



ELlements of Language Learning

News from the
NYSED

Long Island Regional
Bilingual Education
Resource Network

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Executive Director's Message

by Christa Stevenson

Here at the L.I. RBERN, we've been having many discussions with teachers and districts about Principle #1 of the NYSED Blueprint for MLL/ELL Success, that "all teachers are teachers of ELLs." This is a big idea. It's an important idea, directly linked to essential elements outlined the NYS Board of Regents Framework on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in NYS Schools (<http://bit.ly/NYSEDdei>) that students feel welcomed and supported, have opportunities to succeed and that cultures, languages and experiences are included. These discussions always land on the how? How do we communicate that message that all teachers are teachers of ELLs? How do we help our colleagues to understand that meeting the needs of ELLs is not solely the responsibilities of the Bilingual and ENL educator? How do we help building and district level administration see the needs of our ELLs as they are making curricular and programmatic decisions? **This is a big conversation and we need more voices!** How have you helped your colleagues see that all teachers are teachers of ELLs? Join us on Twitter at [@LIRBERN](https://twitter.com/LIRBERN) using the hashtag **#ALL4ELLs**.

Coordinator's Corner

Tiffany Patterson

The New Director of ENL, Bilingual & Dual Language Programs at East Hampton.

Hello everyone, my name is Tiffany Patterson and I am the new Director of ENL, Bilingual and Dual Language Programs at East Hampton School District. I am very excited to take on this new role to help support our ELL students throughout the district in grades K-12 as well as their families. Since I was a young student, I always had a fascination for learning languages which led me to study Spanish and German through my college years and beyond. Studying and teaching abroad in Sevilla, Spain confirmed my passion for education and initiated my journey to help students learn a new language. Since then, I have had the opportunity to teach Spanish (World Language, formerly LOTE), Home Language Arts of Spanish (HLA), as well as Standalone and Integrated ENL at the secondary level for 11 years.



Now, I look forward to working with our district's staff, students, and community to foster a supportive and successful learning experience for our English Language Learners academically, socially and emotionally. Our department has an exciting year ahead: developing curriculum for our ENL and Transitional Bilingual programs, growing our Dual Language program into the second grade (now in grades K, 1, 2), and expanding our community outreach workshops and resources. I feel especially fortunate to have been able to return to work at my home district where I grew up and I hope to give back to the East Hampton community that holds a special place in my heart. I wish you all a wonderful school year and I look forward to collaborating with you soon!

L.I. Bilingual/ENL Coordinators' Networking Meetings

Our L.I. Bilingual/ENL Coordinators' Networking Meetings are a series of gatherings to discuss region-wide and district-specific challenges, successes, and innovative programs as it relates to ELLs across Long Island. The agendas for each meeting will be posted prior to the session as they are developed. Sign up now on My Learning Plan by clicking the links below.

- [Friday, October 22, 2021](#)
- [Wednesday, December 8, 2021](#)
- [Wednesday, February 9, 2022](#)
- [Wednesday, April 6, 2022](#)
- [Wednesday, June 8, 2022](#)

Voices From the Field

Suzanne Peña Spills the Tea on DL/TBE Instruction *SMP Education Consulting, LLC*



Meet Suzanne Peña, the founder and lead educational consultant at SMP Education Consulting, LLC, a minority and women owned business. Suzanne has over 16 years of teaching and administrative experience in ENL, transitional bilingual and dual language education at the K-12 and higher education levels, including as an administrator in a Long Island district, and her current tenure as the Secretary of the Florida Association for Bilingual Education (FABE). This year, Suzanne will continue to partner with the L.I.RBERN to provide an ongoing series of PD and PLC workshops supporting ENL, TBE and DL educators and administrators. We recently caught up with Suzanne, and had the opportunity to hear her insights about the evolving landscape of bilingual education.

"In my own research, I have seen a trend in administrators being told that they have to implement bilingual programs, but without the training they need to understand the traits of dual language, the distinct pedagogy, or even what to look for when they visit a bilingual or dual language classroom. Teachers too; many teachers have told me they were assigned to a bilingual class because of their surname, but they don't feel prepared or qualified to teach in this setting. This can really hinder the success of a program, and impact student achievement and progress. It can also create challenges with teacher retention. I hear it from teachers and administrators alike, 'Why am I doing this?' It's a matter of teachers' self-efficacy, believing they have the training and support they need to succeed.

"I'm loving the fact that more and more schools and districts across the United States are opening themselves up to the possibilities of programming options for English learners, not just ENL, but providing dual language and transitional bilingual education programs to truly meet the needs of ALL students. But we need to move away from the 'learn as you go' model, or the 'one size fits all' approach to PD. In my administrator PLCs, I'm starting to hear more questions from Long Island administrators saying, 'I want to learn more.' And that's comforting and rewarding to hear because that intrigue opens the door. For example, a few years back there was very little awareness and support for bilingual education in Florida, but now we have established the Florida Association for Bilingual Education, and we've already hosted our first conference! We're gaining power and advocacy.

"I'm excited to support that same kind of progress and growth in bilingual programs in New York schools, especially here on Long Island..." I designed the bilingual PLCs and PDs to work hand in hand and really cater to administrators and teachers supporting multilingual learners in bilingual programs. Really, I guess I never took off my teacher hat; I'm here to serve students! "

If you are interested in learning more about upcoming L.I. RBERN professional development opportunities with Suzanne, please check our workshop catalog on My Learning Plan.

L.I. RBERN Parent Academy

This year, the L.I. RBERN Parent Academy will continue to offer culturally responsive workshops, in multiple languages, for parents of English language learners. Each of our sessions are presented LIVE via Zoom on topics that parent participants identify as areas of needs. Workshop sessions are typically one hour and include interactive discussions. Parents must register for these sessions using the appropriate Google Registration Form and will be contacted either through text message or email with the Zoom login information.

We encourage you to continue to share these offerings directly with parents, on the district website, Google Classroom/Microsoft Teams announcement pages, and with the PTA. *If you have any questions, ideas, or referrals for presenters for future parent sessions, please contact Denise McAuliffe at dmcaulif@esboces.org.*

UPCOMING EVENTS! Session titles and registration links for these sessions are listed below in English and in the respective languages. Click here for [Upcoming Events' FLYER](#) or access our smore newsletter <https://www.smore.com/6my8f>.

For Spanish Speaking Parents:

1. Dinámica y Relaciones Familiares/Español

(Family Dynamics and Relationships presented in Spanish- October 13th 6:30-7:30pm)

Sesión en español:13 de octubre de 6:30 p.m. a 7:30 p.m

Registrarse:<https://forms.gle/jogS2Ewmigu5eEeW9>

2. Oportunidades de financiamiento para estudiantes indocumentados:

La Ley de Sueño (NYS DREAM ACT) (Funding Opportunities for undocumented students: The New York State Dream Act- October 19, 6:30-7:30pm)

Sesión en español:19 de octubre de 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Registrarse: <https://forms.gle/LsK4VMbMyqh6rHRg9>

For Mandarin Speaking Parents:

3. 時間管理 (Time Management for Kids, October 21, 6:30-7:30pm)

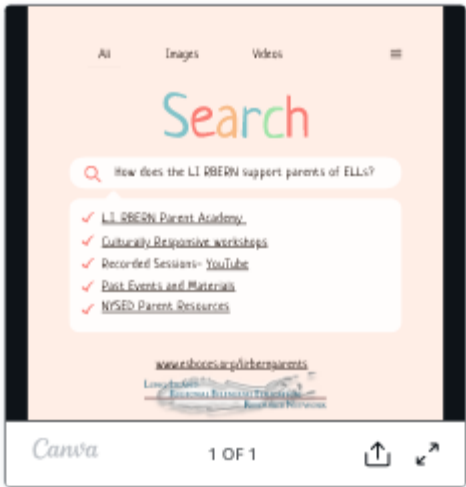
日期: 2021 年 10 月 21 日 下午 6:30 到 7:30 Zoom 舉辦

<https://forms.gle/jb6ZAI FNfbALksMW7>

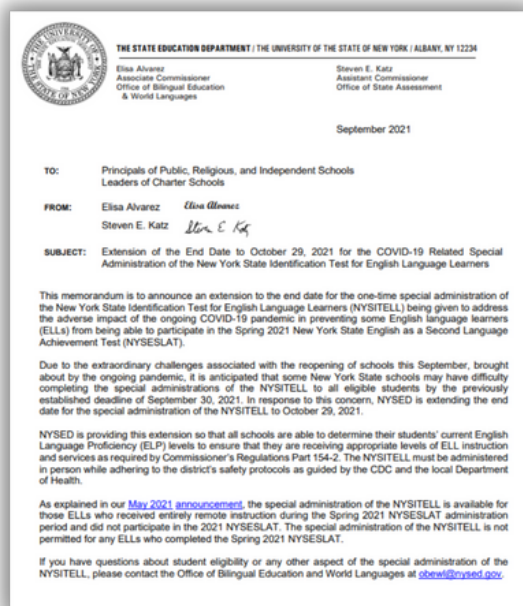
4. 金錢管理 (Money Management for Kids, November 9, 6:30-7:30pm)

日期: 2021 年 11 月 9 日 下午 6:30 到 7:30

<https://forms.gle/c3ibauQJD25b2fXk7>



The L.I. RBERN continues to develop new sessions and topics for the L.I. RBERN Parent Academy. Please visit the [L.I. RBERN Parent and Community Resources](#) website for links to recorded webinars and information about upcoming events at www.esboces.org/Page/2634.



Memo- Extension of the End Date to October 29, 2021 for the COVID-19 Related Special Administration of the NYSITELL September, 24, 2021

This memorandum announces and provides guidance on the extension for the one-time special administration of the NYSITELL to determine ELLs current English Language Proficiency (ELP) levels to ensure they are receiving appropriate instruction and mandated services as required by the CR-Part 154-2. This extension is provided due to the extraordinary challenges associated with the reopening of schools this September that were brought about by the ongoing pandemic. Link: bit.ly/obewlmemo2021

Other Recent NYSED News

The September-October 2021 edition of the NYSED OBEWL newsletter is now available for download at: <http://www.nysed.gov/bilingual-ed/obewl-newsletter-newsletter-archives>

Provision of Educational Services for Recently Arrived Unaccompanied Children and Youth- May 26, 2021

<https://bit.ly/3AHpjgs>

In Case You Missed It...

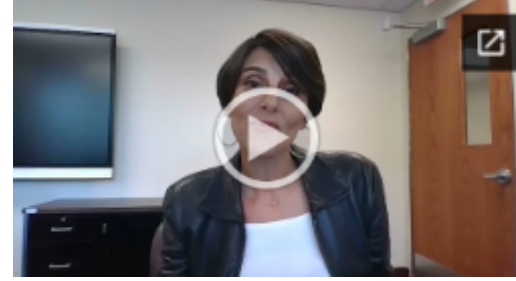
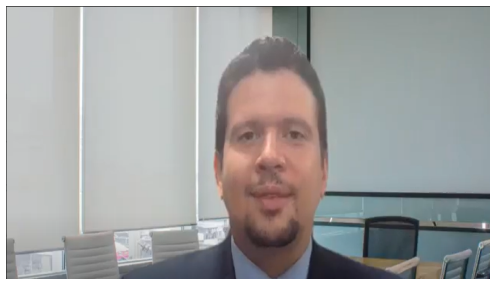
L.I. RBERN Recent Staffing Changes

The new year has brought some staffing changes to the L.I. RBERN. First, our longtime colleague Gaetano Vaccaro has moved on to a district position. We will miss him very much and wish him well but know that the children of his new district are in good hands.

We are also excited to welcome our new Lead Resource Specialist, Dr. Jordan González, stationed at our Eastern Suffolk location in Oakdale. Dr. González brings a wealth of experience as the former Director of Language Acquisition in Yonkers Public Schools. In addition, he recently completed his Ph.D. in Literacy which will be a welcome addition to the L.I. RBERN repertoire.

Meet the L.I. RBERN

Click on the thumbnails to meet the L.I. RBERN team!



Connect with Us

We want to hear from you! If you have ideas for future newsletter topics, please contact Heather Rubin at hrrubin@esboces.org.

Here are a few ways you can stay connected and learn about L.I. RBERN Events, Professional Learning Opportunities and ELL Resources:

Visit the L.I. RBERN [Website](http://www.esboces.org/lirbern) at www.esboces.org/lirbern

Join the L.I. RBERN Listserv:

To subscribe send an e-mail to subscribe-bil-esl@lists.esboces.org (nothing in the subject or body).

To unsubscribe send an email to unsubscribe-bil-esl@lists.esboces.org (nothing in the subject or body).

Follow Us On [Twitter](https://twitter.com/LIRBERN) @LIRBERN

Subscribe to our [YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/c/lirbern) at www.youtube.com/c/lirbern

Register for Events on [MyLearningPlan](http://bit.ly/LIRBERNWebReg) at <http://bit.ly/LIRBERNWebReg>

Request L.I. RBERN [Consultation or Professional Development](http://www.esboces.org/Page/2857) at www.esboces.org/Page/2857

Find out about [Parent and Community Resources](https://www.esboces.org/lirbernparents) at <https://www.esboces.org/lirbernparents>

Happy Fall From the Long Island RBERN!

