You are the experts in the field and your insights are meaningful and powerful for helping other teachers! pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us



Description: If you remember the movie *What About Bob*, Bill Murray's character was known for tackling new life changes by self-narrating, "Baby steps, baby steps, baby steps..." The same is true for being a World Language teacher in 2017 - there is a lot happening, so where do we start? This webinar will outline some high-leverage habits that will help you dip your toe into the pools of performance vs. proficiency, the three modes (via ACTFL), as well as being both comprehensible and comprehended to your students. Come for tech tips, organizational ideas, and/or points to ponder -- no need to fear the leap, just take those baby steps...

- Please let us know of any world language teachers receiving awards statewide, we would very much like to join with you in celebrating their accomplishments!
- Likewise, if you know of a program in Georgia that deserves to be highlighted, please contact me at pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us

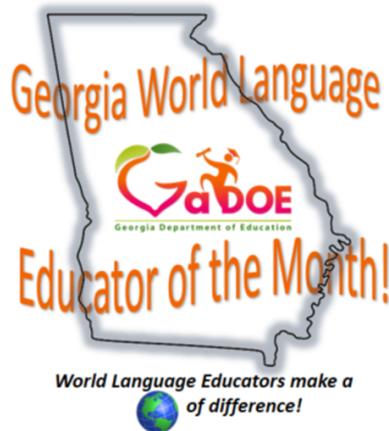
Job Announcements!

- Hampton Mill Middle School in Henry County is seeking a Spanish teacher
<https://www.applitrack.com/henry/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=MIDDLE+SCHOOL>
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Quick Announcements! (There is a tremendous amount going on so I apologize for the length)

- We are excited to announce that the course proposal for Less Commonly Taught Languages Level 3 has successfully passed the State Board of Education and will now be added to the official course catalog for World Language Courses at the state level. This will enable students learning languages other than those languages listed in the [state funded course catalog](#) (pages 72-91) to receive credit for up to three years of languages they have learned outside of Georgia and enable them to complete a pathway in World Languages for these languages. (Please contact me if you have further questions)
- We are also excited to announce the completion of the first of our [World Language Certification Guidance at a Glance](#) documents in cooperation with the Professional Standards Commission. This initial document seeks to clarify, in a user-friendly fashion, the broad overview of the pathways available for interested individuals to obtain certification in Georgia for teaching world languages. We look forward to continuing to work with the PSC on clarifying world language specific certification pathways moving forward.
- On November 28th, in cooperation with our French Cultural partners - The French Consulate in Atlanta and the Alliance Française d'Atlanta, we are pleased to offer a webinar exploring opportunities for French students and teachers! We invite you to join us as we share and discuss how we can best support your work in the classrooms. You can register for the webinar via this [link](#).

- Applications are now available for the **International Skills Diploma Seal program**. Schools that are interested can find out more information [here](#). A link to the school application is also available on that page or contact me directly at pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us **(We have recently completed a new guidance at a glance document for the International Skills Diploma Seal! You can access it [here!](#))**
- ***DLI in a Day!*** We are excited to bring you a mid-year DLI workshop and professional development opportunity. The GLOBE Academy in Dekalb will host a half-day long DLI workshop for teachers, administrators and those interested in learning more about DLI. There is no cost and you can register [here](#). We will be accepting session proposals [here](#) until November 27th. Get repowered and recharged!
- **Georgia World Language Educator of the Month.** In cooperation with the WL advisory committee, we have recently changed the format for the World Language Educator of the Month program and will implement selections in the coming new year under this revision. The [nomination page](#) has been redone to reflect these changes. These revisions will provide more built in structure to the program and help to further ensure equity and fairness in scoring these nominations. We are proud to be innovating in this way to recognize the excellent work that our WL teachers do and to support students, schools and districts statewide. I want to encourage you to nominate your colleagues for this recognition.



Every day, all across the great state of Georgia, world language educators at all grade levels are making a world of difference in our schools! This program is designed to honor these educators and celebrate the impact their efforts have on the lives of our students!

Do you know a current world language teacher that has made a difference in your life or the lives of others! Do you know a teacher who goes above and beyond to provide students the critical language and cultural competencies needed for the workforce of today and tomorrow? Whether you are a parent, student, colleague or citizen, we invite you to tell us about them!

- **Announcing the 1st Annual World Language Leadership Institute in March.** As world language learning in Georgia continues to ramp up there is an increasing need for district world language leadership to have opportunities for professional development and to meet as a team to discuss statewide initiatives, developments and explore opportunities for potential collaboration and to hear from and visit with talented teachers in the field. We are excited to offer this opportunity and the future possibilities for this event.

- Teachers, please check out the scholarship opportunities from SCOLT! They are listed [here](#).
- Are you interested in submitting a proposal for next year's ACTFL in New Orleans? Here is the [link](#) to do so!
- International Week is next week! Find out more [here](#)!
- Save the dates for your students to participate in the FLAG Spoken Language Contests! You can find out more about these events [here](#). Deadline is January 15, 2017.
- **[NCSSFL-ACTFL releases revised Can-do Proficiency statements!](#)** See them [here](#)!
- The CIEE Global Navigator Study Abroad Program is offering scholarships for High School students to study abroad this coming summer. More information can be found at their [website](#)! Deadline is December 1st.
- ASL test has been added to list of approved tests to qualify for the Georgia Seal of Biliteracy! See updated graphic below for all currently approved tests.

Chart of approved proficiency exams that meet the minimum requirement for Georgia's seal of biliteracy

Please see the table below for approved proficiency exams and required minimum scores or proficiency levels. Please contact the Program Specialist for World Languages, Mr. Patrick Wallace at pwallace@doe.k12.ga.us, to inquire about languages that are not listed.



Further clarification on these tests can be found on the GaDOE Website for the Seal of [Biliteracy](#)

	Test Name	Testing Organization	Minimum Qualifying Score
Tier 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP Language Exams • SL or HL Language B exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Board • International Baccalaureate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 • 5 (SL or HL only)
Tier 2 (When Tier 1 test are not available at the school for tested language)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPI,RPT, WPT or OPic • STAMP Test • ACTFL - (AAPPL) • ACTFL – (ALIRA) • DELE – Spanish • DSD – German • DELF – French • Youth Chinese Test (YCT) • HSK – Chinese • SLPI – ASL • ASLPI - ASL • TOPIK - Korean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Testing International • Avant-STAMP 4S Assessments • Language Testing International • Language Testing International • Cervantes Institute • German Educational Ministers Office • International Centre for French Studies • Hanban • Hanban • National Technical Institute for the Deaf • GALLAUDET • National Inst. Internatl. Education (NIIED) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate High • 6 • Intermediate High • Intermediate 4 • B1 • DSD Level 1 • Level B1 • Level 3 • Level 3 • Intermediate Plus • 3+ • 4

- The **Foundation for Leadership and Youth Travel Education** (FLYTE) is a nonprofit providing funding, teacher support, and itinerary and trip planning for high school students in underserved schools to travel and expand their cultural, academic, and social horizons. Find out more about these scholarships [here](#).
- On Feb 9th, I am delighted to offer in collaboration with Middle Georgia RESA and with Middle Georgia State University the first of hopefully many workshops related

to statewide initiatives and understanding and using ACTFL's proficiency standards and recently revised can-do performance indicators in the classroom. Registration is available online

http://www.ciclt.net/sn/resa/recl_application.aspx?ClientCode=mgresa&CL_ID=104340

- Student survey reveals that many languages are present in the households of Georgia's students.



Georgia Department of Education

Over 15% of Georgia students identify a language other than English as spoken in their homes!

World language education makes a world of difference!



Preparing Georgia's workforce by providing the essential linguistic and cultural competencies needed for the domestic and global job marketplace of today and tomorrow!

<i>Spanish</i>	<i>Thai</i>	<i>Akan</i>
<i>French</i>	<i>Bosnian</i>	<i>Slovakian</i>
<i>German</i>	<i>Bulgarian</i>	<i>Nahuatl</i>
<i>Greek</i>	<i>Romanian</i>	<i>Urdu</i>
<i>Hebrew</i>	<i>Swahili</i>	<i>Amharic</i>
<i>Hindi</i>	<i>Punjabi</i>	<i>Czech</i>
<i>Italian</i>	<i>Maya</i>	<i>Khmer</i>
<i>Japanese</i>	<i>Hmong</i>	<i>Mixteco</i>
<i>Korean</i>	<i>Hungarian</i>	<i>Zapotec</i>
<i>Lao</i>	<i>Iranian</i>	<i>Somali</i>
<i>Filipino</i>	<i>Gujarati</i>	<i>Ukranian</i>
<i>Polish</i>	<i>Haitian Creole</i>	<i>American Indian</i>
<i>Portuguese</i>	<i>Farsi</i>	<i>Vietnamese</i>
<i>Russian</i>	<i>Dutch</i>	<i>Chinese</i>
<i>Swedish</i>	<i>Arabic</i>	<i>Turkish</i>

- TOP ([Trans-Atlantic Outreach Program](#)) is accepting applications for teachers to participate in a study abroad programs. Video [here](#).
- Save the Date – The **2018 GADII** (Georgia's Dual Language Immersion Institute) will be held July 17th – 19th 2018! Last year we had a record registration and a wonderful conference! We look forward to offering another great program for all educators interested in Immersion education in the Southeastern US.
- **The AATSP** is offering teachers a scholarship to spend some of summer 2018 in Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Spain, or Ecuador! Application deadline is Dec 31, 2017. Complete information at <https://buff.ly/2yyvjZy>
- The date of **Georgia's** (and the nation's) first statewide **World Language Job Fair** has been set for Saturday, March 3rd from 9am-12pm at Whitewater High School in Fayette County. Districts wishing to host a table at the job fair can apply to do so via this [link](#).

- **Save the Dates! February 9-11, 2018. AATSP Spanish Immersion Camp! More information at this [link](#).**
- The **GAOME Dual Language Symposium**, scheduled March 9-10th 2018 in Athens is now accepting proposals. You can submit via this [link](#).
- **The AATSP Spanish Immersion Camp** will be held from Feb 9-11. You can find out more information by following this [link](#).
- Applications are now being accepted for the Congress-Bundestag Exchange Program (CBYX) Please visit [this site](#) for more details!
- **NABE Student Essay competition.** [Find out more here.](#)
- **Upcoming World Language Event dates to be aware of.....**

November 15 th	Deadline to apply for NSLI-Y Scholarships Deadline to register students for the December administration of the AATG German Exams (levels 2-4)
November 17-19	ACTFL conference in Nashville
November 27 th	Deadline to submit proposal for DLI in a Day Workshop
November 28 th	Webinar – Exploring Opportunities French in Georgia for
November 29 th	International Night at South Forsyth HS. (A model for your community?)
December 1 st	Deadline for German students to apply for DSD Deadline for Students to apply for CIEE Global Navigator Scholarships
December 5 th	Deadline to apply for YES program for HS students
December 8 th	Deadline for registering for the State German Convention
December 12 th	Deadline for student applications for CBYX Scholarship
December 15 th	Deadline for Schools to apply to offer International Skills Diploma Seal Deadline to register students for the January administration of the AATG German Exams (levels 2-4) Award of Excellence 2017 (German) Application deadline.
December 31 st	Deadline to apply for AATSP Summer Scholarship for Teachers
January 15 th	Deadline for teacher applications for SCOLT Scholarships
January 21 st	AATG Sprachbad
January 27 th	DLI in a Day at the Globe Academy in Dekalb
February 1 st	Schools notified of application status to offer ISDS
February 2-3	German State Convention in Covington
February 9 th	Focus on ACTFL's Proficiency Guidelines and the Revised Can-Do Performance Indicators (Middle Georgia Workshop)
February 9-11	AATSP Immersion Camp
March 3 rd	Georgia World Language Job Fair at Whitewater High School 9am – 12pm.

	FLES/MS/HS FLAG Spoken Language Contest (Savannah Area)
March 8-9	Georgia World Language Leadership Institute
March 9-10	GAOME Dual Language Symposium in Athens
March 15-17 2018	FLAG/SCOLT conference in Atlanta
March 20th	International Day at the Capitol
March 24 th	MS/HS FLAG Spoken Language Contest (Metro Area)
April 14 th	MS/HS FLAG Spoken Language Contest (Albany Area)
April 15 th	Deadline for reporting of International Skills Diploma Seal
April 24 th	Tentative date for ISDS Awards Ceremony at the DOE
April 28 th	FLES FLAG Spoken Language Contest (Metro Area)
July 17-19	Georgia Dual Language Immersion Institute
May 1 st	Deadline for 1 st reporting cycle for the Seal of Biliteracy

- 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.

Scholarship Opportunities for K-12 students

- Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Abroad (YES) Program for High School Students. More information [here](#). Deadline to apply is December 5th
- NSLI-Y Scholarships to Study Language Abroad for High School Students. The National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y), sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, provides merit-based scholarships for eligible high school students and recent high school graduates to learn less commonly taught languages. More info is [here](#). Application due Nov 15th.
- Congress Bundestag Exchange Scholarship available for German students. Application and more information available [here](#). Deadline to apply is Dec 15th.

Useful links for Language Teachers

- 10 strategies to give quick feedback <http://ditchthattextbook.com/2017/02/23/10-strategies-for-lightning-quick-feedback-students-can-really-use/>
- FL speaking activity <https://wlclassroom.com/2011/08/06/foreign-language-verb-form-speaking-activity/>
- Teaching foreign language video guides <http://www.learner.org/libraries/tfl/>
- 5 assessment strategies <https://www.teachthought.com/pedagogy/5-out-of-the-box-assessment-strategies-every-teacher-know/>
- Award cards and EC passes in Spanish <http://www.solazucar.com/2015/07/celebrating-milestone-and-500-followers.html?m=1>
- [Guiding Principles for Dual language Education](#) Pdf available.

Related local news

- Georgia's tourism industry generates record economic impact
<http://www.georgia.org/newsroom/press-releases/georgias-tourism-industry-generates-record-60-8-billion-economic-impact/>
- Amazon to create more than 500 new jobs in Macon
<http://www.georgia.org/newsroom/press-releases/amazon-create-500-jobs-macon/>
- The story of how Clarke County's DLI program got started.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=41&v=Aevlf90J3xM
- Savannah port continues to experience record growth.
<http://savannahnow.com/news/2017-11-06/bigger-ships-bring-record-growth-port-october>

Links to articles related to World Language education.

- Educators say benefits of bilingualism are brushed aside in the US
http://www.washdiplomat.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16041:experts-educators-say-benefits-of-bilingualism-are-brushed-aside-in-us-schools&catid=1562&Itemid=428
- How growing up Bilingual effects cognitive development <http://bigthink.com/design-for-good/how-growing-up-bilingual-affects-cognitive-development>
- The most common 2nd language among doctors <https://www.rd.com/culture/most-common-languages-doctors/>
- Teachers see Spanish as powerful asset in DLI programs
<https://www.the74million.org/article/teacher-voice-dual-language-approach-sees-speaking-spanish-for-what-it-is-a-powerful-asset/>
- Confucius Institutes teaching Mandarin in Africa <https://qz.com/1113559/confucius-institutes-in-africa-are-nurturing-mandarin-speakers-with-pro-china-views/>
- How a bilingual radio station helped during California fires
<https://ww2.kqed.org/arts/2017/11/03/how-a-bilingual-radio-station-helped-the-undocumented-during-the-fires/>
- The Guardian view on Translation
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/nov/05/the-guardian-view-on-translation-an-interpretative-and-creative-act>
- Schools offer course credits for languages spoken at home
<https://www.heraldnet.com/news/schools-offer-course-credits-for-languages-spoken-at-home/>
- Medical interpreters break language barriers at children's hospital
<http://wate.com/2017/11/06/medical-interpreters-break-language-barriers-at-childrens-hospital/>
- US could lose 20,000 teachers if DACA is phased out
<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/immigration/2017/10/05/us-lose-estimated-20000-teachers-many-bilingual-daca-phased>
- Gaining an employment edge – the benefit of study abroad report
<https://www.iie.org/Research-and-Insights/Publications/Gaining-an-employment-edge---The-Impact-of-Study-Abroad>

- Bremerton School district receives grant for DLI program
<http://www.kitsapdailynews.com/news/bremerton-school-district-receives-16000-grant-for-dual-language-program/>
- Six signs that learning a 2nd language enhances student success
<https://www.educationdive.com/news/second-language-proficiency-higher-ed-job-qualification/507197/>
- This is what your child gets out of being bilingual
<http://nypost.com/2017/10/23/this-is-what-your-child-gets-out-of-being-bilingual/>
- A snapshot of student's online learning – FL on the rise
<https://marketbrief.edweek.org/marketplace-k-12/snapshot-students-online-coursetaking-foreign-languages-rise/>
- Bilingual toddlers have incredible advantage – study shows
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/bilingual-toddlers-advantage-two-languages-children-university-oregon-a8031271.html>
- How to build a better immersion program
http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/global_learning/2017/10/how_to_build_a_better_language_immersion_program.html
- Foreign Language teachers innovate to create more engaging environment
<https://cronkitenews.azpbs.org/2017/10/27/foreign-language-teachers-innovate-create-engaging-environment-students/>
- How being bilingual strengthens our brains
<https://www.headspace.com/blog/2017/10/26/being-bilingual-strengthens-brains/>
- Significant language gap between doctors and patients
<http://blog.languageline.com/study-significant-language-gap-multicultural-patients>
- The international benefits of language education
https://www.languagemagazine.com/2017/11/international-benefits-language-education/?utm_content=buffer47910&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer
- Bilingual children find it easier to pick up other languages
<https://www.languagemagazine.com/2017/11/bilingual-children-find-easier-pick-languages/>
- The cost of Briton's failure to learn foreign languages
<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2017/nov/06/the-cost-of-britons-failure-to-learn-foreign-languages>
- The world's languages in 7 maps and charts
https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2015/04/23/the-worlds-languages-in-7-maps-and-charts/?utm_term=.080cca52a219
- Dual Language Immersion Programs raise student achievement in English
https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB9903.html
- Why your smartphone will never be a universal translator
<https://www.fluentin3months.com/translator-app/>
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Thank you for all that you do!

Patrick

