



Vol. VI, No. 9

September 2015

*Our Mission is to Advance the Teaching of World Languages and Cultures in Minnesota*

## MCTLC Fall Conference 2015: Educating Global Citizens Friday, October 23 - Post Conference Workshops Saturday, October 24

What would you like to take back to your classroom Monday?

### Second Language Acquisition:

- Second Language Workbook: Applying second language learning to future careers (Monica K. Marciniak)

### Proficiency:

- Poster session: Bilingual Seals and the Proficiency Certificate -- Powerful tools to recognize students' language assets and academic motivation (Ayumi Stockman)



### Communication:

- First Stories and Meaning-based Language Activities (Jon Dicus)
- Talking about Things that Matter: Preparing for Success in the Interpersonal Mode (Karen Fowdy)
- Transitioning to 100%TL: Tricks, Triumphs and Troubles (Amanda Stenberg)

### Collaboration:

- Teachers Pay Teachers (Erin Hoffman & Betsy Grawe)
- Department Chair Round Table (Agnes Matheson)

### Reading:

- The "R" of TPRS (Melanie Bruyers)
- Engaging Students to Be Highly Motivated Readers in a Foreign Language (Sebastien Saunoi-Sandgren)

### Pedagogy:

- The 6th ACTFL C: Comprehensible Input (Carol Gaab)

### Early Education:

- NNELL - Begin early in preparing global citizens round table discussion (Kathy Olson-Studler)



### Culture:

- Talking about Things that Matter: Cooking in a Cultural Context (Mary Thron)
- Informes--Great Artists of Spain and Latin America (Patricia Murray)
- Using Virtual Field Trips to Explore the 3 P's+ (Cassandra Glynn)
- Hosting Students from Abroad: A Practical How-to! (Jennifer Mikolajczyk)
- Crossing Cultures Through Literacy Learning (Lisa Twomey)
- Living the Language at Home and Abroad (Helene Vincent)
- Informes - Great Artists of Spain and Latin America (Patricia Murray)
- Ecuador (Segunda Lengua)
- Speak to Hear: Bringing Local Voices into Global Education (Richard Benton)

### Research:

- Is it Working? Assessing the Impact of Teaching Practices (Elizabeth Harsma)

### Community:

- A Focus on Community: Addressing Place, Purpose and Belonging through Target Language Communication (Paul J. Hoff)

### Engagement:

- Engaging beginning students with 90%+ Target Language (Jim Tripp)
- Top Apps for the Spanish Classroom: An Introduction (Gwendolyn Barnes-Karol)
- Using digital tools to engage students with the world (Megan Budke)
- Engaging and Motivating All Learners (Cheryl Kincaid)
- Cool Technology Tools and How to use them for Teaching World Languages (Emily Thomas)
- Every Second Counts! Maximizing Our Time with Classroom Management, Student Engagement and Seamless Transitions (Faith Laux)



### Assessment:

- Game-Based Formative Assessments: A Win-Win for Both Students & Teachers (Jessica Wanless)
- Teaching to the Test: A GOOD Thing (Dr. Phyllis E. VanBuren)

### Immersion:

- Juntos: An innovative approach to a Spanish Immersion Continuation Program (Lisa Sohn)

Bring away fresh ideas from the sessions offered this fall!

What is the significance of Culture?

Get more tools!

What makes an activity truly authentic?

Share your expertise!

Need plans for substitutes?

Got technology?

Got inspiration?

Share best practices with others!

Get more proven strategies!

Wondering how to connect your students with the language?

Have a question about bridging the gap?

Get re-acquainted with fellow language educators!

Do you know the 21st Century Skills Map?

## Question of the Month

What Fall Conference sessions are you planning to attend? Share and connect with other language teachers at the MCTLC Teachers Café on Facebook!

### LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT:



**Dear fellow world language teachers,**

By now, the school year is already in full swing. We have established our classroom routines and settled into our new schedules. Most likely, we have added to our curriculum or experimented with a new teaching strategy we learned over the summer. But by this time every year, I find myself searching for ways to maintain the momentum and novelty of the new lessons I have tried. The MCTLC Fall Conference comes at a perfect time to supply me with fresh ideas to bring back to the classroom and I always return reinvigorated and inspired.

This August, the MCTLC Board met to plan the details of the 2015 Fall Conference. We are excited to be bringing you sessions and workshops that cover the latest in pedagogy and technology led by top-notch presenters. From assessment to activities to keep your students engaged in the target language, the over thirty sessions offered cover a range of relevant content while focusing on the theme of Educating Global Citizens. Our keynote speaker, international careers expert and author Stacie Berdan, will share her experiences and discuss the value of world languages and cultural competency. These skills are crucial to global citizenship and will be increasingly important in our progressively interconnected world.

We are excited to be offering a conference that will fit the professional development needs of Minnesota world language teachers. We are committed to ensuring that students in Minnesota schools receive a world class education including world languages that will prepare them to be successful and compassionate world citizens of tomorrow.

I invite you to join us at the MCTLC Fall Conference as we work to fulfill our mission of advancing the teaching of languages and cultures in our state. I look forward to seeing you there!

~ Kay Edberg



Photo by Cynthia Hitz

### MCTLC Participates in iFLT Conference

MCTLC was well represented at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual International Forum on Language Teaching held July 14-17, 2015 at Tartan High School in Oakdale, MN (ISD 622). The iFLT Conference is a progressive language teaching conference inspired by Dr. Stephen Krashen, which focuses on best-practices in second language teaching methodologies.

More than 300 participants from across the world attended training sessions led by nationally recognized teacher-trainers who are experts in Teaching with Comprehensible Input (TCI). They observed, experienced and practiced progressive, cutting-edge CI-based approaches that align with National Standards, meet and exceed ACTFL's 90% use of Target Language and result in unprecedented levels of proficiency. They also observed Language Labs in which expert teachers demonstrated teaching strategies with actual language students.

MCTLC's exhibitor booth attracted attention of the many Minnesota attendees. Board members Jenny Johnson, Marjie Hay, Kay Edberg and Mary Thrond volunteered. Board Secretary, Grant Boulanger, co-directed the conference with Carol Gaab, President of TPRS Publishing, Inc.

MCTLC plans to keep building on the relationships we developed during the conference. We are excited to continue working with Ms. Gaab as she returns to Minnesota as a workshop and session presenter at our own conference in October. We look forward to seeing the iFLT attendees we met at the MCTLC Fall Conference as well.

~ Grant Boulanger

### Save the date for these language educator events!

**MCTLC Fall Conference, October 23 – 24, 2015**, at Earle Brown Heritage Center, Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. For details and to register go to:

[www.mctlc.org/Conference/2015/](http://www.mctlc.org/Conference/2015/)

**Language Advocacy Day & Delegate Assembly, February 25-26, 2016**, at Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill. Registration opens in October. Check out the JNCL-NCLIS site for details!

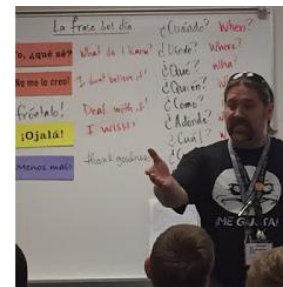


Photo by Cynthia Hitz



## MDE Update: July 2015

### World Language Proficiency for High School Students

Minnesota's high school graduation requirements include a minimum of seven elective credits, which may include world language elective credits. Districts must use world language standards developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) and offer elective courses in this subject area. In addition to awarding course credit, schools may recognize students' proficiency in world languages through bilingual and multilingual seals and language proficiency certificates under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.022.

Minnesota schools may award Minnesota world language proficiency seals and certificates to high school students who demonstrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a world language:

- The **Minnesota Platinum Seal** recognizes students who demonstrate an advanced-low ACTFL level of functional proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.
- The **Minnesota Gold Seal** recognizes students who demonstrate an intermediate-high ACTFL level of functional proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.
- The **Minnesota World Language Proficiency Certificate** recognizes students who demonstrate an intermediate-low level of functional proficiency on a valid and reliable assessment.

American sign language is recognized as a world language for purposes of both seals and certificates.

Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, Minnesota schools may award bilingual and multilingual seals to eligible high school students. To receive a bilingual or multilingual platinum or gold seal a student in grade 10, 11, 12 must:

- demonstrate the requisite ACTFL level of functional native proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages other than English on either assessments aligned with ACTFL proficiency guidelines or on equivalent assessments;
- complete all English language arts credits required for graduation; and
- demonstrate mastery of Minnesota's English language proficiency standards.

A student who demonstrates an advanced-low ACTFL level of functional native proficiency in one language other than English is eligible to receive the state platinum bilingual seal, and a student who demonstrates an advanced-low ACTFL level of functional native proficiency in multiple languages other than English is eligible to receive the state platinum multilingual seal. A student who demonstrates an intermediate-high ACTFL level of functional native proficiency in one language other than English is eligible to



Membership Chair, Jenny Johnson and Advocacy Chair, Mary Thron at the MCTLC booth during the iFLT Conference

receive the state gold bilingual seal, and a student who demonstrates an intermediate-high ACTFL level of functional native proficiency in multiple languages other than English is eligible to receive the state gold multilingual seal.

School officials must affix seals to students' high school transcripts and may affix seals to the students' diplomas. Schools must not charge students a fee for the seals.

In addition to receiving seals, schools may award elective world language credits to students who demonstrate the requisite level of functional native proficiency in a language other than English and also may award community service credit if these students participate in teacher-directed, curriculum-related activities that support school or community bi-literacy.

Participating public schools may give students periodical opportunities to demonstrate their world language proficiency. The education commissioner must list assessments aligned to ACTFL proficiency guidelines on the department's website. Where valid and reliable assessments are unavailable, schools may rely on evaluators trained to use ACTFL proficiency guidelines to assess students' world language proficiency. Schools must keep appropriate records to identify high school students eligible to receive these seals. MnSCU colleges and universities must establish criteria to award foreign language credits to students who receive bilingual or multilingual seals in grade 10, 11, or 12 and may award foreign language credits to students who receive world language proficiency certificates in grades 10, 11, or 12. Students who enroll in a MnSCU institution must request college credits for their seal or certificate within three academic years of graduating from high school. The law encourages the University of Minnesota to also award students foreign language academic credits.

~ Lisa Larson, legislative analyst

**For more information:** Contact: MDE World Language and English Learner Specialist Ursula Lentz @ [ursula.lentz@state.mn.us](mailto:ursula.lentz@state.mn.us)

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Register online at: <http://www.mctlc.org/>

**EDUCATING GLOBAL CITIZENS**

**MCTLC**  
Minnesota Council on the Teaching of Languages and Cultures

**FALL CONFERENCE**  
October 23-24, 2015  
Earle Brown Heritage Center • Brooklyn Center, MN  
[www.mctlc.org](http://www.mctlc.org)



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