



***FLENJ President's Message***  
***Amanda Seewald – President***  
***[www.flenj.org](http://www.flenj.org)***

***April 2016***

Dear FLENJ member,

Happy April! With the end of the academic year quickly approaching and many students and even educators feeling a bit restless, now is a perfect time to try something different. Spring is a great time to bring science into your classroom as it brings so many opportunities for students to discuss their observations of the natural world around them. Sometimes it is as simple as a walk outside or an open window to motivate and inspire conversation and valuable interpersonal learning experiences! Give it a try!

I am very happy to announce that we have a dynamic summer and next academic year planned for you! In the next couple of months, you will be receiving information on the 2016-17 FLENJ Workshop Series, FLENJ at NJEA, as well as application and nomination information for our awards and mentor program. Stay tuned! But first, **don't forget our upcoming workshop on May 26: "Adjust the Unit Focus: Zoom in on Culture" with bloggers Megan Smith and Kara Parker, the brains behind the Creative Language Classroom ([www.creativelanguageclass.com](http://www.creativelanguageclass.com))**. Register at this link: [www.flenj.org/pd](http://www.flenj.org/pd).

***[Register Now for the FLENJ Summer Refresher](#)***

The **Summer Refresher** is a one-day series of sessions designed to get you recharged for the upcoming school year. FLENJ began this event last year and we were thrilled with the positive responses we received from those who attended. This year our Summer Refresher will be hosted by **Rowan University** in Glassboro, New Jersey. We greatly appreciate their support to make this possible. Registration for the Summer Refresher is only \$15.....What??? That's right.....\$15 and it is a fantastic way to get your year started and some meaningful PD hours in before September.

***[Date and Location Set for the FLENJ 2017 Annual Conference](#)***

The **FLENJ 2017 Annual Conference** dates have been set. Save the dates March 31 and April 1 at the APA Woodbridge. This is an exciting new venue with great spaces and we have some fun new events and opportunities planned for you including a salsa social on Friday night and a technology garden on Saturday. More information, including a call for proposals will be coming soon, but for now share this **[SAVE THE DATE](#)** with your colleagues.

***[Get Involved! FLENJ NEEDS YOU!](#)***

Who is ready to help us bring these exciting events to life? We are looking for FLENJ members interested in volunteering for our events and awards committees. If you are interested, please complete the **[FLENJ Committee Volunteer form](#)** and you will hear from us very soon. This is a great way to have an impact and share your ideas to help FLENJ best serve New Jersey's world language teachers.

There are only a couple of months left in this school year! Have you achieved what you hoped to with your students this year? What do you still hope to do before they leave you in June? Do you truly know what your students "can do" in the target language? Take some time to consider and reflect on these ideas as you round out the school year. As a part of upcoming President's messages, I would like to highlight some teacher ideas, thoughts, and best practices. If you would like to be included, please send your answers to any of the three questions above to me at [aseewald@flenj.org](mailto:aseewald@flenj.org) by May 8th. Your voices are the strength of FLENJ! Happy Spring!