

# 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

How did Spring get here so quickly? Thankfully, we have arrived at a point where more of us are back in school full time, no longer relying on remote instruction as the sole delivery model. But we've also reached a crossroads where we must keep up the momentum of the strides we've made in modernizing our practice. It is easy to fall back into familiar habits but if there is a takeaway that has resulted from the pandemic, we have found new and innovative ways to enhance our instruction and support our learners which transcend our digital classrooms, becoming valuable everyday instructional tools.

To help keep up that momentum, this month we bring you timely information about some of the great things happening throughout the region and the State. We'll hear Dr. Katie DiGregorio describe how the West Hempstead School District is sustaining the ed-tech momentum for her teachers. We bring you some highlights from this year's fully online Long Island Teacher Institute and L.I. Parent Academy. And finally, be sure to check out the new resources entitled, "Integrating Science and Language for All Students with a Focus on English Language Learners," from NYSED OBEWL.

As you read through our newsletter this quarter, consider - what discussions do we need to have to continue enhancing our instruction? The L.I. RBERN looks forward to engaging in these conversations as we strive to elevate instructional practice. Happy Spring!

# Coordinator's Corner

## West Hempstead UFSD: Technology in the ENL Classroom

by Dr. Katie DiGregorio

Director of ENL & Instructional Technology, West Hempstead UFSD



The West Hempstead Union Free School District is showcasing our RamTech this year by implementing various instructional technology tools into our ENL classrooms. As the new Director of ENL and Instructional Technology, my primary goal this year was to support all district teachers in delivering engaging lessons that reach all learners in our concurrent hybrid model of instruction. I see first hand the impact technology has on the ENL students and their progress in acquiring language. The ENL students benefited tremendously from their teachers' dedication in purposefully and appropriately infusing technology into their lessons. Our district framework stems from many instructional technology theories and pedagogical practices.

As part of our #RamResolve ed-tech campaign this year, ENL teachers participated in various instructional technology coaching sessions. We developed and designed lessons to engage all learners that infuse best ENL practices into those lessons. Many ENL teachers infused technology in prior years, but this year, in particular, it has become a mainstay in their instruction. Also, I am holding biweekly Talk & Tech sessions at the buildings where all teachers can learn about the instructional technology programs. Many ENL teachers attend with their co-teachers which allows time for co-planning and co-brainstorming based on the tips and tricks shared.

For example, at our Kindergarten Center, our ENL teacher began to use Seesaw to showcase students' understanding of phonics and in the reading and writing workshops. Students are recording and reading aloud using Seesaw, a testament to lesson design and application in the classroom. Many ENL teachers work closest with their co-teachers at the primary center to infuse Padlet into the classroom and use the differentiated features it offers. During remote learning in the springtime, I worked with ENL teachers in the intermediate building to build their Bitmoji Classrooms, which became a significant component of their instruction this year. The staff there implements instructional technology to promote oral fluency with FlipGrid and Buncee using the Bitmoji classroom. At the secondary level, we have been able to work in our grade level and co-teaching teams to streamline the use of programs such as Thinglink, Jamboard, FlipGrid, and HyperDocs. This has positioned ENL teachers at all levels at the forefront of instructional technology integration at the West Hempstead School District.

As the Director of ENL and Instructional Technology, this year's primary goals were to showcase the power that technology can have when providing equitable and differentiated instruction for all learners. One of my favorite quotes from the HyperDoc Handbook resonates and is the foundation of my thinking when working with teachers. They state, "be a designer, not an assigner," which encapsulates what the ENL teachers are doing in the West Hempstead School District. The side-by-side coaching with my own ENL teachers allowed them to bounce ideas and share their technological knowledge with me. It became a collaborative approach to designing rich, engaging ENL lessons.

To learn more about how West Hempstead UFSD is supporting ELLs through technology, connect with Dr. Katie DiGregorio directly at [kdigregorio@whufsd.com](mailto:kdigregorio@whufsd.com) @WH\_ENL @WHRamTech

# #LITI2021 Highlights

Our annual Long Island Teacher Institute went virtual this year, with over 400 Bilingual and ESOL educators and leaders attending this full-day event. In addition to inspiring Key Note presentations by Dorina Sackman-Ebuwa and April Francis-Taylor, LITI hosted 15 workshops offering a wide array of topics concerning the needs of multilingual learners in K-12 classrooms, as well as the dedicated Bilingual and ESOL educators working with our students.

This year's participants had this to say:

*"The information was well organized and easy to access. The padlet was a great resource and the day was well organized!"*

*"Thank you for making this conference possible this year!"*

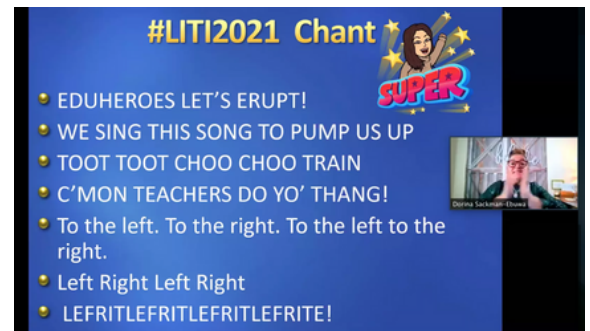
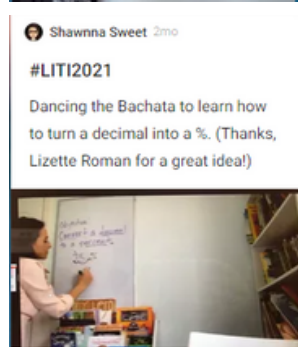
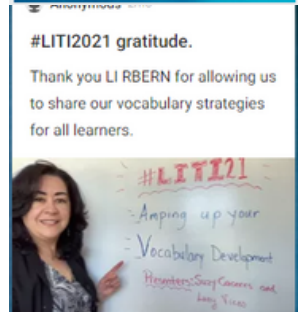
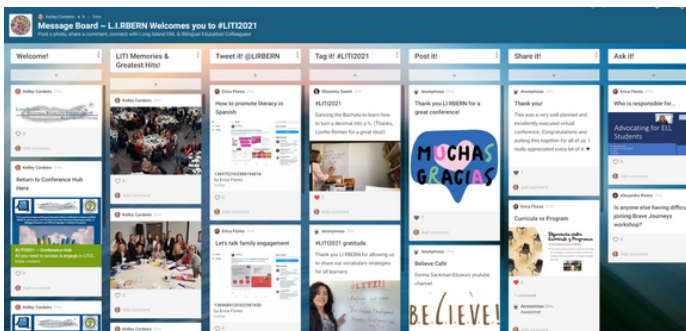
*"This presentation was amazing!!! The speaker was engaging and the information was relevant to my experiences in the classroom. I can implement strategies that I learned from her presentation in my professional and private life!!!! ♥"*

*"Simply phenomenal! I learned a lot and was engaged throughout the presentation."*

*"Excellent, interesting presenter willing to share her tips, knowledge and resources."*

Check out the highlights from LITI, and visit the Conference Hub to explore the amazing presentations and resources shared during the event:

**#LITI2021 Conference Hub** <http://bit.ly/LITI21Hub>



## Title III Consortium Celebration of Learning

### Learning Showcase & Teacher Symposium

Congratulations to all our ENL teacher participants whose work within the Title III Consortium will be highlighted at a Celebration of Learning on June 18, 2021! We are excited to showcase how these participants have integrated technology in their instruction to support ELLs' English literacy development in the content areas.



## New & Noteworthy

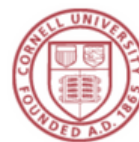


### Movie Mondays at L.I. RBERN

Grab your popcorn and join us as we view and discuss a variety of films exploring the experiences of multilingual learners. Check our website or MLP for upcoming offerings.

## Voices From the Field

### Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County: Community Education



Cornell University Cooperative Extensions are one of leading local partners that house and support the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP- ED) nutrition program. The Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County's Community Nutrition Education program for low-income families is one of the oldest in New York State. This unique educational service is designed to:

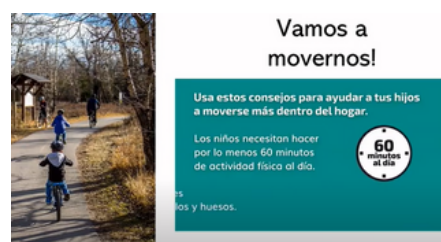
- prevent obesity and reduce long-term chronic disease
- encourage healthy eating habits and physically active lifestyles
- promote health through science-based Nutrition Education
- make the most of food dollars



The Community Education SNAP-Ed Bilingual Nutritionists have been collaborating with the L.I. RBERN's Parent Academy since the Fall of 2020, offering LIVE Virtual Workshops via Zoom. Spanish-speaking and Turkish-speaking parents of ELLs have participated in the 10 workshops offered, thus far, and have learned about how healthy eating affects our mind and body, healthy alternatives to dairy, healthy snacks, no-cost physical activities, and live cooking demonstrations featuring budget friendly recipes. Recorded sessions can be viewed on our YouTube Channel [www.YouTube.com/c/lirbern](http://www.YouTube.com/c/lirbern) or <https://youtu.be/crzfmIVsJ9w>. **Thank you to Anthony Garcia, Claudia Ravines Clarke, and Melek Baba**, SNAP Ed Bilingual Nutritionists, for supporting our ELLs throughout the year!

**Contact:** <http://ccesuffolk.org/community-nutrition-health/snap-ed-nutrition-education>

**Inquiries:** Anthony Garcia <ag833@cornell.edu>, Claudia Ravines Clarke <cr492@cornell.edu>



### L.I. RBERN Parent Academy

The L.I. RBERN continues to offer new sessions of the well-received Parent Academy. We are excited to announce new opportunities for parents of English Language Learners throughout the year via Zoom. Sessions are presented in parents' home languages by a live representative available to interact with parents and respond to their questions. Please visit the [L.I. RBERN Parent and Community Resources](http://www.esboces.org/Page/2634) website for links to recorded webinars and information about upcoming events at [www.esboces.org/Page/2634](http://www.esboces.org/Page/2634).

# NYSED OBEWL Resources

The following NYSED OBEWL resources can be found on our website at [www.esboces.org/lirbern](http://www.esboces.org/lirbern) or through the links below.



## **Integrating Science and Language for All Students with a Focus on English Language Learners (<http://bit.ly/ELLScience>)**

NYSED has released a series of seven webinars and topic briefs to promote the implementation of New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards and build the instructional capacity of ELL and science educators. This series is based on cutting-edge research on integrating science and language for all students with a focus on ELLs.



## **In Case You Missed It...**

Featuring the  
L.I. RBERN!!

- [NYSED OBEWL April 2021 Newsletter](http://bit.ly/OBEWLApril2021) <http://bit.ly/OBEWLApril2021>
- [NYSED OBEWL March 2021 Newsletter](http://bit.ly/OBEWLMarch21) <http://bit.ly/OBEWLMarch21>
- [Administration of the Spring 2021 NYSESLAT for Provisionally Identified English Language Learners](http://bit.ly/ProvNYSESLAT) (<http://bit.ly/ProvNYSESLAT>).
- [Frequently Asked Questions Related to the June 2021 and August 2021 Exemptions from Diploma Requirements](http://bit.ly/RegentsWaiverFAQ) (<http://bit.ly/RegentsWaiverFAQ>).
- [Considerations for Progress Monitoring for ELLs](http://bit.ly/ProgMonELLs) (<http://bit.ly/ProgMonELLs>).
- [Using Translations as a Support Not a Solution](http://bit.ly/TransSupp) (<http://bit.ly/TransSupp>).
- [ELL Identification Timeline Waiver](http://bit.ly/ELLID) (<http://bit.ly/ELLID>).
- [Parent NYSITELL Waiver for Students on Remote Instruction](http://bit.ly/ELLIDParent) (<http://bit.ly/ELLIDParent>).

# 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](mailto: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](http://www.esboces.org/lirbern)

## Join the L.I. RBERN Listserv:

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

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

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Register for Events on [MyLearningPlan](https://www.esboces.org/MyLearningPlan)

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

Find out about [Parent and Community Resources](https://www.esboces.org/ParentandCommunityResources) at [www.esboces.org/Page/2634](https://www.esboces.org/Page/2634)



## Happy Spring From the Long Island RBERN!

