

# ELlements of Language Learning



News from the  
NYSED  
Long Island Regional  
Bilingual Education  
Resource  
Network

## *In this newsletter:*

Director's Message

Page 01

Coordinator's Corner

Page 02

Voices from the Field

Page 03

New & Noteworthy

Page 04

NYSED OBEWL Resources

Page 05

Connect with Us

Page 06

## ***Executive Director's Message***

**by Christa Stevenson**

You did it. You're doing it. You rock. You really do. I want you to know that ***I see you.*** I see how you've struggled. I see how your world was turned upside down. I see how you juggle the academic, social-emotional, and physical well-being of your students while contending with the unique stressors that current events have added to your own lives. I want you to know just how much I appreciate your dedication to the most vulnerable of our student populations, our ELLs.

Life since March 2020 has been tough. Between the pandemic, the social and racial tension across the U.S. today, and an insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, we're experiencing history at a relentless pace. You have a lot on your shoulders, professionally, personally, and socially, and you need to take care of yourself. Whether it is meditation, exercise, rocking out in your garage, taking up a new hobby, or bingeing the latest show on Netflix, do it. Do it for your own health, for your family, and your students because ***you matter.***

This month we share our inaugural newsletter and have chosen to focus on stories and resources that will support you as individuals and will help you continue to do the good work for our ELLs. We thank you for your resilience and for showing up when our ELLs needed you. ***We see you and you matter.***

# Coordinator's Corner

## Hicksville Public Schools Partnership with Latinos in Action

by Lisa M. Estrada

Supervisor of ENL, World Languages & Activities, Hicksville Public Schools



Hicksville Public Schools has partnered with the Latinos in Action (LIA) Organization to offer ELLs in secondary schools an elective course that addresses the student as a whole, tying academics, leadership, and self-development into a single program. Using an asset-based model allows the class structure to focus on students' strengths instead of their weaknesses. This unique approach empowers our students to focus on four pillars: leveraging personal and cultural assets, excelling in education, serving the community, and developing leadership skills. In order to achieve its programmatic goals, the course considers the organization of diverse committees where students will apply leadership skills, participate in various extracurricular activities, and tutor students within the district's elementary bilingual program.

### Instruction is organized into four essential components:

**Essential 1:** The 30/40/30 model strategically structures the student make-up of the class:

- 30% High Achievers – Expanding, Commanding, and Former ELLs
- 40% The Invisible – High Emerging and Transitioning ELLs
- 30% Untapped Potential – Entering and Low Emerging ELLs

**Essential 2:** The Elementary Partnership pairs participating secondary students one-on-one with a struggling student at a nearby elementary school to provide targeted assistance in core subjects (primary literacy), and serve as role models and mentors.

**Essential 3:** The Leadership Structure provides each student the opportunity to hold a leadership position and meet during the LIA class period to develop their abilities and the necessary self-confidence to organize, plan, and lead. LIA leadership is organized into two groups: the presidency and the committees. This leadership structure assists the LIA teacher in guiding the vision for the program, motivation for other students, and proper planning and execution of all activities.

**Essential 4:** LIA curriculum is culturally responsive with the goal of attaining college and career readiness and is also aligned with CASEL's five Social Emotional Learning competencies. The curriculum offers high-quality instruction on postsecondary education readiness, personal development, social and emotional learning, professionalism, and an exploration of one's cultural heritage.

To learn more about how Hicksville Public Schools implemented this partnership with LIA, connect with [Lisa Estrada](mailto:lestrada@hicksvillepublicschools.org) directly at [lestrada@hicksvillepublicschools.org](mailto:lestrada@hicksvillepublicschools.org).

# Voices From the Field

## Addressing the Socio-Emotional Needs of Our Communities

*The Hispanic Counseling Center (HCC)* has been awarded a FEMA grant to provide COVID-19 Crisis Counseling in Nassau and Suffolk counties. NYProject HOPE -Coping with COVID benefits all individuals in NY State who have been directly impacted by COVID-19 including, COVID-19 survivors, individuals who lost a family member to COVID-19, and individuals who lost their homes, jobs, property, or had pre-existing traumas.

*Services are confidential, anonymous, and free of charge.*

***"HCC provides vital services to maintain the health and wellness of our community. This includes the programs that continue to provide for children and teenagers who desperately need support during these unprecedented times."***

**The Hispanic Counseling Center (HCC) can help:**

- Understand your situation and reaction
- Review your options
- Learn coping strategies
- Provide emotional support
- Provide connection with other individuals and agencies to help survivors in their recovery process

**NYProject  
HOPE**  
Coping with COVID

Visit <https://www.hispaniccounseling.org/>

Call (516) 538-2613

Nassau x205 Suffolk x202

**For more information contact : Janett Torres, Program Coordinator, ext 245**



# New & Noteworthy



## Free Curriculum Resource for Teachers of ELLs

NYC Poison Control Center (PCC) educators presented a L.I. RBERN Tune in Tuesday Webinar about how teachers of English Language Learners can use the Poison Prevention and Medicine Safety Program to teach ELLs about potentially dangerous real-world situations. This ready-made curriculum engages ELLs in English language development practices through multiple modalities such as, role-playing, vocabulary building, as well as listening and speaking, and has been adapted by the PCC to meet the needs of ELLs at differing education levels from elementary through adult and proficiency levels from Entering through Commanding.

The materials linked below include editable Powerpoint presentations for use during instruction, lesson plans, activity recommendations, and materials including reading passages, activity sheets, and links to videos and resources. This curriculum is a perfect addition to the Stand-alone ENL classroom, focusing on authentic experiences that teach ELLs vital information about medicine safety and poison prevention as well as offering the opportunity to engage in multiple-modality activities. Please see this shared [Google Drive folder](http://bit.ly/poisoncurric) (<http://bit.ly/poisoncurric>) to access the materials.



## L.I. RBERN Parent Academy

The L.I. RBERN Parent Academy is 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. The L.I. RBERN Parent Academy has provided sessions in 5 languages to over 400 parents throughout our region, since May 2020. 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). If you have any ideas for parent workshops or would like to present in any of the parents' home languages, please contact Denise McAuliffe at [dmcaulif@esboces.org](mailto:dmcaulif@esboces.org).

# Save the Date

## Long Island Teachers' Institute March 10, 2021



The Long Island RBERN is pleased to announce that the Long Island Teachers' Institute will be held virtually on **Wednesday, March 10, 2021**. The program for #LITI2021 includes a wide variety of workshop offerings for K-12 ESOL and Bilingual educators, including our Keynote Speakers: Motivational Speaker and Consultant Dorina Sackman-Ebuwa, and ESBOCES Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity April Francis-Taylor. **This year's institute will be *FREE of charge* to registered participants.** Please consider joining us even if it's only for a few sessions!

### ENLightenment & rESOLve:

#### Reimagining Our Vision for ELLs in a Changing World

##### *Tentative Schedule:*

8:00 am – 12:00 pm: Welcome, Keynote, Breakout Sessions

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm: Screen Break

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm: Keynote, Breakout, Sessions

**Registration via My Learning Plan at <http://bit.ly/LITI2021>**

## 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.



### Newly Released

- [NYSED OBEWL January 2021 Newsletter \(http://bit.ly/OBEWLJan21\)](http://bit.ly/OBEWLJan21)
- [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)

### In Case You Missed It

- [FAQ on Providing Services for ELLs During the Pandemic \(http://bit.ly/ELLFAQOct20\)](http://bit.ly/ELLFAQOct20)
- [Instructional Units of Study Guidance for COVID-19 \(http://bit.ly/UOSguide\)](http://bit.ly/UOSguide)
- [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).

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](https://www.youtube.com/c/lirbern)

Register for Events on [MyLearningPlan](#)

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

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



## Happy New Year From the Long Island RBERN!

