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Message

April is National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month. As language educators, an integral part of what we do is to share the value and importance of multilingualism with members of our school communities. Thank you for all that you do to advocate for our students every day!

Registration is now open for the Maine ESOL Meeting, happening virtually on 5/7/21! There is no cost to attend. See the links to the left for more details and to register. Hope to see you there.

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Professional Learning

♣ Film: Reflecting on Anti-bias Education in Action: The Early Years

♣ 4/6/21 at 12:00pm: USM Student Life presents A Conversation with Author Abdi Nor Iftin

♣ 4/7/21 from 6-7:30pm: Stories of Folks “From Away” with Mary Marin Taylor of Literacy Volunteers of Bangor

♣ 4/13/21-4/15/21: Pennsylvania DOE English Language Development Virtual Professional Learning Summit (Free and open to Maine educators!)


♣ 4/22/21-5/1/21: Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Conference (Now virtual only!)

♣ Duke/UNC/University of Michigan Webinar Series “How to teach about the Middle East—and get it right!” (4/22 and 5/20)

♣ 4/27/21: National Association of English Learner Program Administrators Virtual Conference

♣ 5/7/21 10am-3pm: Maine ESOL Meeting (Virtual) - Registration is open! See tentative schedule.

♣ 6/9/21 and 6/16/21 from 9:30-11am: WIDA eWorkshop on Planning with the WIDA ELD Standards Framework (Registration not yet open.)

♣ 6/23/21 (Time TBD) French Cultural Services—National Seminar on French Dual Language Immersion and Education

♣ 7/16/21-7/21/21: World Language Summer Seminar (Virtual)

♣ 7/25/21-7/31/21: Deutsche Woche in Bar Harbor
ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

The ACCESS assessments window runs from January 11th – April 16th 2021
Return of Testing Materials

All ACCESS assessment materials must be returned to DRC no later than April 23rd. Any questions about return materials? See the Returning Materials PDF, available in the Download Library within the WIDA Secure Portal (login required).

Important Upcoming Dates

4/16/21 – ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs window closes.
6/18/21 – ACCESS reports available online via WIDA AMS.
7/12/21 – Districts receive printed ACCESS reports.

Assessment 2021 Resources

The Maine DOE Assessment Team continues to work with districts to provide support for the administration of 2021 assessments when safely feasible to do so. Please visit the MECAS homepage for more information about:
✓ Frequently asked questions from the field
✓ Weekly office hours with the Assessment Team
✓ Comprehensive guidance document for 2021 assessments
✓ Assessment-specific trainings and resources

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Articles of Interest

Maine DOE Newsroom: Priority Notice: Maine Department of Education Speaks Out Against Attacks on Asian American and Pacific Island Community Members

Maine DOE Newsroom: Emergency Rental Assistance Program Available for Eligible Families

Grant Opportunity: World Language Advancement and Readiness Grants Program

Language Magazine: Translanguaging as a Transformative Force in Literacy

Portland Press Herald: Portland Adult Education expands job training for new Mainers

Portland Press Herald: South Portland families urge schools to work harder on race issues

Maine DOE Newsroom: School Registration Now Open: ME Virtual Career Fair for High School Students

Amjambo Africa! Hate has no home in Maine!

WIDA Focus Bulletin: Promoting Equity for Young Multilingual Children and Their Families

Portland Press Herald: Hundreds gather in Portland to condemn violence against Asian Americans

Maine DOE Newsroom: Tips for Supporting Muslim Students During Ramadan and Eid-al-Fitr

Insight into Diversity: National Arab American Heritage Month

NAELPA: Using ESSER, ESSER II, and ESSER III Funds to Support EL Education
Job Opportunities

Isleboro Central School Anticipated World Language Teacher K-12

Gorham High School Spanish Teacher

RSU 21 Anticipated Elementary Spanish Teacher

RSU 21 High School Spanish Teacher

Washington Academy Spanish Residential Faculty

Winthrop MS/HS French Teacher (1 year)

MSAD 51 Spanish Teacher

MSAD 11 Long-Term Substitute French Teacher

MSAD 11 Spanish Teacher

Biddeford Summer Elementary School ELL Teacher

Lewiston Middle School Language Facilitator

Union 69 Part-Time Foreign Language Teacher

The New School (Kennebunk) American Sign Language Teacher

Chewonki Spanish Teacher (Residential)

Cheverus High School Spanish Teacher

RSU 20 World Languages Teacher

Announcements/Reminders

There’s still time to apply to be part of the World Languages Standards Revision Writing Team. See this Maine DOE notice for details.

Now that the 2020 WIDA English Language Development Standards have been released, we are excited to support districts in implementing them. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey on regarding implementation of the standards. Thank you!

If your school is interested in participating in the Visiting Teachers from Spain Program, check out this article for details.

Scholarship Opportunities

The American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) is offering the following scholarships for AATF members. For more information, contact Nathalie Gorey at goreyn@link75.org.

Richard Williamson Scholarship for Teachers
Maine encourages teachers to apply for the $300 Richard Williamson Scholarship for Teachers to attend a workshop or seminar during the summer for professional growth.

Laurianna Boucher Scholarship
To provide financial aid to a student who demonstrates an interest in the study of French or international studies with a focus on the Francophone world.

Virtual Office Hours

All language educators are invited to stop by the virtual office hour. It is an informal opportunity to connect with the Department, ask any questions, and get to know your colleagues across the state. Our next virtual office hour is on 4/7/21 at 3:00pm.

Join Zoom here.
Meeting ID: 839 6220 3107            Passcode: ?2j!TtAe

Recordings will be available on the Maine DOE YouTube channel after each session.

3/31/21 Recording