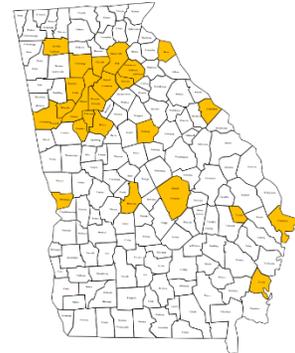


Good afternoon world language professionals!

I certainly hope you are enjoying your holiday weekend!

Once again, there is much to share with you this week! As you are aware, the deadline for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reporting cycle for the Seal of Biliteracy was this past Friday. We are so excited to see the tremendous response for the first year of this historic seal. The Seal is above all an official recognition of a student's proficiency in both English and another language or multiple languages. Additionally, it is a recognition of the economic and societal value of that language ability and in a broader context the value of the many cultures that make up the fabric of our communities across Georgia. It is not only a global imperative that our students have these linguistic and cultural competencies, it is a domestic imperative as well. More than half the world is bilingual and our students are increasingly entering a workforce that is as diverse as our communities. International investment in Georgia is on the rise and so are the opportunities for students who can demonstrate the critical cultural soft skills that enable our businesses to thrive economically both at home and abroad. The global and domestic talent pool is competitive and language and cultural proficiencies can provide a critical advantage to job seekers in every field. In Georgia, we set the bar high in terms of proficiency for our Seal of Biliteracy recipients. In fact, we set a very high minimum requirement for students by requiring them to reach the level of Intermediate high on the ACTFL proficiency scale. The Seal represents a real proficiency target for all our language programs K-12. At the end of the day, it is a measure of how well students speak, read, listen and write in the language. It represents in many ways as well, a fundamental shift in world language education for our nation toward specifically focusing on the proficiency of language learners.



Now that the reporting cycle is complete, I am happy to report that 1,333 students across Georgia have earned the Seal this year. This year 24 systems participated in honoring their students with this important Seal and it is our hope that all systems will participate as well in the years ahead as we are certain that there are students in all Georgia districts that may qualify. 878 Spanish Seals were issued, 43 German, 198 French, 7 Chinese, 1 Latin, 1 Czech, 2 Haitian-Creole.

The new reporting procedure was considerably easier as well and while there are still some small adjustments to be made ahead of this year's May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, the feedback has been overall extremely positive. Don't forget that much of the information pertaining to the Seal, including our new Seal of Biliteracy Guidance at a Glance document, can be found on our website [here](#).

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

## Georgia's historic Biliteracy Seal!



**1133** Seals issued thus far!  
Spanish = 878 Seals of Biliteracy  
German = 43 Seals of Biliteracy  
French = 198 Seals of Biliteracy  
Chinese = 7 Seals of Biliteracy  
Latin = 1 Seal of Biliteracy  
Czech = 1 Seal of Biliteracy  
Haitian-Creole = 2 Seals of Biliteracy  
Other European Languages = 3



attend. We are here to support all of Georgia's systems, schools and students and we are proud to do so.

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

Instagram: [gadoeworldlanguages](#)

Twitter: [gadoeworldlanguages](#)

### **Congratulations!**

- Congratulations to **Mr. Jonas Strecker**, German teacher at **South Forsyth High School**, who was recently named as that school's Teacher of the Year!
- Congratulations to **Mrs. Diane Kordel**, one of our stellar dual language immersion teachers was recently featured in an article on teachers in Smyrna that go above and beyond for their students. Check them out on page 30-31! [https://issuu.com/atlantab.../.../my\\_vinings\\_smyrna\\_fall\\_2017/30](https://issuu.com/atlantab.../.../my_vinings_smyrna_fall_2017/30)

(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!)

### **Quick Updates!**

- **This week we sat down online with one of our stellar Immersion language teachers to start our Teacher to Teacher webinar series sharing best practices from the classroom. Many thanks to Mrs. Radu, Georgia World Language Educator of the Month for August, for providing her tips. You can see the webinar at your convenience by following this [link](#). I encourage you to do so as many of her tips are applicable to all levels and languages**
- **The date of Georgia's (and the nation's) first statewide World Language Job Fair has been set for Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](#). This is the first event of its kind in the nation and we are happy to partner with the professional standards committee to make this event available to our school districts and systems.**
- **A reminder about [CUITR's](#) upcoming event, [World Languages Day](#) on September 29<sup>th</sup>! What a great event to highlight the importance of world languages and cultural competencies and how these skills connect to the realities of the workforce.**
- **A reminder that we will be publishing a World Language Update for Parents each Semester. The Deadline for [Article submissions](#) from systems or schools is September 15th.**
- **Save the Dates! February 9-11, 2018. AATSP Spanish Immersion Camp! More information at this [link](#).**

- ***The First Georgia Chinese Dual Immersion Teacher Workshop will be held on Sept 16<sup>th</sup> at 9am at the CI at KSU.*** For more information contact [zli27@kennesaw.edu](mailto:zli27@kennesaw.edu).
- ***The AATSP Georgia Annual conference will take place on Saturday, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> at Baggett Elementary School in Lawrenceville starting at 9am.***
- ***The Goethe-Zentrum and the Alliance Française will be hosting the annual European Day of Languages on Sept 26<sup>th</sup> 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](#)!***

### ***Expanded Updates***

- ***Teacher to Teacher Webinar Series gets underway***



- This year, in an effort to both honor and share the wonderful things Georgia’s world language educators are doing in their classrooms across the state and with the world, we have launched the Georgia Teacher to Teacher webinar series and are inviting world language teachers from across the state at all levels to participate. The effort got off to a great start this week as we sat down online with Mrs. Radu, one of our stellar Immersion language teachers. You can see the webinar at your convenience by following this [link](#). I encourage you to do so as many of her tips are applicable to all levels and languages. This webinar, and future webinars will be housed on our professional development website [here](#). If you would like to participate in the series, please contact us.

- **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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.



- ATTSP Spanish Immersion Camp will be held from Feb 9-11. You can find out more information by following this [link](#).

Reserve la fecha:  
**9-11 de febrero**

**20** **Campamento de** **18**  
**inmersión**



720 FFA FHA Camp Rd  
Covington, GA 30014  
[aatspgeorgiacamp.weebly.com](http://aatspgeorgiacamp.weebly.com)  
[aatspgeorgiacamp@gmail.com](mailto:aatspgeorgiacamp@gmail.com)

- **The First Georgia Chinese Dual Immersion Teacher Workshop coming in Sept**

- On Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:zli27@kennesaw.edu).

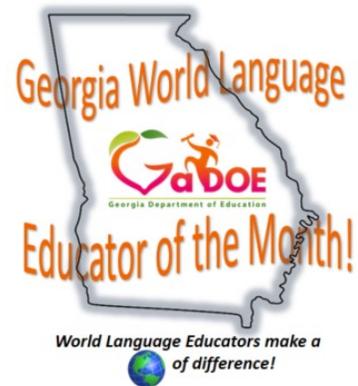
- **Fundraising for grant with the Georgia Foundation for Public Education**

- 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 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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!



- **Upcoming Event dates to be aware of.....**

September 8	Metro World Language District Coordinator Meeting at APS
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	GaDOE WL University/College Advisory Meeting online 10am – 12pm
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for <a href="#">Article submissions</a> for GaDOE WL Parent Newsletter
September 16	Chinese Professional Development at CI in Kennesaw
September 16	<a href="#">German Immersion Day</a> at the Goethe-Zentrum
September 23	<a href="#">AATSP GA Conference</a> in Lawrenceville Ga
September 26	<a href="#">European Day of Languages</a> – Goethe-Zentrum/Alliance Française
September 26	World Language District Coordinator Meeting at GaDOE
September 29	<a href="#">World Languages Day at CULTR</a>
October 4 <sup>th</sup>	National Teach German Day!
October 22	AATG-GA Fall Workshop in Athens
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Teacher to Teacher Webinar Series Recording
November 17-19	<a href="#">ACTFL conference</a> in Nashville
February 2-3	<a href="#">German State Convention</a> in Covington
February 9-11	<a href="#">AATSP Immersion</a> Camp
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Georgia World Language Job Fair at Whitewater High School 9am – 12pm.
March 15-17 2018	<a href="#">FLAG/SCOLT conference</a> in Atlanta
March 20th	International Day at the Capitol

- 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.

### **Now Hiring!**

- The German School of Atlanta is looking for Teachers / Assistants / Substitutes for different grade levels for the 2017-18 school year. Please contact Susanne Estrella for details [sestrella@germanschoolatlanta.com](mailto:sestrella@germanschoolatlanta.com)

### **Useful links for Language Teachers**

- German Election materials <https://www.goethe.de/ins/us/en/m/spr/unt/kum/bundestagswahl.html>
- Tasked based activities <https://wlclassroom.com/2017/05/08/foreign-language-exercises-and-tasks-task-based-activities/>
- Learning language through cultural products and practices <http://www.path2proficiency.com/learning-language-through-cultural-products-and-practices-part-1-racing-dragonboats/>
- Digital skills for Teachers [http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2017/08/9-essential-digital-skills-for-21st.html?utm\\_content=buffer16653&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2017/08/9-essential-digital-skills-for-21st.html?utm_content=buffer16653&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer)
- A YES Scholarship is available for secondary students to study abroad. <http://www.yes-abroad.org/>

### **Related local news**

- Atlanta Airport expands connections to Africa <http://www.globalatlanta.com/event/sister-airport-invitation-town-hall/>
- A great pdf from the Technology Association of Georgia on where Georgia Leads Internationally. <http://www.tagonline.org/files/WGL-Maps/intl-bus-brochure.pdf>
- International Skills Conference <http://www.gaccsouth.com/en/events/2017-international-skills-conference/>
- Website globalization Seminar <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/website-globalization-tickets-32445176396>
- Savannah serves largest vessel ever to dock on the East Coast <http://www.gaports.com/Media/PressReleases/TabId/379/ArtMID/3569/ArticleID/138/Savannah-serves-largest-vessel-ever-to-call-on-East-Coast.aspx>
- Canadian Firm invest 105 million in Peach county <http://www.globalatlanta.com/canadian-firm-invest-105-million-peach-county-greenhouses/>
- Chinese Tire Factory plans moving ahead in LaGrange <http://www.globalatlanta.com/georgias-biggest-chinese-investment-year-behind-moving-ahead/>

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

- Teacher shortage in every state [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2017/08/28/teacher-shortages-affecting-every-state-as-2017-18-school-year-begins/?utm\\_term=.a616f0cd752b](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2017/08/28/teacher-shortages-affecting-every-state-as-2017-18-school-year-begins/?utm_term=.a616f0cd752b)
- Voter initiative seeks to open door to popular immersion programs <https://edsources.org/2017/voter-initiative-opens-door-to-expansion-of-popular-dual-language-immersion-programs/586204>
- The importance of social skills in an age of automation [https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/08/automation-may-take-our-jobs-but-it-ll-restore-our-humanity?utm\\_content=bufferc2c37&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/08/automation-may-take-our-jobs-but-it-ll-restore-our-humanity?utm_content=bufferc2c37&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)
- Languages spoken in the country not always reflected in the classroom [https://theconversation.com/hundreds-of-languages-are-spoken-in-the-uk-but-this-isnt-always-reflected-in-the-classroom-82289?utm\\_content=59315101&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter](https://theconversation.com/hundreds-of-languages-are-spoken-in-the-uk-but-this-isnt-always-reflected-in-the-classroom-82289?utm_content=59315101&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter)
- Why everyone should love languages <http://www.cambridge.org/elt/blog/2017/08/25/love-languages-rosie-goldsmith/>
- Why is English different from other languages <https://aeon.co/essays/why-is-english-so-weirdly-different-from-other-languages>
- Delaware certificate recognizes language skills <http://www.scsuntimes.com/news/20170829/delaware-certificate-of-multiliteracy-recognizes-advanced-language-skills>
- The rewards of true bilingualism last a lifetime <http://www.westchestermagazine.com/Sponsored-Content/August-2017/The-Rewards-of-a-True-Bilingual-Education-Last-a-Lifetime/>
- Working across countries, languages and cultures <https://hbr.org/2017/08/how-to-successfully-work-across-countries-languages-and-cultures>
- Planning for your dual language immersion program <https://duallanguageschools.org/guide/1-planning-your-dual-language-program>
- West graduate breaking down language barriers [http://www.omaha.com/sarpy/bellevue/west-graduate-breaking-down-language-barriers/article\\_c0eb7192-dac9-5cdc-b81f-80256874c018.html](http://www.omaha.com/sarpy/bellevue/west-graduate-breaking-down-language-barriers/article_c0eb7192-dac9-5cdc-b81f-80256874c018.html)
- The next generation of Teacher prep [http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/teacherbeat/2017/08/the\\_next\\_generation\\_of\\_teacher.html?cmp=soc-edit-tw](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/teacherbeat/2017/08/the_next_generation_of_teacher.html?cmp=soc-edit-tw)
- Academic Achievement isn't the only mission <http://pdkpoll.org/results>
- Free book of Spanish resources and tips <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Secondary-Spanish-Ebook-2017-Tips-and-FREE-Resources-3259484>
- 10 ways to get your Spanish class moving <http://misclaseslocas.blogspot.com/2017/03/10-ways-to-get-you-spanish-class-moving.html>
- Threatened languages and how people relate to them <https://theconversation.com/threatened-languages-and-how-people-relate-to-them-a-cameroon-case-study-82395>
- Going global. How an international internship can change your life [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/go-global-how-an-international-internship-can-change\\_us\\_59a6a70ae4b08299d89d0afe](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/go-global-how-an-international-internship-can-change_us_59a6a70ae4b08299d89d0afe)

