

MULTILINGUAL MATTERS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
2020-2021 Issue IX
March 17, 2021



DIVISION OF MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION
Buffalo Public Schools
access | equity | excellence

CELEBRATIONS AND BRIGHT SPOTS

Shout Outs!

Thank you Dual Language educators for your careful time and attention during our professional development sessions for the ENIL assessment system from American Reading Company. We look forward to working closely with you in support of launching this assessment for our dual language students!

Another special thank you to the parents and students who participated in this training! The students help us to process and use this exciting new tool. Parents who participated will be receiving a Thank You letter and complimentary book in the mail.

Thank you to all who submitted pictures for **World Hijab Day**! The slideshow of submitted pictures is available on buffaloschools.org. Scroll down on the homepage to find the slideshow!



A special thank you to our dual language education parents, who joined us Thursday evening March 4 for our **Dual Language Parent Symposium**! We truly appreciate hearing your concerns, best practices at home, and unique challenges you face. Teachers and principals, thank you for spreading the word and for joining us!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENIL and Calendar Update

The Division of Multilingual Education and the Office of Shared Accountability have extended the assessment window the ENIL to March 26, 2021. Teachers in need of support in completing the ENIL assessment can reach out directly to Daniel Murtha (dmurtha@buffaloschools.org) or Maeva Lopez (malopez-kassem@buffaloschools.org).

Professional Development: Bilingual Book Study, Part 2

Session 2 of our Bilingual Education Book Study is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2021 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Teachers who registered/attended session 1 will soon receive at their school locations a copy of Translanguaging and Transformative Teaching for Emergent Bilingual Students. (Yes, it arrived!) There is no need to register for this session. Please keep an eye out for an email from Maeva Lopez regarding registration and upcoming assignments. Meanwhile, enjoy the book!

Professional Development: ENL Quarterly Meeting 3

Join our third ENL Education Quarterly Meeting, on Tuesday, April 13th, Assessments from 4:30-6:00 PM. Please register to course# 31557, section# 148663 . Hope to see you there!

Provisional ELL Identification

It is important to note that all of last year's Pre-K, who are now in Grade K are listed as pending. The reason for this is that the NYSITELL cannot be given to Pre-K students until June 1 or later of the PK year, and we have not been able to give any NYSITELL assessments since the period of remote learning began in March 2020. This applies to all new students who have enrolled since March 16, 2020 as well. ENL instructional services for pending students should be determined based upon a variety of data points, including the IRLA, DIBELs, etc. It's important to note that all students who are listed as Pending ELLs are required to receive services according to NY C.R. Part 154.

ENL Stand-Alone Instruction

All Entering and Emerging ELLs are to receive stand-alone instructional supports aligned with the Stand-Alone ENL Framework, as shared during Superintendent's Conference Days. This includes pending ELLs, who have been provisionally identified based on the data points mentioned above as needing Stand-Alone ENL support. Everything you need to implement the Stand-Alone ENL framework with fidelity is included on Schoology and SchoolPace. Please ensure that students are progress-monitored with the IRLA at least every 14 days, and fidelity to the framework is being adhered to. If anyone needs a refresher or additional information related to the implementation of Stand-Alone ENL instruction, please let us know. We are always here to support, but we do need to ensure that even in the remote setting the framework is being adhered to. We have also included the ENL Stand-Alone Important Dates to Know as an attachment for your review and reference. Please note, we will be sending SchoolPace data reports to administrators by email beginning in January 2021.

We Are Hiring!

Please share with colleagues that we are currently accepting applications for the positions of Bilingual Teacher and ENL Teacher. Should you have any questions regarding recruitment, please contact Alicia Barinas (Bilingual) at abarinas@buffaloschools.org or Jenna Colerick (ENL) at jcolerick@buffaloschools.org. Thank you!



New York State Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (NYSTESOL)

NYSTESOL is offering on going professional development opportunities for teachers. You do not need to be a member to participate in the offerings so please take a moment to see what upcoming PD opportunities they are offering <https://nystesol.org/>

Adult Education Classes

The BPS Adult Education Department would like to share that they are holding virtual classes for all levels of English, and at all different times of day (morning, afternoon and evening). There is a quick registration form on the Adult Education website, or you can share this link with anyone who is interested, <https://www.upskill.org/>

REMINDERS

School-Based Parent Meetings

Please remember to schedule meetings with parents of ELLs/MLLs, in accordance with **NY CR Part 154 2.3(f)(5)**. Please note that these meetings must occur once per year and must be scheduled in addition to parent teacher conferences, quarterly progress meetings, and all other meetings provided to parents of all students. The Division will provide exemplars of said meetings in the upcoming issue.

Pre-K Enrollment

The Division would like to remind families that there are seats available for Pre-K students. Families can register their children for Pre-K programming and secure an iPad for their child. All enrolled students are also eligible for free meals. Please see attached translated flyer for details.

ENL Stand-Alone Supports

The Division of Multilingual Education has created an eLearning folder in the **BPS Teachers of Multilingual Learners** group. The folder is located in the resources tab, which is found on the left under the group logo. The eLearning folder contains hundreds of resources including translated documents and stand-alone resources from ARC, such as FSTK, book baskets (coming), and leveling materials, as well as resources from Bridges-SIFE, FCRR, Heggerty and more. The resources are separated K-6 and 7-12 and there is a word document for K-6 (see below) with live links that you can save to your device for quick access. Click [here](#) to go directly to the eLearning folder.

ARC Bookshelf Parent Accounts

Some good news! Parents are able to receive 20 free ARC (American Reading Company) Bookshelf books for their child! Parents need to create a parent account and then they are eligible to choose 20 ARC books for free! We have included the link below with full instructions for you to send to parents.

<https://www.americanreading.com/documents/20-free-ebooks-redemption-instructions.pdf>

The message below can be sent to parents via Talking Points to link families to ARC Bookshelf. Please note that the link and the message should be sent separately:

Hello parents,
As your child continues to improve her/his reading, you can read online books for free! Follow the link below. Create an account. Then, being choosing books by clicking on “bookshelf”. Before completing your order, please click on “add coupon” to make this a free order. Please feel free to reply with questions. Thank you!

www.americanreadingathome.com/account/create/

Family Supports and Methods of Communication

Communication with families is imperative, especially during this time of remote learning. Please know that we have a variety of supports in which you can connect with parents they are the following, staff and teachers within your school building, Talking Points, Language Line, Journey’s End Academic Coaches and the Registration Cultural Aides who work out of Central Registration. Please click [here](#) to access our Language Supports document, a reference for appropriate use of language services.



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This chart represents the Initial Leveling and Conferencing schedule for the Stand-Alone (ELD). Teachers should conference with their Entering and Emerging students as much as possible, in which to ensure that instruction is tailored to meet student's instructional needs. This schedule represents the minimum number of conferences that should be completed during the 2020—2021 school year. Administrators will be provided with conferencing and growth reports within 5 days of the Initial Leveling and Conference # completion date. These will be available in each schools Schoology Data folder.

Leveling and Conference Activity	Completion Date
Complete Initial Leveling	November 13, 2020
Conference #1	November 20, 2020
Conference #2	December 4, 2020
Conference #3	December 18, 2020
Conference #4	January 8, 2021
Conference #5	January 22, 2021
Conference #6	February 5, 2021
Conference #7	February 26, 2021
Conference #8	March 12, 2021
Conference #9	March 26, 2021
Conference #10	April 16, 2021
Conference #11	April 30, 2021
Conference #12	May 14, 2021
Conference #13	May 28, 2021
Conference #14	June 11, 2021