



Capital District RBE-RN at Questar III BULLETIN

A call for translators!

We would love to add your name to the Translator's Resource List. If interested, please follow these two easy steps:

1. Fill out the Translator Information Form.
2. Email the Translator Information Form to Ruth Nova de los Santos at ruth.nova@questar.org

In the event that a district seeks the service of a translator, the RBE-RN will provide a list of potentially available translators. The district and the translator will work out the translation service cost and payment.

Would you like to be added to our distribution list?

If you would like to be added to our distribution list, please email the following information to Ruth Nova de los Santos at ruth.nova@questar.org:

1. Name
2. School building
3. District or organization
4. Position
5. Email address

Subscribe to the RBERN list serve

Dear ELLs colleagues,

We are launching a RBE-RN list serve where you can post questions, seek technical assistance, or share resources that you may have found to be useful with your ELLs. [Click here](#) or visit <http://mailman.neric.org/mailman/listinfo/rbern> in order to subscribe. Do not hesitate to contact ruth.nova@questar.org with any questions.

We look forward to providing additional support through the RBERN list serve!

The RBE-RN Team

RBERN Events

2014 New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) Webinar

Date: On-going

Location: Online through My Learning Plan

The RBE-RN has created a webinar on providing information on the administration and scoring process of the 2014 New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) for Limited English Proficient/English Language Learners, LEP/ELLs.

This webinar will be accessible to anyone with a computer, at any time.

Once enrolled, please enter the Team Room, Shared Files and click on the document entitled, "open 2014 NYSESLAT webinar."

Follow this link to enroll via My Learning Plan and receive a Certificate of Attendance:

<https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?D=15197&I=1551910>

If you have questions regarding any of these reports, or have any concerns with the webinar, please contact the RBE-RN at 518-479-6859

NYSED Announcements

ELA CC Webcasts

Date: On-going

Time: On-going

District Test Coordinator's, BOCES Contacts, NERIC Contacts:

The Office of State Assessment has posted a link to engageNY for Webcasts for the ELA CC. The web page is: <http://www.engageny.org/resource/regents-exams-english-language-arts-webcasts>

There are two sessions, power point slide shows and downloadable Teacher Packets.

“Change in Test Administration Window for Incoming Kindergartners Taking the New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL).”

ELA Test Coordinator’s, NYSESLAT Coordinator’s, BOCES Contacts and NERIC Contacts:
The Office of State Assessment and the Office of Bilingual Education has published a memo on the OSA web page regarding a change in the test administration window for students entering Kindergarten who will be taking the NYSITELL.

The Guide to the NYSITELL will be updated to reflect this change. The memo is attached to this e-mail.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Bill Adam
NERIC Testing Coordinator
Northeastern Regional Information Center
900 Watervliet-Shaker Rd.
Albany, NY 12205
<http://neric.org/testing/index.cfm>

Phone:
Gail Newcomb 518-862-5355
Bill Adam 518-862-5310
Fax: 518-862-5378

For more information, please follow this link: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nysitell/nysitell-kindergartenrev.pdf>

Other Announcements

2014 Summer Institute for the Technology-Enhanced Multimodal Observation Protocol (MOP) Project

The Department of Educational Theory and Practice at the University at Albany is inviting Math, Science and ESOL teachers from your high school to participate in the five-day 2014 Summer Institute for the Technology-Enhanced Multimodal Observation Protocol (MOP) Project.

They encourage teachers to attend the institute as a team along with ESOL building specialist(s). Teachers who are able to attend all five days of the institute will be given a certificate of completion for 30 professional development contact hours, as well as a \$500 stipend.

For further information regarding this opportunity, please refer to the attached invitation letter and/or contact MOP Project Coordinator Gretchen Oliver at goliver@albany.edu

NYS Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Incentive Program

NYS announced that it is sponsoring the **NYS STEM Incentive Program**, which provides a full SUNY or CUNY tuition scholarship for the top 10 percent of students in each New York State high school if they pursue a STEM degree in an associates or bachelor degree program and agree to work in a STEM field in New York State for five years after graduation.

For additional information, please visit:

http://www.hesc.ny.gov/content.nsf/SFC/NYS_Science_Technology_Engineering_and_Mathematics_STEM_Incentive_Program

Federal Civil Rights Law prohibits discrimination in education

The U.S. Department of Education supports charter schools' efforts to provide students, including those in some of the nation's highest-need communities, with additional meaningful opportunities to receive a high-quality public education. Today, the Department's Office for Civil Rights has released new guidance [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-201405-charter.pdf>] (versión en español [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-201405-charter-sp.pdf>]) providing a reminder that our federal civil rights laws apply to charter schools just as they apply to other public schools.

The guidance explains that the federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in education on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and disability extend to all operations of a charter school, including recruiting, admissions, academics, educational services and testing, school climate (including prevention of harassment), disciplinary measures (including suspensions and expulsions), athletics and other nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities, and accessible buildings and technology.

We hope that the guidance issued today will help enhance the role charter schools can play in advancing equal opportunity for all students. Our office stands ready to provide technical assistance should you or your colleagues need it.

Thank you,
The Office for Civil Rights

Proposal request for the NYS TESOL 44TH Annual Conference

Proposal Submission Deadline Extended: June 6, 2014.

Notification of acceptance or non-acceptance will be sent via email by July 15, 2014.

Conference Date: November 14-15, 2014.

Conference Location: Albany Hilton, Albany, NY

NYS TESOL is currently inviting submissions for the 44th Annual Conference to be held at the Albany Hilton, Albany, NY November 14-15, 2014.

This year's conference theme is *Empowering ELLs: Equity, Engagement, Enrichment* and presenters are invited to submit proposals to share and discuss ideas related to this theme within the following categories:

- Adult Education
- Elementary Education
- Special Education
- Applied Linguistics
- Higher Education
- Teacher Education
- Bilingual Education
- Secondary Education
- Teaching English Internationally

For more information, please contact:
Teale LaBarbera, Proposal Chair
44th Annual NYS TESOL Conference
proposalchair@nystesol.org
www.nystesol.org

Resources/ Articles

All Teachers, Administrators need professional development on ELLs

Date: May 12, 2014

Location: New York State School Boards Association

Draft state regulations will require all teachers and administrators to receive professional development on the needs of English language learners, including training on “language acquisition and the ability to work effectively with diverse students,” according to the State Education Department.

For additional information, please visit: <http://www.nyssba.org/news/2014/05/09/on-board-online-may-12-2014/all-teachers-administrators-need-training-on-ells-sed/>

Feds to Districts: Policies Must Not Chill Enrollment of Immigrant Students

Date: May 8, 2014

Location: Education Week

Officials in the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education on Thursday warned school district officials to cease using policies and practices that "chill" or discourage students from enrolling in school because they, or their parents, may not have legal immigration status.

In a new, four-page guidance report that updates a similar one issued three years ago, top civil rights officials in the two federal agencies write that they've recently become aware of student-enrollment practices that may "chill or discourage the participation, or lead to the exclusion, of students based on their or their parents' or guardians' actual or perceived citizenship or immigration status."

For additional information, please visit: http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/learning-the-language/2014/05/feds_warn_districts_to_avoid_p.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS2

Secretary Duncan and Attorney General Holder Issue Guidance for School Districts to Ensure Equal Access for All Children to Public Schools, Regardless of Immigration Status

Date: May 8, 2014

Location: www.ed.gov - News

Secretary Arne Duncan and Attorney General Eric Holder today announced updated guidance to assist public elementary and secondary schools to ensure enrollment processes are consistent with the law and fulfill their obligation to provide all children—no matter their background—equal access to an education.

For additional information, please visit: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-duncan-and-attorney-general-holder-issue-guidance-school-districts-ens>

Additional Resources

Our website: rbern.questar.org

SED Office of Bilingual Education-Foreign Language Studies: www.p12.nysed.gov/biling

NYSESLAT Support: www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nyseslat/

New York State Association for Bilingual Education: www.nysabe.net

New York State TESOL: www.nystesol.org

Engage N.Y.: www.engageny.org

Albany U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants: www.refugeesalbany.org