Maine DOE World Language News

December 2020

World Language Advisory Council

In last month’s newsletter we announced that the Maine Department of Education is seeking new members for its World Language Advisory Council (WLAC). The WLAC is a group of experienced and passionate language educators from across Maine that advises the Department on its policies, activities, and resources related to World Language. We would like to extend one more opportunity to apply. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Schmidt, Acting Coordinator of Secondary Education, at joe.schmidt@maine.gov.

Maine Seal of Biliteracy

The application for the Maine Seal of Biliteracy will be undergoing a couple of changes, effective January 1, 2021. All applications will be submitted through the online form, and applications will need to be complete (including evidence) upon submission. If you have any questions or would like support in the application process, please contact April Perkins, Director of English for Speakers of Other Languages, at april.perkins@maine.gov.

Professional Learning

- Vista Higher Learning Recorded World Language Webinar Library
- Northeast Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages: Fall/Winter Webinar Series on World Languages for Social Justice (Upcoming Sessions 11/17/20 7-8pm and 12/16/20 4-5pm)
- Coach Foreign Language Project: Teaching with Culturally Responsive Comprehensible Input Webinar Series (Upcoming Sessions 12/5/20, 1/9, 2/27, and 3/13)
- Maine DOE ESOL Professional Learning Opportunities
- 12/10/20 from 3pm-4:30pm: Cultural Services of the French Embassy Webinar (Details below)

The Cultural Services of the French Embassy are pleased to present a webinar on the future of the French language in Maine.

Join world renowned bilingual advocate Fabrice Jaumont, and French Heritage Program officer Agnès Tounkara for a discussion with local activists on promoting French for the next generation of Mainers. Emmanuel Kayembe (Franco-American Archives, Lewiston), Nancy Dionne (French Afterschool program, Madawaska) et Camden Martin (French teacher, Lewiston) will be speaking about their work and future projects.

Learn about:
1. Advocating for French immersion programs
2. Leveraging French heritage programs to preserve Franco-American identity
3. French as a twenty-first century language in Maine
4. The importance of Maine’s visibility in international Francophone organizations

After presentations from the panel, participants will be able to dialogue with the speakers and ask questions. “We kindly request that only those living in Maine or with ties to the state sign up at this time.”

Date and Time: Thursday, December 10th from 3pm-4:30pm

Sign up link: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIvfuCoqDIvHNTLMo1OSY-amm9tlekZP5UyP
Instructional Resources

- ACTFL: Teaching and Learning Remotely
- North Carolina Department of Public Instruction: Resources for Teaching World Languages Remotely
- MOOSE (Maine Online Opportunities for Sustained Education)

Job Opportunities

- RSU 38 High School German Teacher (Anticipated)
- Saco Long-Term Substitute ESL Teacher Grades 3-5
- LearningWorks English Language and Literacy Program Director
- Portland Adult Education ELL Teacher (half-time, one year only)

Articles of Interest

- Maine DOE Newsroom: Input Sought for Teacher Shortage Areas
- Pocket: Language Alters our Experience of Time
- Science Daily: Learning a new language changes the brain’s division of labor
- Tech Crunch: Kahoot drops $50M on Drops to add language learning to its gamified education stable
- Financial Times: Language wars in Spain stoked by schools bill
- Inverse: Adult language learning literally reroutes brain networks—study
- Language Magazine: Education Begins with Language