

May 21, 2015

Dear FLENJ Member,

As we look forward to the Memorial Day weekend, we realize, suddenly, that the school year is speeding rapidly to its conclusion. Where has the time gone?!? Will I indeed achieve what I set forth in my SGO? Will the students leave in June a bit more worldly-wise, more connected and more biliterate than when they first crossed the threshold in September? Good questions and good grief!.....There is precious little time left to achieve.....Y O U can do it and FLENJ can help! Planning for those IPAs and other end-of-course assessments? Always remember, we -on the FLENJ board - are only an email away: ready to assist with lesson design, to provide feedback on IPAs and to offer guidance on resources. Email us! We would love to hear from you!

Here- a few quick announcements from the FLENJ board!

FLENJ board announces election results

Many thanks to all members who voted using our new electronic voting platform. The results are:

President 2016-2018= Amanda Seewald
Treasurer 2015-2017 = Alecia Olszewski
Secretary 2015-2017 = Marie-Laure Hoffmann

In addition, Nathan Lutz has been appointed Vice President of Programs to finish Shannon Lorenzo's term. Each member of the board works hard to the benefit of all FLENJ members and, in turn, to the benefit of all students of world languages in NJ. The board has three new members: Lorena Jubanoba and Frank Ruggiero will serve as annual conference co-chairs and Beth Wassell will work on curriculum development and social justice issues in world languages classroom. The board is a vibrant and eclectic group.....could you play a role on the board? In continuing to create a transparent process by which members join the board, we are inviting two members of the general FLENJ membership to work with the professional development committee, which organizes the five single, day-long workshops, the committee which focuses on the professional development sessions FLENJ offers at the NJEA convention and the annual conference committee. If you are really into PD, like to do hard work and if you are interested in learning the process by which things get done on the FLENJ board, please email me, as soon as you can!

MENTORS and NEW TEACHERS!

There is still a chance to participate in the FLENJ mentoring program:

Check out the short video at this link: <http://flenj.org/mentoring>. It is quite informative about the program and all of the reasons why you should participate. This program is great for experienced teachers who would like to give back by helping a newer colleague navigate those early years of teaching and is great for newer teachers to work one-to-one with a success-proven classroom teacher. The program has lucrative benefits. Check it out today! Deadline is June 30, 2015

BEST OF NJ!

Chiara Kupiec and Katherine Stotler of the Bernards Twp world language team have been recognized by member survey feedback as the Best of NJ- for facilitating the session for those interested in developing proficiency in order to communicate in any situation and for those teachers who would like to see how the AP Exam has changed into a real world assessment that can transform instruction at all levels. This presentation will represent our state as the Best of NJ at the regional level.

Educational Program Abroad award winner announced

The FLENJ board is pleased to announce that Kimberly O'Brien, teacher of Spanish in the Somers Point School District has been awarded the 2015 FLENJ Educational Program Abroad scholarship. Ms. O'Brien will study in Oaxaca, Mexico to build her language capacity and to enhance her cultural understanding. If you are interested in learning more about this extremely generous member benefit, please visit www.flenj.org/epa/

All the best,

Christopher Gwin
FLENJ President