



The Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages  
of the New York State Education Department



presents:

# Preparing for the Culminating Project Visit

Presenters: Candace Black & Dr. Juanita Reyes

Date & Time: Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

1 hour of CTLE credit offered.

The Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) presents this fifth webinar in its 2023-24 NYSSB Professional Learning Series: **Preparing for the Culminating Project Visit**. This webinar is offered free of charge for educators, counselors, and administrators working and studying in New York State educational institutions.



Webinar description: Each year, the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) conducts visits to small sample of schools offering the NYSSB for two purposes: (1) to observe and participate in Culminating Project Presentations and Interviews and (2) to provide feedback and support to schools in this process. Schools selected for such a visit are notified via email by September 30<sup>th</sup>, anticipating a visit to be scheduled the following spring. This webinar will review the protocol for the Culminating Project Visit, from the scheduling of the visit, to the expectations for conducting the student presentations, interviews and follow-up panel discussions, including a deep dive into the rubric that is used to provide feedback to schools. The webinar is recommended for any schools that will be visited in 2023-24, but is open to any school that wishes to learn more about this process.

Registration process: All participants are encouraged to pre-register for this event. Pre-registration will close approximately 24 hours prior to the event; **there will be no same-day registrations**. Once the registrant's email address has been verified as being from a New York State educational institution, 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.**

Link to registration form: <https://wnys.wufoo.com/forms/p1flpdsg07nboy5/>

Additional webinars on the Seal offered this year will include:

- February 28<sup>th</sup> – [Using the NYSSB rubric to Evaluate Culminating Project Presentations](#)
- March 20<sup>th</sup> – [Training Panelists to Evaluate Culminating Projects & Presentations](#)
- April 10<sup>th</sup> – [Demystifying End-of-Year Data Submission for the Seal](#)

For more information on the NYS Seal of Biliteracy, please visit our website or contact [nyssb@nysed.gov](mailto:nyssb@nysed.gov).

## Webinar Presenters:

**Candace Black** is the World Languages Associate in the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages at the New York State Education Department. She is currently leading the implementation of the revised NYS World Languages Standards and oversees the NYS Seal of Biliteracy program. Candace graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in French from SUNY Potsdam and earned both her M.B.A., and M.A.T. from the University of Rochester. A National Board-Certified Teacher, Candace taught French for 21 years and served as an IB Diploma Coordinator. In 2021, she was the recipient of the President's Award for both NYSFLT and NYSAWLA and was elected as a Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques by the French government. In all her roles, most especially her current one, Candace is deeply committed to the professional learning and support of World Language teachers and the promotion of the NYS Seal of Biliteracy.



**Juanita Reyes** holds a Ph.D. in Hispanic Linguistics from the University at Albany, SUNY in New York, and an MA in Spanish from the same institution. Prior to joining the RBERN team, Juanita was an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Dominican College where she taught Spanish from Elementary to advanced levels. Her research interests include Sociolinguistics, Bilingualism, Dominican Spanish, Spanish in contact with other languages, Spanish in the US, Spanish as a Heritage language, and Dual Language Education. Dr. Reyes currently serves as a Program Support Specialist for the Capital Region RBERN (Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network) in upstate New York where she supports the many districts in the region with Dual Language Education, the New York State Seal of Biliteracy, the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute (PRHYLI), World Languages, English as a New Language, and much more.

