

Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages

New York State Education Department

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February 2024 Newsletter



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Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

I extend my heartfelt greetings to each of you who bear the crucial responsibility of guiding our English Language Learners (ELLs) towards academic excellence.

In this noble pursuit, let us collectively embrace the richness of linguistic diversity that graces our classrooms. Each language spoken by our students is a unique thread in the vibrant tapestry of our educational community. It is in recognizing and celebrating these differences that we cultivate an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and understood.

As stewards of education, let us seize every opportunity to create academically enriching environments that foster the growth and development of our ELLs. By providing diverse and challenging learning experiences, we empower these young minds to reach their fullest potential. Let us be architects of curiosity, weaving a tapestry of knowledge that reflects the global landscape, preparing our students not only for academic success but for a world where cross-cultural understanding is paramount.

In the radiant glow of our classrooms, let us perceive our ELLs not just as students, but as leaders in their own right. Their cultural backgrounds are not hurdles to overcome but rather stepping-stones to broader perspectives and a wealth of knowledge. By nurturing their sense of

identity and self-worth, we inspire them to become ambassadors of their unique heritage, fostering a community where differences are not only acknowledged but celebrated.

Let us embark on this educational journey with a shared commitment to cultivating an environment where every English Language Learner flourishes. Together, we have the power to shape not only academic success but also the leaders of tomorrow, who through their cultural diversity will contribute to a brighter, more interconnected world.

In unity,

Elisa Alvarez



New York Statewide Language RBERN Provides Support for ELL Literacy

The New York Statewide Language Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network (NYS RBERN) promotes best practices by conducting school visits and coaching administrators/teachers to identify the strengths and needs of English Language Learners (ELLs). This work includes training of new administrators, providing information about Students with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE)/immigration/newcomers, supporting recent refugee populations, promoting the Multilingual SIFE Screener (MLS) as a tool to assess home language, and providing professional development in Home Language Arts. NYS RBERN Resource Specialists turnkey professional development sessions conducted by experts to build capacity in the field. The following are descriptions of recent activities by the NYS RBERN that promote the five [Hallmarks of Advanced Literacies for Academic Success](#), which focus on building and expanding the language and literacy skills of children with diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Two years ago, in collaboration with the New York City RBERN and the North Babylon school district, the Statewide Language RBERN launched its “Dual Language Revitalization Pilot,” which provides foundational and application information followed by monthly coaching to eighteen schools on best practices for ELLs. NYS RBERN Resource Specialists serve as consultants to school teams helping them implement strategies presented during its Dual Language Professional Learning Series. These schools are guided through the completion of a Dual Language Self-Assessment Checklist and the identification of priorities for year one and two of the program as they continue monthly coaching to revitalize existing Dual Language programs in these schools. This is an example of the NYS RBERN’s professional development model to build capacity – foundation (theory), application development, and coaching – where possible. Some of the activities to support this pilot include the following professional learning opportunities:

- Conduct focused school visits on the training of new administrators, ENL Coordinators and teachers to emphasize the importance of creating a supportive and inclusive environment for ELLs, conducting thorough interviews of newcomers and their families, and assessing the academic background and social-emotional needs of these incoming students.
- Collaborate with the [Multilingual Literacy Screener \(MLS\)](#) to showcase how the MLS tool can be used to assess the student’s home language as an entry point for instruction and with [Bridges for Academic Success](#) to provide information about the resources available for SIFE and ELLs with low literacy in Spanish home language.
- Provide professional learning on immigration and getting to know newcomers and assessing their needs.
 - In collaboration with Dr. Natasha Quiroga, Director of *Inside Schools*, the NYS RBERN is offering professional learning opportunities for educators to facilitate their understanding of the needs and services to be provided to newcomers coming from Venezuela and other Central American countries.
 - NYS RBERN has provided professional development opportunities to familiarize educators with the Ukrainian newcomers.
- Provided professional development in the area of Home Language Arts during the summer and fall of 2020 - 2023. Additional sessions of these HLA professional learning sessions are being planned for the near future.

NYS RBERN also partners with experts in the field to deliver other professional learning series which address a wide array of academic skills, including Advanced Literacies. Some of these series are described below.

- Dr. Nancy Cloud presented a four-part series in Fall 2023 for grades K-3 on the topic of *Ensuring the Success of ELLs When Reading and Writing in Content Area Classes and Advancing Their Academic Literacy Skills in English During Content Area Instruction*.
- Dr. Alba Ortiz and Dr. Linda Cavazos are providing a six-part series focusing on TESOL Instruction for Immigrants, SEL Needs of Immigrant ELLs, Assessing and Monitoring Oral Language Development for Immigrant ELLs, and Integrating Language Literacy & Content Instruction for Immigrant ELLs.
- Dr. Beth Skelton and Dr. Tan Huynh, authors of “Long-Term Success for Experienced Multilinguals” presented a three-part series focused on long-term English Language Learners and the assets they bring to the classroom. The presenters provided a book-study course for teachers of ELLs in grades 6-10. They discussed and reviewed the instructional framework used for experienced multilinguals to help them develop and meet the academic language demands needed to continue to participate actively in the English language classrooms. The presenters led teachers to unpack the academic language and content. They demonstrated multiple strategies to teach long-term ELLs, including how to develop increasingly complex academic language skills through their content-area classes.

Please visit the NYS RBERN’s [events for educators](#) web page to learn about and register for upcoming opportunities.

NYS Seal of Biliteracy Infographics for 2022-23 Released

New York State boasts a rich linguistic and cultural heritage, with students speaking over 200 languages. Understanding the importance of multilingualism and multiliteracy, the New York State Legislature established the New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB) in 2012, with the first set of graduates earning the Seal in the 2015-2016 academic year. The NYSSB is an award given by a high school, school district, or county office of education that formally recognizes students who have attained a high level of proficiency in two or more world languages (one of which must be English) by high school graduation.

The intent of the NYSSB is to:

- affirm the value of diversity in a multilingual society;
- encourage the study of languages;
- identify high school graduates with multilingualism and multiliteracy skills for employers;
- provide universities with additional information about applicants seeking admission;
- prepare students with twenty-first century skills; and
- recognize the value of world language and home language instruction.

The NYSSB represents NYSED’s acknowledgement of the importance of being biliterate in today’s global society. It highlights the hard work and achievement of students and encourages them to pursue language study while in school, including the continued development of one’s home language. The recognition of attaining biliteracy is also a statement of accomplishment for future employers and for college admission.

Each year since 2018-19, the New York State Education Department has released both statewide and regional infographics NYSSB. These two-page documents summarize in graphic format facts and figures, such as the number of students who have earned the Seal and the number of schools that have offered it.

The 2022-23 NYSSB infographic, found on the following two pages, is now available on our [NYSSB Annual Reports website](#), along with infographics on the NYSSB in each of seven regions of our state. The following highlights are noted on the statewide infographic for 2022-23:

- 428 schools offered the NYSSB.
- 8,745 students earned the NYSSB.
- 256 students earned the NYSSB in two or more world languages in addition to English.
- 1 in every 4 Seal earners was a Current or Ever English Language Learner (ELL).
- Students earned the NYSSB in 82 different languages.

In addition to the statewide infographic, NYSED has also released the following regional infographics for 2022-23:

- [Capital Region - Infographic Summary \(2022-23\)](#)
- [Hudson Valley Region - Infographic Summary \(2022-23\)](#)
- [Long Island Region - Infographic Summary \(2022-23\)](#)
- [Mid-State Region - Infographic Summary \(2022-23\)](#)
- [Mid-West Region - Infographic Summary \(2022-23\)](#)
- [New York City Region - Infographic Summary \(2022-23\)](#)
- [Western Region - Infographic Summary \(2022-23\)](#)

For more information on the NYSSB, please visit our [website](#).

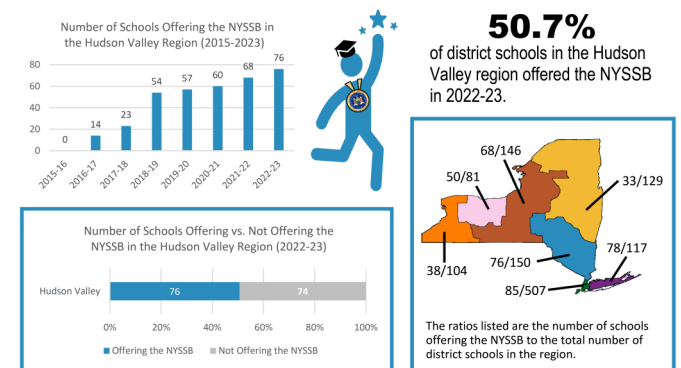
NYS Seal of Biliteracy Hudson Valley Region 2022-23

The New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB) recognizes students from district, charter, and non-public schools who have attained a **high level of proficiency in two or more world languages** (one of which must be English) by high school graduation. It acknowledges the importance of biliteracy in today's global society.

The intent of the NYSSB is to:

- affirm the value of diversity in a multilingual society;
- encourage the study of languages;
- identify high school graduates with multilingualism and multiliteracy skills for employers;
- provide universities with additional information about applicants seeking admission;
- prepare students with twenty-first century skills; and
- recognize the value of world and home language instruction in schools.

The NYSSB carries the highest weight on a school's "Readiness Measures", on par with the NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation and International Baccalaureate exams. This includes current ELLs not in the graduation cohort earning the NYSSB and a Regents Diploma.



In 2022-23, Hudson Valley region students earned the NYSSB in 39 different languages: Albanian, Arabic, ASL, Bengali, Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, French, Ga, German, Greek, Guarani, Guyanese, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Latvian, Malayalam, Mandarin, Pashto, Patois, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Tigrinya, Turkish, Twi, Ukrainian, Urdu, Yoruba



The NYS Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB)



The NYSSB is an award given to a student who has demonstrated a high level of proficiency in English and one or more world languages.



Total # of students who earned the NYSSB in 2022-23: **8,745**



5,746
(65.7%)



2,994
(34.2%)



5
(0.06%)



256 students earned the NYSSB in TWO world languages in addition to English!

8 students earned the NYSSB in THREE world languages in addition to English!

1 student earned the NYSSB in FOUR world languages in addition to English!



2,293 Current and Ever English Language Learners (ELLs) earned the Seal. (26%)

5,179 Never ELLs whose home language is English earned the Seal (59%)

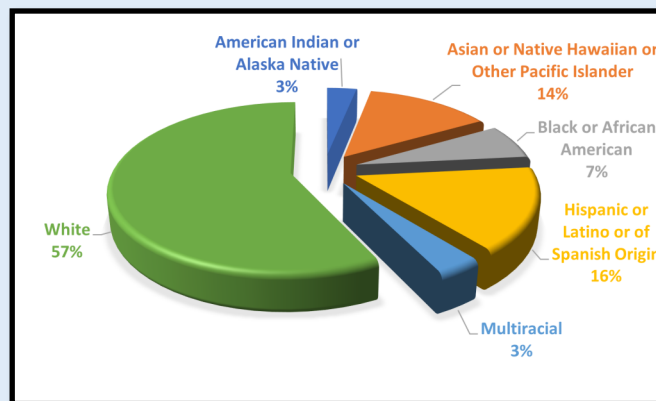
1,273 Never ELLs whose home language is not English earned the Seal (15%)



428 schools offered the NYSSB



82 languages in which the NYSSB was earned



35% of NYSSB earners in 2021-22 were of Hispanic ethnicity of any race.

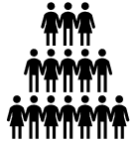
Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Armenian, ASL, Bengali, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Burmese, Cantonese, Cebuano, Chin, Croatian, Czech, Dari, Dutch, Dzongkha, Farsi, Filipino, Finnish, French, Fulani, Ga, Georgian, German, Greek, Guarani, Gujarati, Guyanese, Haitian Creole, Hausa, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Karen, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Korean, Lao, Latin, Latvian, Lebanese, Lingala, Maay Maay, Macedonian, Malayalam, Mandarin, Mandinka, Mongolian, Nepali, Pashto, Patois, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Pulaar, Punjabi, Q'anjob'al/Kanjobal, Rohingya, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Sinhalese, Somali, Soninke, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Tibetan, Tigrinya, Turkish, Twi, Ukrainian, Urdu, Uzbek, Vietnamese, Yoruba, Wolof

How has the Seal of Biliteracy evolved in New York State?



The NYSSB was offered for the first time as a pilot program in 2015-16.

Total # of students who have earned the NYSSB through 2023: 33,684



2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
284	1,355	2,054	4,031	4,609	5,492	7,114	8,745

Year	# of Current & Ever ELLs	# of Never ELLs (HL = English)	# of Never ELLs (HL ≠ English)
2015-16	106	178	*
2016-17	359	995	*
2017-18	611	1,440	*
2018-19	1,091	2,940	*
2019-20	1,227	3,382	*
2020-21	1,283	3,493	716
2021-22	1,872	5,242	997
2022-23	2,293	5,179	1,273

Year	# Schools offering the NYSSB
2015-16	14
2016-17	84
2017-18	115
2018-19	228
2019-20	292
2020-21	324
2021-22	374
2022-23	428

*Never ELLs whose Home Language (HL) is English was created as a separate category in 2020-21.

Year	# of students who earned the Seal in 2 languages + English	# of students who earned the Seal in 3 languages + English	# of students who earned the Seal in 4 languages + English
2015-16	0	0	0
2016-17	6	0	0
2017-18	12	0	0
2018-19	23	1	0
2019-20	80	3	0
2020-21	93	4	1
2021-22	184	11	1
2022-23	256	11	1

Year	# of Languages
2015-16	9
2016-17	33
2017-18	39
2018-19	47
2019-20	58
2020-21	54
2021-22	68
2022-23	82



Office of Bilingual Education & World Languages
89 Washington Avenue, EB301

For more information on the New York State Seal of Biliteracy, please visit our [website](#).

FOCUS ON Uniondale Schools' Dual Language Program

by Dr. Estrella Olivares-Orellana

As the Director of Multilingual Learners at Uniondale School District, it is my privilege to highlight the outstanding accomplishments of the Dual Language classroom led by our outstanding educator, Xiomara Flowers. Mrs. Flowers' classroom not only epitomizes excellence in bilingual education but also serves as a dynamic source for on-the-job professional development. In addition to her teaching duties, Mrs. Flowers has mentored more than fifteen new bilingual education teachers at Northern Parkway Elementary School over the past 20 years, fostering a collaborative learning community.

The approach Mrs. Flowers takes towards bilingual education is evident in the academic success reflected in the achievement of biliteracy and bilingualism among both her English Language Learners (ELLs) and non-ELL students. Her classroom stands as a testament to the myriad benefits of bilingualism and biliteracy, promoting enhanced cultural understanding, increased metalinguistic awareness, and elevated academic success.



Recent research by [Thomas and Collier \(2020\)](#) underscores the academic achievements of students in dual language education, which surpasses those in traditional settings across various demographics. While recognizing progress that has been made in the U.S., we know there is a need for greater efforts to foster students' diverse cultural and linguistic practices. The potential benefits, including preparing students for global roles and preserving both their cultural and linguistic identities, should guide our endeavors. Mrs. Flowers' commitment to creating a nurturing environment with high expectations for language development, academic excellence, and cultural understanding aligns seamlessly with this vision.

Mrs. Flowers' classroom embodies the features crucial to effective dual language education programs, including high expectations, a culturally responsive curriculum, model instructional practices, and opportunities for professional development. Her work illustrates the potential impact of a comprehensive framework that considers family and community involvement, support, and resources. In celebrating Mrs. Flowers' achievements, we also recognize the collective responsibility to further advance dual language programs nationwide. As we continue our journey towards fostering multilingualism and creating globally competent learners, let us draw inspiration from Mrs. Flowers' exemplary dedication and success.

Multilingual SIFE Screener (MLS) Website Update

On March 25, 2024 the MLS website will get a new look and new login system. The program will host training sessions in for new users who want to learn about the MLS (April 2, 9, or 17) and for experienced users who want to walk through the new interface together and ask any questions about MLS implementation (April 2, 11, or 18). The direct link to register for one of these trainings is [here](#).

The MLS is a diagnostic tool used in the process of identifying SIFE (Students with Interrupted/Inconsistent Formal Education). It is used during intake for students who are new to the U.S. The MLS evaluates students' abilities in reading comprehension and math in their home language. We currently have 18 available languages. Schools in New York State can access the MLS test and register for a free account at [our website](#).

The MLS has a new look! 中文 हिंदी उर्दू বাংলা
MULTILINGUAL LITERACY SIFE SCREENER

We are upgrading the MLS with new features and styling to make a more user friendly and accessible website.

Find our new trainings and webinars in one location

Updated Log-in

- ✓ Register and edit students
- ✓ Access reports
- ✓ Administer assessments

All by logging in once!

Access worksheets and training materials in task-specific areas

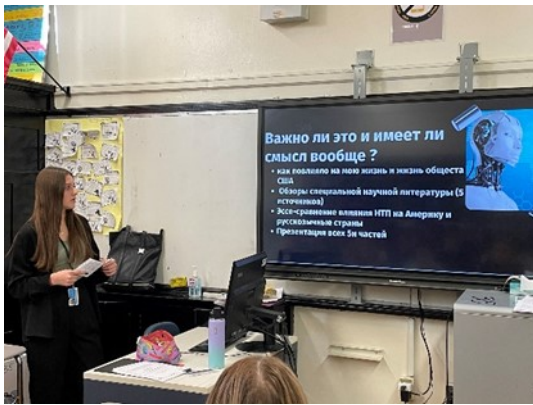
Changes go live March 25, 2024

Russian Program at New York City's James Madison High School Transitions to the Revised World Language Standards

In a third year of language instruction fully aligned with the updated NYS Learning Standards for World Languages which were adopted in 2021, the Russian Program at James Madison High School has achieved remarkable milestones. The team's dedicated efforts have resulted in the creation of five curriculums and an electronic library of authentic resources spanning five levels of language proficiency, designed to cover all topics and units of the curriculum.



A notable highlight of the program at James Madison, which is part of the New York City Public Schools, is the Advanced Russian class. This advanced course, which is poised to transform into an AP Russian class in the future, represents a significant step forward, offering students an enriched and challenging learning experience. As a testament to its success, the program's enrollment is on a steady rise, reflecting the growing interest and recognition of students.



The first semester of Advanced Russian consists of three thought-provoking and socially relevant units. In the first unit, students immerse themselves in the intricate realm of "Russian Cultural Codes." Armed with folktales, literature passages, artwork, and research papers, they investigate nuances of the culture that have and continue to shape Russia's identity. This exploration culminates as students actively participate in a roundtable discussion titled "Russian Identity's Cultural Codes." As part of this unit, students share their findings, engage in insightful dialogue, and collectively unravel the hidden threads that define Russian culture. Following this, students channel their understanding into composing argumentative essays.

The second unit, entitled "Personal Legacies, Future Visions: Unveiling Family Stories and Dreams for Tomorrow," invites students to embark on a personal and reflective journey. Through research, reflection, and dynamic presentations, students illuminate the histories of their families. A central focus is on highlighting the diverse roles of women within these family narratives, providing a nuanced understanding of the changing dynamics over time. Delving into the complexities of historical context, the class also investigates the evolving dynamics of family structures in Russian society. Students analyze the role historical circumstances play in shaping familial norms, offering a unique perspective on the interplay between history and familial bonds. Exploring the global aspect of family, the class contemplates what constitutes a family in different societies. This inquiry extends to understanding the diverse ways individuals contribute to the well-being of communities and how these roles differ in Russian-speaking communities.

The third Unit is designed around the New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB) Culminating Project. Incorporating the project into the curriculum allows the school to foster a deep understanding of global issues as their students investigate the influence of technological progress on American and Russian communities, showcasing the program's commitment to contemporary relevance. Students critically examine the blessings and challenges presented to society, extracting valuable lessons from the intersections of technology and history. This forward-thinking approach encourages students to reflect on the responsibilities and ethical considerations associated with technological advancements.



Webinar on Assessment Guidance for Checkpoint A (Classical Languages) Announced

The Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) presents this next webinar in its 2024 Professional Learning Series: **Principles and Guidelines for Adopting or Creating Locally Developed Benchmark Assessments for Checkpoint A (Classical Languages)**. This webinar is offered free of charge for world language administrators and leaders working and studying in New York State educational institutions.

Presenters: Dr. Joanne O’Toole, David Pellegrino, and Bill Heller

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 5th, 2024, 4:00-5:00 pm

CTLE credit: 1 hour offered

Webinar description: In this session, presenters will explain the general principles and protocols outlined in the NYSED-OBEWL document, [Principles and Guidelines for Adopting or Creating Locally Developed Benchmark Assessments for Checkpoint A \(Classical Languages\)](#). This document provides guidance to Local Educational Agencies and regional and statewide consortia for the creation of Checkpoint A Benchmark Assessments for Classical Languages aligned to the revised NYS Learning Standards for Classical Languages. Benchmark assessments are those assessments used to award one high school credit for middle school students prior to entering Grade 9 and to meet the one-credit graduation requirement. Checkpoint A Benchmark Assessments must be aligned to the revised standards for the June 2025 administration.

Registration process: All participants are encouraged to pre-register for this event. Pre-registration will close on Friday, March 1, 2024; there will be no same-day registrations. Once the registrant's email address has been verified as being from a New York State school, college, or university, an email confirming their registration will be sent. Twenty-four hours prior to the event, all registered individuals will receive login instructions with the link to join the webinar. **Only pre-registered attendees will be eligible for a certificate documenting attendance and/or CTLE hours.**

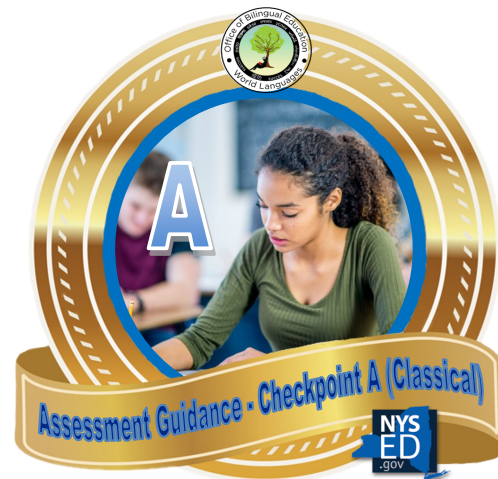
Click [here](#) to visit the webinar’s webpage.

Click [here](#) to download the webinar flyer.

Click [here](#) to access the registration form.

Guidance Document: [Principles and Guidelines for Adopting or Creating Locally Developed Benchmark Assessments for Checkpoint A \(Classical Languages\)](#)

For more information on professional learning webinars for world language educators, please visit our website: <http://www.nysed.gov/world-languages/professional-learning>



Did you know there are more than 35 recorded webinars available for educators to build their capacity in the NYS Learning Standards for World Languages.

Please visit (and bookmark) our [World Languages Professional Learning webpage](#) for more information.

NYS Seal of Biliteracy Professional Learning Series Continues in 2024

In 2023-24, the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) began the first ever professional learning webinar series for the New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB). These webinars are offered **free of charge** for educators, counselors, and administrators working and studying in New York State educational institutions. **All NYSSB webinars take place from 3:30-4:30 p.m. via Zoom.** Registration is required for attendance and CTLE certificates. All webinars are recorded for on-demand viewing and CTLE credit can be granted for viewing the webinar with a score of at least 7 out of 10 on the post assessment. The following webinars will be offered via Zoom in the first semester of 2024:

Using the NYSSB rubric to Evaluate Culminating Project Presentations

Wednesday, February 28th, 2024 presented by Candace Black and David Mumper

This webinar will take a deep dive into the three modes of communication evaluated in the OBEWL rubric for the NYSSB Culminating Project and Presentation. Performance descriptors will be unpacked into their core elements: Function, Accuracy, Context, and Text Type, so that evaluators can identify the evidence for the demonstrated level of proficiency. During this session, participants will work in small breakout rooms to evaluate portions of sample student work and presentations to calibrate their scoring.

Training Panelists to Evaluate Culminating Projects & Presentations

Wednesday, March 20th, 2024 presented by Candace Black and Dr. Jordan González

Panelists must be trained in how to use the rubric to identify and discuss the acceptable evidence to justify the proficiency level attained by the student. This webinar will discuss the process for recruiting and training panelists to evaluate Culminating Project and Presentations for the NYSSB, including working with school staff or community members who may not have a background in education. During this session, participants will work in small breakout rooms to evaluate portions of sample student work, presentations, and recordings of panelists' discussions following the presentations to identify high-leverage practices, as well as practices to avoid when calibrating scoring. OBEWL's annual process of visiting NYSSB schools to provide feedback and support will also be reviewed.

Demystifying End-of-Year Data Submission for the Seal

Wednesday, April 10th, 2024 by Candace Black and Anna Stukes

At the end of each academic year, schools must report their NYSSB data to OBEWL to obtain the Seals to put on the diplomas and the medallions to distribute to students for graduation. Seal Coordinators submit this information on the End-of-Year Data form in the late spring or early summer. The sometimes-arduous process of gathering and entering this data can be streamlined to ensure accurate and timely reporting, as well as to avoid overburdening the Seal Coordinator during an already busy time of year. Each part of the form will be unpacked, while strategies for recording keeping and cross-checking data for errors will be discussed. In the second half of the webinar, participants will work in small breakout rooms to complete a challenge exercise designed to hone their skills in completing the End-of-Year Data form. There will be ample time for participants to ask questions.

Recordings of the following webinars are available on our NYSSB website:

- [Starting a NYS Seal of Biliteracy Program](#), Wednesday, October 25th, 2023
- [Growing Your Seal Program](#), Monday, October 30th, 2023
- [Completing the NYSSB School Notification Form](#), Wednesday, November 15th, 2023
- [Promoting the Seal of Biliteracy and Recruiting Students](#), Monday, December 4th, 2023

For more information on the NYSSB, please visit our [website](#).



Join the Conversation!
If your school or community would like to share a story to include in a future edition of this newsletter, please email photos and news items to OBEWL@nysed.gov.

News from Other NYSED Offices

The New York State Library announces its upcoming programming for February, including webinars and events related to history and genealogical services. Visit the State Library's [website](#) for a complete list of upcoming programs, including webinars, events, and onsite genealogy walking tours.

NYSED has released a new series of [literacy briefs](#) that focus on the science of reading and may be used to strengthen knowledge of evidence-based literacy practices in PK-12 education. These briefs were produced by Dr. Nonie K. Lesaux, Professor of Education and Human Development at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and Katie C. Carr, M.Ed.

Solar Eclipse Resources for K-12 Classrooms: Get ready for the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024! Local libraries and cultural institutions have many different eclipse-related and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) events planned to engage students and adults in this rare phenomenon. The [Eclipse Resources page](#) offers helpful resources such as virtual training sessions, downloadable booklets, games, and activities.

The application deadline for the [Vice Chancellor Emerita Adelaide L. Sanford Scholarship](#) is March 31. One My Brother's Keeper Fellow and one female graduating high school senior from a NYSED-recognized My Brother's Keeper Community will receive an award.

The [application to offer the Individual Arts Assessment Pathway \(IAAP\)](#) is available for all districts and schools in the SED Monitoring and Vendor Performance System located within the Application Business Portal for the 2023-2024 school year. Applications are open until August 1, 2023.

NYSED will host the second annual MTSS-I Virtual Learning Summit on August 14 & 15, 2024. Please mark your calendar for our FREE conference today! [#MTSSI](#) [#EduPioneers](#)

The New York State Education Department Commemorates [Black History Month](#) with Inspiring Exhibitions, Events, and Educational Programs.

Three new special education undergraduate teacher certification programs have been approved by NYSED at the University at Albany [#SpecialEducation](#) [#AutismSupport](#) [#IEP](#)

NYSED is Now Accepting [Applications for the 2024 Summer Food Service Program](#).

Applications are now open for the 2024 [New York State Summer School of the Arts](#). We're so pleased to be able to issue needs-based [scholarships](#) where students (grades 6-12) self-select summer art programs and to host the [NYSSSA In-Residency](#) programs (theatre, visual arts, media arts) which will be offered at SUNY Fredonia (grades 9-12).

Need local support? Contact your local RBERN!

The RBERNs support OBEWL's mission to ensure that all students' individual educational paths and socio-economical needs are met in multiple languages leading them to college, career, and civic readiness. They are NYSED's key providers of guidance, technical assistance, and support to New York State Districts, Charter Schools, Non-public Schools, and other organizations in the development of programs for MLs.

- [New York State Language RBERN \(statewide\)](#)
- [Capital District Region RBERN at Questar III BOCES](#)
- [Hudson Valley RBERN at SW BOCES](#)
- [Long Island RBERN at Eastern Suffolk BOCES](#)
- [Mid-State RBERN at OCM BOCES](#)
- [Mid-West RBERN at Monroe 2 - Orleans BOCES](#)
- [New York City RBERN at Fordham University](#)
- [West Region RBERN at Erie 1 BOCES](#)

Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages

New York State Education Department

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The mission of the New York State Education Department's Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages is to ensure that all New York State English Language Learners (ELLs) attain the highest level of academic success and that all Multilingual Learners (MLs) – which include ELLs, Former/Ever ELLs, World Languages students, and heritage speakers of World Languages – achieve the highest level of language proficiency in English and in one or more other languages.

