Dear FLAME Colleagues,

Welcome back to school! I hope that this summer break provided you numerous opportunities to relax, rejuvenate and reflect. As I reflect upon the past year, HOPE is the word that foremost comes to mind. I realize that this may sound naïve considering all of the struggles we have faced as world language teachers over the past year. Even so, my involvement with FLAME has offered me a different lens with which to view our situation and I am honored to be serving as your president this year.

We have a lot to be proud of in Maine regarding World Language education. At the NECTFL Meeting of the States in Boston, other Northeast states were eager to speak with FLAME about our unique working relationship with the Department of Education and our successful Standards-Based Initiative. Thanks to three consecutive years of summer institutes, regional workshops and conference sessions, our initiative has reached 1 in 2 World Language teachers in Maine! This summer’s ACTFL consultant, Laura Terrill, stressed how impressed she was with our commitment, engagement and enthusiasm considering it was our first week of summer vacation. And at our annual conference in Portland, we achieved the highest attendance in recent years and have now welcomed three fresh faces to the FLAME board. It is this spirit of collaboration and renewed energy that makes me hopeful for the coming year.

At the same time, I fully recognize the challenges that have impacted our profession. In our districts, we have faced budget cuts, staff shortages, and a stronger focus on STEM and Common Core. We’re not sure what we are being asked to do since graduation expectations differ around the state due to local control. In our schools, some of us feel isolated due to small departments or geographical distance from others, making our situation seem even more bleak and uncertain. When it comes to sharing our opinions and expertise, how do we make our voices heard?

I encourage you to let FLAME be that united voice, speaking on your behalf. As the American journalist, Mark Shields, once said: “There is always strength in numbers. The more individuals or organizations that you can rally to your cause, the better.” Without detailed instructions from the state, we educators need to work together to find a common understanding of best practices for our students. With a consistent approach statewide and ACTFL guidelines as our foundation, each of us can provide a powerful argument to administration in order to improve our world language programs.

Please visit our new website at www.maineforeignlanguage.org and feel free to send us your questions and suggestions. As always, you are invited to join us for FLAME board meetings at the MEA Building in Augusta on the third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 pm.

Amber Burks
FLAME President
AAT Fall Meetings
Save the Date

AATSP: The AATSP conference is at the USM Lewiston Auburn Campus on October 24th. For more information, visit their web site.

Maine Classical Association: The Fall Meeting of the Maine Classical Association will be on Saturday, October 18 at Millett House, Colby College. from 9:00 – 2:00.

TCI Maine New England and Beyond Conference: October 16 and 17 at the Green Ladle (Lewiston Regional Technical Center) For more information visit the web site.
http://ow.ly/ATW8k

AATF: Maine Conference d’Automne. Le 18 octobre 2014, North Yarmouth Academy Middle School, 148 Main Street, Yarmouth, ME 04096

What does FLAME do for you, for us?

- Provides opportunities for professional development:
  - Annual FLAME Conference
  - Summer Institute
  - Free Workshops throughout the state
  - FLES Conference
- Provides different venues for networking: newsletter, listserv, facebook
- Creates a professional body of language teachers in Maine for collaborative purposes and for presenting a unified face/voice for languages, connects to regional organization (NECTFL) and to national organization (ACTFL)
- Scholarships for students and teachers for professional development
- Awards for students and teachers to recognize the talent here in our state, and to help Maine teachers purse regional and national awards
- Advocacy for Languages in Maine and beyond
  - Board members attend legislative hearings
  - Close ties with the Department of Education, National Council of State Supervisors of Language, ACTFL
  - Connections made with legislatures
- Student Activities:
  - Yearly Video and Poster contests
  - Annual Language Day for HS students in Orono

REMEMBER! Your membership to FLAME supports all of us!
2015 FLAME STUDENT VIDEO & POSTER CONTESTS

Invite your students to get involved by submitting a video or poster for our upcoming FLAME Conference on March 5 and 6, 2015.

This year’s theme is “Peace: Understanding Diverse Cultures and Languages Around the World”

Each submission must clearly indicate students’ names, the teacher’s name, the language and level, and the school’s name and address. Please send submissions to:

Eunice Loredo, Messalonskee High School, 131 Messalonskee High Dr., Oakland, ME 04963

The Student Activities committee will review all submissions and make the final decision. Winners will be announced at the conference and each contest awards the following prizes:

First place $50  •  Second place $30  •  Third place $20

FLAME Student Video Contest  Deadline: postmarked by Friday, February 13th.

Students will create a video (CD, DVD or electronic file) in the target language. Videos will be grouped according to level (elementary, middle school, high school) and will be judged on accurate use of target language and creativity. No violent content, please.

REQUIREMENTS:

☐ Videos must be submitted by a current FLAME member.
☐ Videos must be in a modern or classical language.
☐ Videos must show student effort to communicate in the target language.
☐ Videos must be no more than 10 minutes in length.

FLAME Student Poster Contest  Deadline: postmarked by Wednesday, February 25th OR submitted during registration at the conference.

Students at any level of foreign language study will create a poster that reflects the theme “Peace: Understanding Diverse Cultures and Languages around the World”. Posters will be judged on creativity and correct usage of a modern or classical language.

REQUIREMENTS:

☐ Posters must be submitted by a current FLAME member.
☐ Posters can be created by an individual student or a group of students working together.
☐ Posters must be larger than 8 x 11.
☐ Teachers are asked to submit no more than 4 posters per level or grade taught.

Any questions? Please contact Eunice Loredo at eloredo@rsu18.org
MEMBERSHIP AND CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
FLAME ANNUAL CONFERENCE: March 5&6, 2015
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2015
*Early bird: December 15, 2015!
No on-site registration will be available for the 2015 Conference.

Name: ____________________________________________ [ ] NEW TEACHER (check here)

School/Place of work: ____________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

City: __________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

School Phone: __________________

Email: ____________________________________________________________

Home Address: ____________________________________________________________

City: __________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

PLEASE SEND MY FLAME MATERIALS TO MY HOME ADDRESS [ ] YES
***All mailings will be sent to your work address unless otherwise specified***

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<tr>
<td>The FLAME Spring Conference is open to members only.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Dues</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
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<td>New Teacher rate (First-year teachers only)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
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<td>Full-time Student rate</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<td>Emeritus: Retiree with membership during the last 10 years of tenure.</td>
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<th>Thursday Pre-Conference Registration: Dinner and Keynote</th>
<th>Pre-Conference</th>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Teacher rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time Student rate</td>
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<th>Friday Conference Registration: include breakfast and lunch</th>
<th>Conference</th>
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<td>Before 12/15 Early Birds Professional Teacher</td>
<td>$55.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>After 12/15 Professional Teacher</td>
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<td>Full-time Student rate (breakfast and lunch included)</td>
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<th>T-Shirt Order: Order your FLAME t-shirt now! Please indicate size:</th>
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<td>SMALL</td>
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<td>$10.00</td>
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TOTAL ENCLOSED: $__________

Please make check payable to FLAME. NO PURCHASE ORDERS ACCEPTED.

Please Note:
- You must be a member of FLAME to attend spring conference.
- Complete a separate form for each registrant.
- Make checks payable to FLAME.
- No Refunds will be made.
- No On-Site registration will be available for the 2015 conference.
- If you require a receipt, please pick it up at the conference.

Send Registration to:
ELLEN JARDINE
FLAME Treasurer
29 Lowell Street
So. Portland, ME 04106

HOUSING: To reserve a room, contact: Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME 04101.
Request the FLAME Conference rate for rooms. Phone: 207-775-2311 or 800-345-5050
FMI: Contact Conference Committee Chair: Mary Lord (207-319-1930) at mlord@brunswick.k12.me.us
World Languages in Maine Schools Summer Institute 2014
University of Maine at Farmington
June 24 - 27

For the third consecutive year, the World Languages in Maine Schools Summer Institute was held over the course of four days in June at UMF. This year thirty-six teachers worked with ACTFL’s Laura Terrill on “Planning with the End in Mind”. Laura’s two-and-a-half day presentation explained and modeled practical strategies that can directly help our students in Maine attain performance at the Intermediate-mid proficiency level by graduation. She addressed making students aware of targeted learning goals, developing interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive skills, communicating spontaneously and purposefully in the target language, and moving students to the next proficiency level, among other things. Sixteen trained teacher leaders worked on how they will share this information in their regional workshops during the school year.

Some comments from the evaluations:
“Laura Terrill was fabulous. She presented to our current needs in Maine.”
“Very much worth my time. The info will help me (and my department) move forward with this work.”
“Outstanding presenter - exactly what I needed”
“a true teacher of teachers”
“Feel really inspired and motivated”

As in years past, this year the knowledge learned at the Summer Institute will be shared through regional workshops offered by the Teacher Leaders. Every year the workshops change and new material, approaches, and ideas are shared. So if you’ve attended a workshop in the past by all means attend again! This year will be information you have not yet heard. So keep a look-out for the information about the regional workshop in your area. Also, the Maine Department of Education professional development calendar online will post the dates, times, and locations of workshops, in addition to them being posted on the FLAME listserv. Please consider attending a regional workshop, as they directly help teachers raise the bar of classroom practice, and directly help students begin to attain purposeful communication in the target language--essential for proficiency-based education and for moving world languages out of our students’ classrooms and into their lives!

**Tentative Regional Workshop Schedule:**
Central Maine - October 3 - Sara Nadeau - Fairfield
Southern Maine - October 9 - Catherine Gram - Falmouth
Western Maine - October 18 - Greg Reed and Lisa Dalrymple - Farmington
Southern Maine - October 25 - Michelle Fournier - Westbrook
Northern Maine - Fall - Greg Reed and Lisa Dalrymple - Presque Isle
Eastern Maine - December 5 - Kit Harrison and Marty Brooks - Ellsworth  
Central Maine - December 5 - Eunice Loredo and Johanna Bridges - Bangor  
Central Maine - December 12 - Heather Duquette and Paula Gerencer - Lewiston  
Southern Maine - March 20 - Kathy Mills and Emily Davison - Scarborough  
Southern Maine - Late March/April - Jonna Bouré - TBA  
Central Maine - TBA - Rebecca Manchester - focused on the classical languages

For more information on these workshops, visit the Maine DOE web page at http://goo.gl/tLjj4G

| 2014-15 Teacher Leaders for World Languages in Maine Standards-Based Initiative |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jonna Bouré                    | Kit Harrison    | Eunice Kullick Loredo | Tatiana Lera    | Rebecca Manchester | Sara Nadeau     | Gregory Reed    |
| RSU 2                           | RSU 13           | Messalonskee HS      | Brunswick Junior High | Bonny Eagle HS | Skowhegan Area HS | Buckfield Junior-Senior High School (also serves |
| jboure@kidsrsu.org              | kharrison@rsu13.org | eloredo@rsu18.org | tlera@brunswick.k12.me.us | rmanchester@bonnyeagle.org | snadeau@msad54.org | Aroostook County) |
| Johanna Bridges                | Emily Davison   | Heather Duquette    | Michelle Fournier | Paula Gerencer   | Paula Gerencer   | Catherine Gram |
| Bangor HS                      | Yarmouth HS     | Waterville HS       | Westbrook HS      | Lewiston HS      | Lewiston HS     | Falmouth HS    |
| jbridges@bangorschools.net     | emily_davison@yarmouthschools.org | hduquette@aos92.org | fournierm@westbrookschools.org | pgerencer@lewistonpublicschools.org | cgram@falmouthschools.org | cgram@falmouthschools.org |
| Lisa Dalrymple                 |                 |                |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Mt. Blue HS                    |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| ldalrymple@mtbluersd.org       |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|                            |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2015 FLAME CONFERENCE

The Foreign Language Association of Maine (FLAME), in collaboration with the Maine Department of Education, invites language teachers and other interested educators to submit proposals for 60- or 90-minute workshop sessions on topics of interest to modern and classical language teachers. The conference will be held March 5-6, 2015 at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine.

For more information, please see the FLAME web site:
http://www.maineforeignlanguage.org/flame-conference.html

To be considered, proposals must be received by December 10 2014. Email completed forms to: Ingrid Merrill at ingrid.merrill@web.de

CONFERENCE SERIES 2014 TO CELEBRATE THE HISPANIC HERITAGE

The venue for the Annual Lecture Series is at the St. John Hill Auditorium (165 Barrows Hall) at the University of Maine campus. The conferences are in English and are open to the public.

Thursday, October 2nd - 6:30 pm. “Alicia, esto es el capitalismo: when fiction depicts economy.” Presented by Dr. Carlos Villacorta Gonzáles, assistant professor at the University of Maine, and a Peruvian Hispanic literature scholar, fiction writer, and poet. His lecture will engage the audience by presenting the crossroads between fiction and economics.

Thursday, October 9th - 6:30 pm. “Immigration issues impacting the Latino community.”, by Dr. Claudia Paz Aburto Guzmán, Spanish Department Chair at Bates College is also a distinguished Hispanic literature scholar and poet, Dr. Aburto Guzmán addresses the global implication that lead to current immigration issues.
Note.- A refreshment table will be set up for each of the conferences.

After each conference a dinner will be offered to the speaker guest at Thistles Restaurant, 144 Exchange St. Bangor. Those of you interested in joining us for dinner will be responsible for their own consumption.
To the addressee or successor of:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!
MARCH 5th and 6th 2015
FLAME Annual Conference
Holiday Inn by the Bay,
Portland, Maine
Check the FLAME website for upcoming details
http://www.maineforeignlanguage.org/