Next week is teacher appreciation week! I hope you are able to treat yourselves to a little extra self-care and allow yourselves a moment to reflect on the good things that have happened this school year as a result of your hard work and tenacity. It may not have been the easiest year, or the year with the greatest results to show (in the traditional sense), but there are countless small victories to celebrate amid the challenges.

The Maine DOE, and I, personally, appreciate all that you do for students and their families, the effects of which are immeasurable and unending.

April Perkins
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Professional Learning

- Duke/UNC/University of Michigan Webinar Series “How to teach about the Middle East—and get it right!” (Final session 5/20)
- 4/30/21-5/3/21: African Diaspora International Film Festival—Afro-Latino Film Series
- 5/4/21 at 7pm: Avant/FLANC—Leveraging the Seal of Biliteracy for Higher Education World Language Placement and Enrollment
- 5/5/21 at 4-5:30pm: REL Southwest- Implementing Biliteracy Seals to Strengthen Bilingual Education and Support Cultural Awareness
- 5/7/21 10am-3pm: Maine ESOL Meeting (Virtual) - Registration is open!
- 5/11/21 at 7pm: How I stole my French back: My journey from 3rd generation "frog" to Madam Murphy
- 5/26/21 at 7pm: English Learner Portal- Supporting Unaccompanied Immigrant Students
- 6/2/21 3-4pm: Writing to Process the COVID Experience: Release, Renew, and Refocus, facilitated by Maine educator/writer Ian Ramsey
- 6/9/21 and 6/16/21 from 9:30-11am: WIDA eWorkshop on Planning with the WIDA ELD Standards Framework (40 participants maximum)
- 6/21/21-7/30/21: Iowa State University—Teaching Mathematics to ELLs (free course)
- 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

Return of Testing Materials

UPDATE: All ACCESS assessment materials must be returned to DRC no later than April 30th. Any questions about returning materials? See the Returning Materials PDF, available in the Download Library within the WIDA Secure Portal (login required).

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

Jodi Bossio-Smith
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207.530.1462
jodi.bossio-smith@maine.gov

Virtual Conversation Clubs

Maine DOE Newsroom: Seeking School Employees and Educators to Host WAVES Virtual Communities for Maine Teens

WAVES would LOVE to host Virtual Communities called “Conversation Clubs.” These clubs would connect students in conversations other than English. First language speakers, students interested in learning the language, and students just interested in an immersive experience in the language would all be welcomed and encouraged to join. Hosts of WAVES Virtual Communities must be currently working in schools, but are welcome to partner with a “guest expert.” Whether you are interested in hosting a Conversation Club in a language in which you are fluent, or would be willing to partner with a “guest expert” who could facilitate the conversation with your support, please consider applying to host a WAVES Virtual Community or reach out to Project Director Sarah Woog with any questions or feedback. Thank you for all you do. Looking forward to connecting soon!

Sarah Woog
sarah.woog@maine.gov

Articles and Resources

French Embassy: Call for applications open: Teacher trainings with prestigious language studies institute (Scholarship Opportunities)

National Association of English Learner Program Administrators: Support ELs with ESSER – COVID-19 Education Relief Funds

Colorin Colorado: Teaching Tips: Summer School for English Language Learners

Ellevation: School’s Out For Summer: Extended Learning Tips For ELLs and Educators [Free Activity Download]

Language Magazine: The Science of Reading in Dual Language

National Center on Education Outcomes: Improving Instruction for English Learners Through Accessibility Decision Making (Improving Instruction): Parent-Educator Toolkit

EdTech Magazine: EdTech Essentials: 3 Language Teachers Share Their Top Tools

Edutopia: How to Bring Traditional Games to World Language Classes

New Yorker: America Ruined My Name for Me

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New Yorker: America Ruined My Name for Me
Job Opportunities

RSU 15 High School Spanish Teacher
Westbrook - Congin Elementary School ELL Teacher
Westbrook - Canal Elementary School ELL Teacher
Westbrook - Saccarappa Elementary School ELL Teacher (1 year only)
Westbrook High School ELL Ed Tech 3
Portland Multiple Summer Positions
RSU 9 K-12 ELL Teacher
RSU 04 High School French Teacher
Freeport Part-Time Middle School Spanish Teacher
Cherryfield Part-Time ESOL Teacher
Kittery Part-Time ESOL Teacher
Baxter Academies High School French Teacher
Baxter Academies High School Spanish Teacher

MSAD 61 Spanish Teacher
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)

Poland Regional High School is hiring a French (preferably French/Spanish teacher) pending budget approval. Please email scrosby@rsu16.org if interested.

French Enrichment Opportunities

- Alliance Française du Maine is offering 2 enriching events in May: French Impressionism and French baking classes! Click here for details and registration.
- Bangor’s Penobscot Theatre Company has commissioned Atlanta based French speaking theatre company, Théâtre du Rêve, to create an original work inspired by Maine poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s epic poem, Evangeline, a Tale of Acadie. This new play, Je Ne Suis Pas Evangeline (I Am Not Evangeline) is an original story about a modern-day woman, Eva, wrestling with the ideals of French Acadian womanhood in the poem “Evangeline: A Tale of Acadie” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Throughout the play, Eva compares Evangeline’s story to her own life and the lives of her two Acadian grandmothers.

Get household streaming tickets from April 22 – May 9, for "Je Ne Suis Pas Evangeline/I am Not Evangeline".

To accompany their play, “Je ne suis pas Evangeline”, they are offering 3 nights of conversations with French speakers from Maine. Here are the recordings for the 2 first salons that happened in April:

New Mainers
Acadian and Franco-American heritage in Maine
The last one will be on May 3.
Join Artistic Director of Theatre du Rêve, Carolyn Cook, as we continue the celebration of Acadian women, French speaking cultures and their importance to Maine’s history.

- Modern West Africa: Francophone African Voices of the 21st Century

If you teach French and would like to receive announcements about professional development and resources, contact Nathalie Gorey at goreyn@link75.org.

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 5/5/21 at 3:00pm.

Join Zoom here.
Meeting ID: 839 6220 3107 Passcode: ?2jTlAe
Recordings will be available on the Maine DOE YouTube channel after each session.
Recording of 4/28/21 Office Hour