

SLPS TESOL ExcELLEnce

Issue 1

September, 2019

Teacher of the Month

Jessica Martin, ESOL Itinerant Teacher

Mrs. Martin designed a Flipgrid PPT tutorial for teachers to support ELD benchmarks and supporting program staff with high school ELL scheduling.



Honorable mentions for the Month of August

Addie Boeving, Mullanphy ESOL teacher, for conducting ELL PD for ECE district staff.

Ashley Zimmerman, NCNAA K-8 ESOL teacher, for going beyond her duties when it comes to supporting her students and their families.

Julia McDonnell, Dewey ESOL teacher, for her ongoing willingness to learn and apply new EL strategies with students and conducting EL PD for Dewey staff.

Thomas Johnston, Gateway STEM ESOL teacher, for his innovative ways to use technology (digital voice recorders) with students to improve HS students' speaking/presentation skills.

ESOL Parent Involvement Events:

Back to School Festival 2019

Submitted by Tuyet Nguyen, ESOL Parent Specialist

Once again, the annual ESOL Back to School Festival that took place on August 3rd, 2019, was a huge success! The ESOL program hosted 1,603 participants including school age children, preschool students, and adults.

Families were able to confirm their school assignment, bus information, visit with their schools' teachers and staff, and receive free backpacks filled with school supplies. Children enjoyed a variety of the festival's activities: sidewalk chalk art, face painting, photo booth, and temporary tattoos. All participants enjoyed a delicious summer snack- freshly made buttered popcorn and colorful snow cones.

If you would like to be a part of the annual event next year or know someone who would like to volunteer their time or contribute to the event in a variety of ways, please contact Tuyet Nguyen at tuyet.nguyen@slps.org.



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ESOL Program Committees

Submitted by Elena Okanovic, ESOL Coordinator

The SLPS ESOL program supports a shared vision in the decision making process. Therefore, we believe each of you can make a difference in our program by your active participation in the program's committees for the current school year.

Leadership, PD, and Parent Involvement committees meet three times a year on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 PM.

Leadership Committee coordinates program initiatives and makes program-wide recommendations as it relates to funding, accountability, and the overall vision of the ELL program. The meeting dates are **October 10, December 5th, and April 9th.**

PD Committee focuses on ELL PD for SLPS district staff. The committee explores ways to increase staff participation in ELL PD opportunities within the district and outside SLPS. The meeting dates are **November 7, February 27, and April 30.**

Parent Involvement Committee focuses on developing ways to increase ESOL parent involvement through a variety of offerings. The meeting dates are **October 24, January 9, and April 16.**

To join one or more committees, please complete the following survey (see below) with your intent to join one or more committees **before Friday, September 27.**

ESOL Committee Survey Link

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=az3jCFSmakiA4yCxxK4i12imYmbwIH9Pufv7RHjNF9pURFJUQzdHS0VYMDE1UVpRRRkhUOTBDSFJXTy4u>

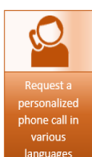
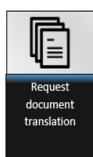
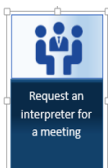


Language Access Services ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program Saint Louis Public Schools

Submitted by Ms. Rhodes, Language Access Team

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>



ESOL Professional Development Corner

Submitted by Jessica Brookman, ESOL Coordinator

August was a busy month for ESOL professional development. Thirty-three PD sessions were presented by the ESOL office staff through district and site-based PD days and staff meetings. More than 770 participants attended the sessions.

ESOL teachers are, also, encouraged to provide professional development to their school staff. These presentations can be scheduled for site-based PDs, staff meetings, data meetings, or PLCs. Topics could range from Guided Reading Instructions or ESOL Strategies, to explanations about ACCESS scores or the DESE EL Growth Matrix. No matter what the topic is that will be presented, there is already an established protocol in place that EL presenters are asked to follow.

Before the presentation:

1. Determine the topic and schedule the time with your building administrator.
2. Notify Jessica Brookman at the ESOL office of the topic, date, and time as far in advance as you possibly can. (This information will be included on our monthly PD report.)
3. Discuss the PowerPoint and materials that will be presented with your ESOL Coordinator to check for accuracy and viability.

After the presentation:

4. Acquire a copy of the attendance sign-in sheet that shows the attendee's name and position in the school. (if it does not identify the position, please write it in.)
5. Attach a copy of your PowerPoint and handouts to the attendance sheets and send them by pony mail to Jessica Brookman, ESOL Instructional Coordinator, at the ESOL Office.

Teachers are our best resource to spreading the word about teaching ESOLs, so we encourage you to volunteer to present professional development sessions at every opportunity at your school.



Welcome To THE TEAM

Betsy Trapp, Itinerant Teacher



My name is Betsy Trapp and I am excited to start this new chapter in my teaching career. I became interested in ESOL while studying Speech Language Pathology at Fontbonne University. After graduation, I earned a MS in Student Affairs in Higher Education from Colorado State University where I worked in Residence Life with international students and their families. I continued on to University of San Francisco working in Residence Life with international students. It was at USF that I concluded that I was meant to work with younger students. I joined Teach For America in 2006 and was placed in St. Louis at Blow Middle School (currently Lyon Academy at Blow). I earned my M.Ed. in Elementary Education with Reading Specialist certification. During my thirteen years at Lyon, I was a Special Education teacher, Instructional Coach, and Reading Interventionist. As I begin this school year, I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue my goal of working with English Language Learners. I am currently completing a MA in Teaching English as a Second Language online through Webster University. In my free time, I love to read, spend time with my husband and keep up with my energetic five-year-old son.

Kimberly Strand, ESOL Teacher at Long MS

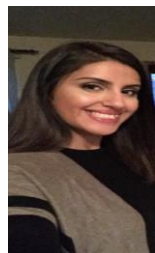


Hi, I am Ms. Kimberly Strand and I am elated to be part of SLPS's ESOL Bilingual Language Department. I am an ESOL teacher at Long International Middle School and look forward to building relationships with my ELL students and their families.

I received my Bachelor of Science in Education degree from the University of Missouri - St Louis and my TESOL Master's degree at Webster University will confer this fall. I currently am part of SLPS's reading certification cohort and am working on my sequential Master's in Education with an Emphasis in Reading.

I am from Minnesota and have two children, Jessica and Matthew. I am so proud of both of my children and their accomplishments. My daughter lives in New York City and my son is here in St. Louis. We enjoy travelling as a family and I love to read, go hiking, floating and camping with my friends and family.

Maritza Caldera, ESOL Teacher at Long MS



My name is Maritza Caldera and I am an ESOL teacher at Long International Middle School. I graduated from UMSL with my Middle School Math certification and am currently working on my TESOL Certificate and Masters Degree. I have previously worked in the Hazelwood School District and Brentwood School District, and I'm excited to be working in such a diverse district like SLPS. I am originally from Chicago and moved here about 6 years ago. I have two little boys who are EL students themselves, and are bi-lingual in Spanish and English. I'm looking forward to working with all of our EL families and students this year.

Sarah Cerone, ESOL Teacher at Woerner ES

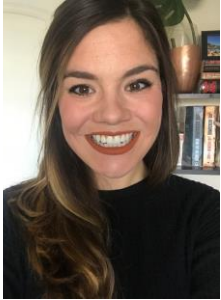


Hello all, my name is Sarah Cerone. I have been a teacher in the St. Louis Public Schools for 12 years! Throughout my years in the district, I have taught preschool in a co-teaching inclusion classroom and now ESOL. The last three years I was a Consultant Teacher for the St. Louis Plan.

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While working with new ESOL teachers I found a new passion in teaching EL students. I began my certification process a year ago and will finish this Spring. This school year I am so excited to be a member of the Woerner School community and ready to get back into the classroom.

Katie Morris, ESOL Teacher at Mason ES



My name is Katie Morris, and I am thrilled to be joining the ESOL team at Mason School this year! I grew up in the Twin Cities, Minnesota and graduated with BAs in International Education Policy, Portuguese, and TESOL from University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2014. I worked at WIDA for 3 years in the Assessment department before getting my MAEd from Washington University in 2018.

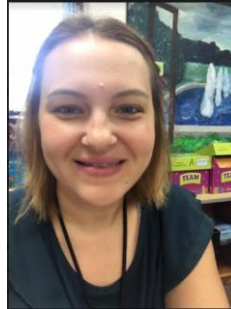
This is my first year as an ESOL teacher. I have also worked with students through AmeriCorps, in after care programs, as an adult ESOL educator, and as an elementary school TA. I enjoy traveling, cooking, and hanging out with my dog, Louie. I'm so excited about this upcoming year at Mason!

Amy McLean, ESOL Teacher at Woerner



Hello, my name is Amy (Tadrick) McLean. I am excited to be part of the ESOL team at Woerner Elementary this school year. I have worked for SLPS for 14 years. I started my teaching career at Washington/Euclid Elementary teaching 4/5 grade. After many years at Montessori I transferred to Ford Elementary and taught 1st grade for 2 years. Following my time at Ford, I again changed directions and became a Consultant Teacher with the St. Louis Plan. After three years as a consultant teacher, this year I have rotated back into the classroom as an ESOL teacher.

Elvisa Salesevic- Hodzic, ESOL Itinerant Teacher



My name is Elvisa Salesevic, and I am eager to start my journey as an ESOL teacher at the ESOL Bilingual Migrant program. I received my BA in Education at UMSL, and I am currently pursuing my Master's in Education with an emphasis in TESOL. Last year, I was a third-grade teacher at Buder Elementary. I had a wonderful experience working with the ESOL team at Buder, and because of that positive experience, I knew ESOL was the place for me. On my time off, I enjoy spending time with my girls, cooking, cleaning, shopping, yoga, and reading. I am looking forward to collaborating with the SLPS/ESOL team and to a productive school year.

Jill Morey, ESOL Teacher at Soldan HS



Hello! I am Jill Morey, ESOL teacher at Soldan International Studies High School. This is my 23rd year of teaching ESOL and French. I was born in Michigan, but moved to St. Louis when I was 12. I have lived in Japan and France, and I love to cook, travel with my family, and spend time with our four rescue dogs. I received my MA in TESOL in '95, and I STILL love being an ESOL teacher! I'm very happy to be at SLPS!

2019-2020 SLPS SIOP Cohort

Submitted by Amanda Wiesner-Groff, ESOL Coordinator

We are back in full swing with a new SIOP Cohort! This year's cohort participants have hit the ground running with a mini training session in August and a full Saturday training session in September. Thus far, learning has focused on second-language acquisition and academic language theories, history of the SIOP Model, as well as SIOP Components 1 & 7 (Lesson Preparation and Lesson Delivery). In addition to SIOP training sessions, cohort teachers are actively participating in 3-session coaching cycles, online discussions, text readings, and video reflections.

It's a great start, but we are only just beginning! Be sure to keep your eye on the newsletter each month to see how cohort participants are improving the quality of content and English language instruction to our district's mainstream and EL students!

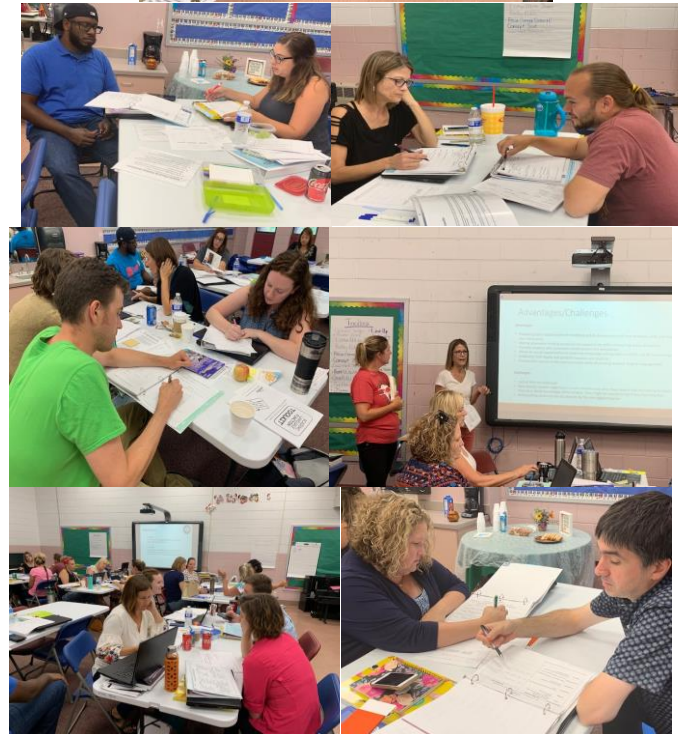


2019-2020 SLPS Collaboration and Co-teaching Cohort

Submitted by Heather Tuckson & Elena Okanovic, ESOL Coordinators

During the first week in August, twelve new co-teaching partnerships engaged in the Co-teaching 2019-2020 cohort. Throughout the three days, co-teachers learned about each other's teaching style and had the opportunity to negotiate classroom norms, responsibilities, and co-planning routines. Co-teachers had a chance to learn about 7 co-teaching models and analyze video samples with successful implementation of the models in different grades and content areas.

Each active partnership will receive coaching and continued professional development throughout the year. Look for co-taught classrooms to be highlighted in future newsletters.



2019-2020 SIOP Refresher PDs

Submitted by Amanda Wiesner-Groff, ESOL Coordinator

Some of you expressed interest in the ESOL Program's Two-Part SIOP Refresher. We are very excited to confirm Sandy Anderson will be leading both the refresher training and coaching sessions!

The Two-Part SIOP Refresher includes:

- *Two after school SIOP refresher training sessions (one per semester): Offered twice, on two separate days at the ESOL office
- *1-2 optional coaching sessions (per each semester training session): Offered during the school day at teacher's convenience.

If you had not expressed interest, the link below indicates the dates and times for these sessions in case you had needed more information before determining a level of interest in signing-up.

Please click the link below to continue to the MS Form to view exact dates and officially sign-up for the ESOL Program's Two-Part SIOP Refresher!

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=az3jCFSmakiA4yCxxkK4i18XZ2ocPzvhAqv6uD5CT4MBUNUxPWEs1TDQzNUk5Sk05UERFREU5NDdJRi4u>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amanda Wiesner -Groff at Amanda.wiesner-groff@slps.org

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time	Location
October 1 or October 2	Collaboration and Co-teaching PD (for cohort participants only)	4:30-6:30 PM	ESOL Office
October 2	Parent Meeting #2	5:30- 7:00 PM	ESOL Office
October 8	SIOP Refresher PD	3:30-5:30 PM	ESOL Office
October 9	SIOP Refresher PD	4:30-6:30 PM	ESOL Office
October 10	ELL Leadership Committee	3:30- 4:30 PM	ESOL Office

Additional ESOL PD Opportunities

Register now for these upcoming MELL events...Space is limited so register early!!!

WIDA: Educator Collaboration to Support Multilingual Learners – October 22, 2019 & October 23, 2019 (You must attend both days)

<http://www.cvent.com/events/wida-educator-collaboration-to-support-multilingual-learners/event-summary-6f71cf14485b4f2c9557cf4f757aab59.aspx>

Supporting English Learners for Para Educators – October 28, 2019

<http://www.cvent.com/events/supporting-english-learners-for-para-educators/event-summary-dc14e324e1b4439c9727d0119702904c.aspx>

Teaching Newcomer English Learners – November 7, 2019

<http://www.cvent.com/events/teaching-newcomer-english-learners/event-summary-ec7455343d54ff980b0e0531a9099b7.aspx>

St. Louis Region ELD Collaborative – November 22, 2019

<http://www.cvent.com/events/st-louis-regional-eld-collaborative/event-summary-99c96186aeb443c19977f172da7f096c.aspx>

Book Study: Preparing ELs for College and Career – Begins December 10, 2019

<http://www.cvent.com/events/book-study-preparing-els-for-college-and-career/event-summary-22c6f7a907284556830d64bbf59643c3.aspx>