

SLPS TESOL ExcELLEnce

Issue 3

November, 2019

Teacher of the Month Svetla Mechkova, Mann ESOL Teacher

Mrs. Mechkova was nominated for consistently completing all accountability activities in a timely manner and for being one of the first teachers who administered TEAM End of the Unit assessment for pull out students. She was caught providing feedback to students after scoring the assessment.



Honorable Mentions for the Month of November

Keary Ritchie, ESOL Teacher at NCNA 9-10 @Roosevelt, for consistently keeping levels of rigor by implementing differentiated, engaging, and meaningful learning strategies which allow students to develop confidence in their work.

Shadae Bartley, a classroom teacher at NCNA K-8, for being supportive of her parents and students.

Nelver Brooks, ESOL Teacher at NCNA 9-10 @Roosevelt, for being passionate about her role as a teacher, mentor, and colleague and for volunteering her free time to support her students and families with their educational needs.

ST. LOUIS AMERICAN
**NEWSPAPER IN
EDUCATION**

The St. Louis American's award winning NIE program provides newspapers and resources to more than 8,000 teachers and students each week throughout the school year, at no charge.

Questions or comments? Contact Cathy Sewell
csewell@stlamerican.com or 314-289-5422

STEM
science, technology, engineering, and math

Congratulations to Amy McLean, Woerner ESOL teacher and her co-teacher, Ashley Merritt, a classroom teacher, for being highlighted in St. Louis American newspaper!

To see the issue click on the following link
<https://bloximages.chicago2.vip.townnews.com/stlamerican.com/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/5/6b/56bf4212-0108-11ea-a1fe-ef10dbb7bd26/5dc3851bcbb6d.pdf.pdf>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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- 3- CULTURAL PROJECT/MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL
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5. CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ADDITIONAL PD OPPORTUNITIES/COMMUNITY EVENTS

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT

At Woerner Elementary School teachers Amy McLean and Ashley Merritt show students Rheanna Hill, Skylarr Jones, Alayah Heilig and Julia Cain how to use the newspaper's STEM page for story ideas. Photo by Wiley Price/ St. Louis American

Teachers, if you are using the St. Louis American's NIE program and would like to nominate your class for a Classroom Spotlight, please email: nie@stlamerican.com.



**Language Access Services
ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program
Saint Louis Public Schools**

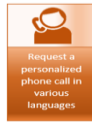
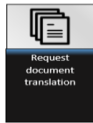
Submitted by Ms. Rhodes, Language Access Team

A new translation has been added to the translated medical forms library, **HIPAA-Compliant Authorization for Release of Health Information**. Please share this information with your school's nurse.

Check out the online library of translated documents' link <https://www.slps.org/Page/32414>

Don't forget to contact the ESOL Language Access Team for your daily communication needs at:

314-664-1066 EXT. 32109, fatima.rhodes@slps.org or <https://www.slps.org/Page/27448>



Bilingual Parent Library Shout Out

Submitted by Tuyet Nguyen, ESOL Parent Specialist

Shout out to ESOL teachers at Mason, Woerner, and Woodward for promoting the Bilingual Parent Library Subscription! As of 11/20, just weeks after the launch of this year's subscription, over 100 books have been checked out using this service. Keep up the great work!

SLPS SIOP Cohort: Training Session II

Submitted by Amanda Wiesner-Groff, ESOL Coordinator

SLPS SIOP Cohort participants joined together, Saturday, November 2nd for another full day of learning. This session first reviewed ways participants can link key content and language concepts to students' backgrounds; then, connect that knowledge to new content being learned. Additionally, a variety of strategies were shared for supporting explicit vocabulary instruction in everyday learning routines.

To ensure student comprehension and language development, participants engaged in multiple collaborative learning activities, followed by video observations of SIOP lessons.

See the chart below for strategies you can implement now for build backgrounding and making content more comprehensible for your ELs!

ESOL College and Career Fair 2019

Submitted by Erna Kadic, ESOL Program Counselor

On November 6, 2019 the ESOL Program hosted the College and Career Fair for St. Louis Public Schools ELL students and families. The Fair started with presentations conducted in multiple languages to inform families about various post-secondary options. A total of 81 students and parents attended this event.

The presentations also prepared students and families for their conversations with colleges/programs. Students were given a guide which helped them learn what questions they could ask and what information they needed to gather from colleges and programs in order to select their future career path.

Students had a chance to visit with multiple vendors to get information about their offerings. The following colleges/programs were in attendance: Webster University, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, University of Missouri, Southeast Missouri State University, Saint Louis University, Washington University, Saint Louis College of Pharmacy, St. Louis Community College, Ranken Technical College, to name a few. A special thanks goes out to all of the volunteers who made this a successful event.



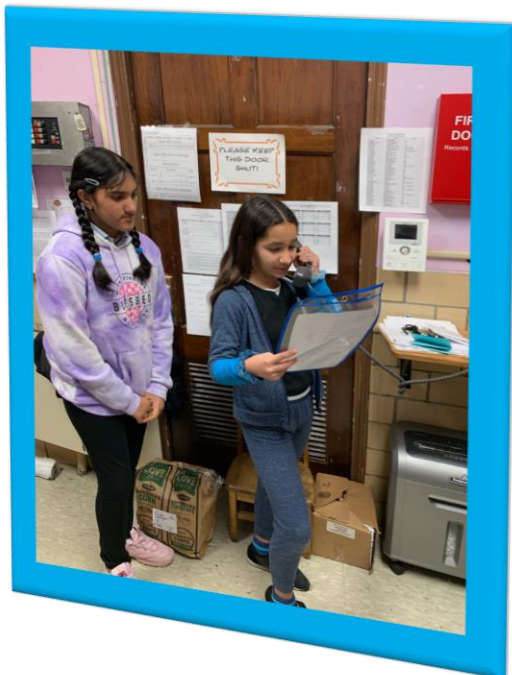
Making Connections	Making Content Comprehensible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make explicit links to students' backgrounds: Be familiar with their experiences and make connections for them. • Ask specific questions to provide students opportunities to make their own connections. • Lesson Connections: Make explicit connections stating how things they are going to study relate to new concepts. Use previously used handouts/slides. • KWL: Create together and refer to during unit. Check off things in the "want" column and add answers to "learned" column. • Student Journals: Students reflect on things they have learned; create for different content areas as a resource guide. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use expression and body language • Speak slowly and clearly • Use more pauses between phrases • Use shorter sentences with simpler syntax • Stress high-frequency vocabulary • Repeat and review vocabulary • Watch carefully for comprehension; be ready to repeat/restate to clarify meaning • Open discussion to different perspectives of a topic

Cultural Project at Woerner

Submitted by Sarah Cerone, ESOL Teacher at Woerner

At Woerner, we began cultural research projects which will be presented and created by students to share with the school. Every two weeks, we will work with a small group of students to create a presentation to share on our **Where We are From** map and present traditions or cultural specific information with the school.

This past week, the students created a poster for Afghanistan. The students presented the importance of poetry in Afghanistan culture and read two poems by Jami. The students really enjoyed sharing their culture with the school.

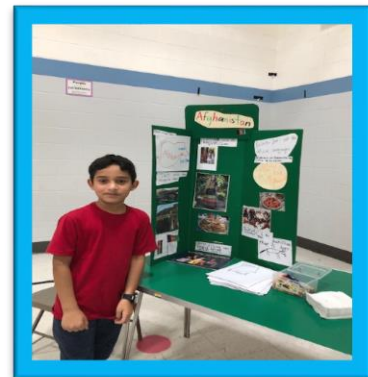


Multicultural Festival at Buder Elementary

Submitted by Katie Avenevoli, ESOL Teacher at Buder

Buder Elementary had our first Multicultural Festival. We had tables that represented Mexico, Thailand, England, Germany, Italy, Albania, Roma, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Nicaragua, Iraq, Syria and Bosnia.

Our students made display boards that highlighted aspects of their country and their culture. They also talked about the boards they made. Our parents really came through with many food samples and displays of special items from their countries. It was a great experience for all who attended and we look forward to many more Multicultural Festivals in the future.



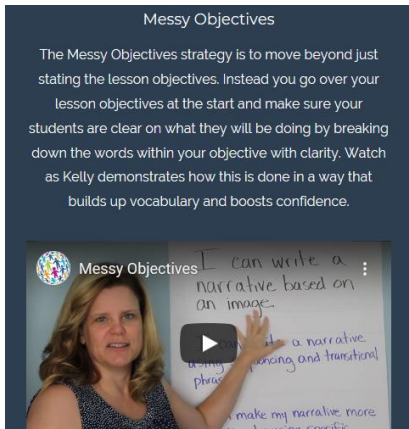
ELL Teacher Resource Corner



Submitted by Elena Okanovic, ESOL Coordinator

English Language Portal became one of my favorite sites to access a variety of free ELL teacher resources with a click of a button. *“Stop trying to reinvent the wheel! When you join the Teacher Resource Portal you get access to ELL experts from across the country as a part of our on-going training and live coaching. You also get an ever-growing collection of done-for-you lesson plans, proven practices, and tried-and-true resources to make teaching that much easier!”*

The recently viewed link is a short video about planning and introducing “messy” language objectives. Check it out!



<https://www.englishlearnerportal.com/free-training>

ESOL Parent Meeting #3 Reminder

Submitted by Tuyet Nguyen, ESOL Parent Specialist

ESOL Teachers, we need you! Next ESOL Parent Meeting #3 will take place Wednesday, December 4th, 5:30-7:00PM. Contact Tuyet Nguyen at tuyet.nguyen@slps.org to sign up for volunteering for this event.

ELL Teacher Resources

Submitted by Elena Okanovic, ESOL Coordinator

Great free conference presentations, books, free tools, and resources lists.

<https://getsupported.net/resources/>

Founded in 2011, SupportEd is led by Dr. Diane Staehr Fenner, known for her books and research in EL education. The team of the organization has been sought by organizations such as the National Education Association, TESOL International Association, and the New York City Department of Education to create blended professional development, English language development rubrics for formative assessment, and other research-based, practical educational tools.



PRESENTATIONS

SupportEd presents at conferences nationwide and we make our presentations available online.



BOOKS

SupportEd's founder and team have published multiple books as thought leaders in English learner education.



RESOURCE LIST

SupportEd has compiled a range of important resources to better serve your English learners you can access both online and offline.



FREE TOOLS

We've made some helpful tools for serving English learners available for free.

WIDA Speaking Test and How It's Scored

Submitted by Heather Tuckson, ESOL Coordinator

While preparing for the upcoming ACCESS for ELLs testing window, I recommend watching the WIDA webinar *ACCESS for ELLs Online: The Speaking Test and How it is Scored*. This webinar outlines the logistics of the tiered Speaking tasks, provides samples items with an explanation of how each tier is scored, and explains how raw scores are converted into the scores we see on students' score reports. After viewing the webinar, you can expect to come away with some practical tips on supporting your students as they become more successful in the speaking portion of ACCESS for ELLs. Follow the link to view this webinar: <https://portal.wida.us/GetResource/2457> (You will be prompted to provide your WIDA account credentials to view the webinar.)



Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time	Location
December 4	ACCESS PD for Non-Centers only	8:00AM-3:00 PM	ESOL Office
December 4	Parent Meeting #3	5:30PM -7:00PM	ESOL Office
December 20	Benchmark #2 window is closed	4:30PM	One Drive

Additional PD Opportunities:

St. Louis Region ELD Collaborative – January 17, 2020

<http://www.cvent.com/events/st-louis-region-eld-collaborative/event-summary-6822a957b8ac48a796d4833f62c11167.aspx>

Differentiating for English Learners – January 28, 2020

<http://www.cvent.com/events/differentiating-for-english-learners/event-summary-eb874657150942d7ac78fa5d646b01bf.aspx>

St. Louis Region ELD Collaborative – March 13, 2020

<http://www.cvent.com/events/st-louis-region-eld-collaborative/event-summary-16663a59b5f94e9fbdb2cc7643c841b4.aspx>

Differentiating for English Learners – March 30, 2020

<http://www.cvent.com/events/differentiating-for-english-learners/event-summary-69520c3ecaeb42919b06928a296f4d71.aspx>

St. Louis Region ELD Collaborative – May 15, 2020

<http://www.cvent.com/events/st-louis-region-eld-collaborative/event-summary-6cb8996a19b649b992327fa5dca006a2.aspx>

Analyzing ACCESS Growth – May 18, 2020

<http://www.cvent.com/events/analyzing-access-growth/event-summary-f316bc5f5c934c8eb6ff09444b82ad05.aspx>

Events in the Community



International Institute Holiday Bazaar December 7 & 8



Photo by Wayne Crosslin/International Institute St. Louis

Annual Holiday Bazaar

Saturday 12/7/2019 & Sunday 12/8/2019

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

\$5 Entry Fee

Saturday, December 7 & Sunday, December 8, \$5 gets you into IISTL gymnasium for this year's international Holiday Bazaar.

Booths will represent China, DR Congo, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Syria, Vietnam, Haiti, Morocco, Ireland, Greece, Kenya and the US. Finish your holiday shopping with unique accessories, art, ornaments, home decor, statues, hand-made soaps, and more!

Several of the 20+ vendors are immigrants who have been helped by the Institute's Economic Development department. Come witness our efforts in action!

Gymnasium is located behind the Institute's main building at 3401 Arsenal, 63118. Parking entrance is off Louisiana Ave. or park on surrounding streets.

Stay updated with IISTL at our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.
Event sponsored by Renewal by Anderson.