

SLPS TESOL ExcELLEnce

Issue 3

November, 2019

Teacher of the Month

Dr. Cynthia Gibbs, Long ESOL Teacher

Dr. Gibbs consistently demonstrates an understanding of ESOL strategies to help her students move forward and explores additional ways to enrich them. She is a very caring and dedicated teacher, most patient, yet firm when needed to provide students with the tools to succeed at school and in life. Dr. Gibbs provides supports for her colleagues and increases her own learning experiences.



Honorable Mentions for the Month of September

Betsy Trapp, ESOL itinerate teacher, for amazing job with students at program's parent events.

Meredith Vesoulis, Woodward ESOL teacher, for taking initiative to create ESOL data wall with her students and share the information with Elementary teachers during the district PD day.

Elvisa Salesevic-Hodzic, ESOL itinerate teacher, for supporting newly enrolled students by administering screener and offering supports for other office duties.

Connie Berry, Mann ESOL teacher, for going above and beyond when students or parents are in need and supporting all ESOL program's initiatives.

Cheryl Boesch, ESOL Itinerate teacher, for working tirelessly to ensure our students receive the support they need in non-centers.

ESOL Parent Involvement Events:

ESOL Parent Meeting #2

Submitted by Tuyet Nguyen, ESOL Parent Specialist

The second ESOL Parent Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 2nd with a total of 149 participants! Thanks to 13 ESOL staff volunteers, 4 SLPS High School volunteers, 2 non-SLPS volunteers, and 1 SLPS visitor for making it a successful event. During this meeting, parents learned how to read report cards and prepare for parent conferences, understand credits and graduation requirement, and prepare students for college.

Our third meeting will be Wednesday, December 4th from 5:30-7:00 PM. If you would like to volunteer for the meeting or any other parent events hosted by the ESOL program, please contact Tuyet Nguyen at tuyet.nguyen@slps.org.

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Language Access Services ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program Saint Louis Public Schools

Submitted by Ms. Rhodes, Language Access Team

The translation of **SLPS Academic Concern Letter** for the 2019-2020 school year has been updated and posted to the online ESOL Translations Library. Please check out the link <https://www.slps.org/Page/32414> for other available translated academic, general and medical forms.

Fall Parent Teacher conferences this year saw an increase of the usage of telephonic interpreters with 114 phone calls made in Arabic, Bosnian, Burmese, Dari, Kinyarwanda, Kunama, Nepali, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Vietnamese and Zomi. SLPS Staff made calls from Buder, Busch, Oak Hill, Mann, Mason, Mullanphy, Woodward and Woerner elementary Schools as well as from Compton Drew and Long middle schools and Roosevelt and Soldan high schools.

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

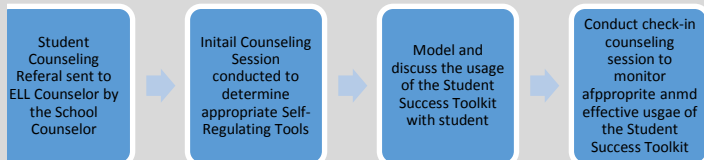
Student Success Toolkit

Submitted by Erna Kadic, ESOL Program Counselor

The ESOL Office has a Counseling Pantry with a variety of sensory tools. Upon request by the school counselor, the ESOL Program Counselor will create an individual toolkit based on a students' Socio Emotional needs. This Student Success Toolkit-will be used to support students' self-regulations and improve students focus on learning. School Counselors can use the Counseling Request Form available on our website:

<https://www.slps.org/Page/39557>. For any questions, please contact the ESOL Program Counselor, Erna Kadic via email: erna.kadic@slps.org or phone: 314-664-1066 ext. 321

The Toolkit Request Flowchart



ESOL Leadership Committee Update

Submitted by Dr. Gonzalez Del Castillo, ESOL Program Director

This year, the ESOL Leadership Committee will focus its work on the following:

- Lau Plan
- Language Access Plan
- Budget Planning

In anticipation of the Refugee School Impact Grant announcement, the first committee meeting addressed potential activities and budget allocations as it relates to the Refugee Impact Grant. In addition, committee members began the conversation around the budget for 20-21. While not everyone was able to join, everyone is encouraged to provide input on the ESOL Program needs in the area of instructional materials and technology by completing the survey below. The survey should take about 3-5 minutes to complete.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=az3jCFsmakiA4yCxxK4i12imYmbwLH9Pufv7RHjNF9pUNU NXSzdOTzEyRFU4MTNMWFA1REFQSkdUSS4u>

Thank you for your virtual participation in the work of the ESOL Program Leadership Committee.

ESOL Parent Involvement Events: ELL Math Hour

Submitted by Tuyet Nguyen, ESOL Parent Specialist

The ELL Math Hour was held on Friday October 18th from 1:00pm to 2:30pm at the ESOL office. There was a total of 102 participants and supporters. ELL students, grades Pre-K to 5th, and their families engaged in math can activities and hands-on math. The math cans covered a variety of topics. For hands-on math, the students in grade K-1 were using measuring tools to compare amounts of beans and rice. For grades. 2-3, students measured out the sugar content of six different drinks. The 4th and 5th graders were measuring out vinegar and baking soda to inflate balloons. The 6th - 8th graders learned math magic tricks, as well as, competed with their parents in Math Chutes and Ladder, Math Jeopardy, and Mathopoly.

Benchmark Education English Explorers Leveled Readers for Elementary ELLs at Work

Submitted by Julia McDonnell, ESOL teacher at Dewey

The 4th grade EL students at Dewey International have been utilizing the new Benchmark Education Non-fiction series in combination with the TEAM curriculum. The colorful pictures and differentiated levels of text are extremely engaging and have sparked many questions from the children. They have enjoyed collaborating on small projects as well as making text connections between the two curricula. It has been very easy to find a set that corresponds with both the TEAM content as well as the materials being used in their classrooms. I highly recommend that teachers take advantage of this wonderful new series.



PD Cohort 31: Voice Recorders for Academic Language Success

Submitted by Amanda Wiesner-Groff, ESOL Coordinator

On October 18th, 2019, participants in the Exemplary Instruction and Support for High School ELLs District Cohort (31) engaged in professional development learning at the ESOL office. Among items included was a demonstration by Gateway STEM ESOL teacher, Thomas Johnston, on the new digital voice recorders provided to high school and middle school ESOL teachers. Middle school ESOL teachers joined the session as Mr. Johnston guided everyone through the set-up and key features of this new technology item. Modeling and examples were provided for ways the recorders can be used not only for developing academic language skills with increased oral language activities, but also, for administering the speaking component of the SLPS English Language Development Benchmarks. Here are just a few of the ways participants have found success with the digital voice recorders since our PD session: student interviews, content presentations, classroom speaking assessments, responses to teacher (prompts), self-monitoring of: reading fluency, pronunciation practice, and voice projection.



Pathway to Biliteracy: a Shout Out to Dewey IES

Submitted by Erna Kadic, ESOL Program Counselor

A huge Shout Out goes to the Dewey International Elementary school's Counselor Julie Harwell as well as The ESOL teacher Julia McDonnell For utilizing their bulletin board to Display and promote the Pathway to Biliteracy award process.



Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time	Location
11-6-2019	ESOL College Fair	5:00-7:30 PM	ESOL office
11-7-2019	ESOL PD Committee	3:30-4:30 PM	ESOL office

Additional PD Opportunity:



Book Study: Preparing ELs for College & Career [Begins Tuesday, December 10](#)

Join us for five short afternoon sessions as we read and discuss "[Preparing English Learners for College and Career: Lessons from Successful High Schools](#)" by Santos, et al. A product of the Understanding Language initiative at Stanford University, the book profiles six different high schools that had extraordinary success with English learners.

