

# MULTILINGUAL MATTERS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
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ISSUE 4



DIVISION OF MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION  
*Buffalo Public Schools*

*access | equity | excellence*

## CELEBRATIONS AND BRIGHT SPOTS

### Shout Outs!

Shout out to School 76 for coordinating donation parades for various organizations. Last week we were fortunate to have the staff collect donations for Journey's End Refugee Services. We are so grateful for the contributions to benefit our students and families. THANK YOU!!

As we entered our closure, Sara Koslowski, ENL teacher at West Hertel Academy posted a very helpful video in the [BPS Teachers of Multilingual Learners Schoology group](#). Thank you, Sara!



## DATA SHARE

The Division of Multilingual Education has CTLE Webinars available for staff to support various social, emotional and instructional needs of multilingual learners. As of May 15 the Cultural Proficiency Course (30334) that is being offered has 140 people registered while 48 people have completed the course! Please make sure you take advantage of this learning opportunity.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Eid al Fitr*

***Eid al Fitr***, meaning 'Festival of Breaking the Fast', celebrates the end of the holy month of Ramadan. Eid is announced at the beginning of the tenth month of the Islamic calendar called Shawwal, which follows the month of Ramadan. The sighting of the moon is therefore important in announcing the start of a new lunar month. This year's celebration is set to start on the ***evening of Saturday 23rd May*** but may differ due to the methodology involved in moonsighting.

### *Family Supports During Closure*

Within the Buffalo Public Schools we have an amazing team of people who work at the Central Registration Welcome Center. They include Nagham Ar Rawi (Arabic), Said Ibrahim (Somali), Eh Knyaw (Karen), Wilbert Ramos (Spanish), Ze Yar Swe (Burmese) and Lamin Tamang (Nepali)!

This team not only support families with the registration process, but they are also responsible for translating and recording district wide all calls that are sent out to our ML families, translating District documents and support families with interpretation at district wide events.

Here is a link to a recently translated document, [100 Supportive Ideas](#). Please send this document out to your families as a support during these unprecedented times.

### *General Online Instructional Supports During Closure*

Please follow this [link](#) to see a schedule of general online instructional supports and self-paced courses connected to multilingual learners.

Please visit the following links for virtual professional development offerings from [RBE-RN](#) and [TESOL](#)

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

### ***Support Our Families through Journey's End Refugee Services***

Journey's End Refugee Services is collecting and distributing donations to multilingual learners and their families in BPS during the school closure. Items being collected are gift cards (VISA, Price Rite, Tops, etc.), toiletries (bar soap, shampoo, hand soap, toothpaste), and cleaning supplies (wipes, detergent, all-purpose and/or floor cleaners). Items must be unused and in original packaging. If you have any donations please call Jenna Colerick, 716-796-1985 and she will provide the drop off address.

### ***Multilingual Family Support Sessions***

Registration Cultural Aides and Division of Multilingual members continue to host daily support sessions for families. Please see [this flyer](#) for details.