

KENTUCKY WORLD LANGUAGE TEACHER NETWORK

Defining the 21st Century Language Learner

Looking for more world language specific professional development opportunities?

Do you want to put world language at the table with other assessed content areas?

Currently, all students entering Kentucky 4-year postsecondary institutions must have two years study of (or demonstrate equivalent competency in) a world language. The Kentucky State Board of Education has an approved goal that all students be able to demonstrate competency in a world language at the basic user level (novice high on the ACTFL scale) by 2016. Because there is no statewide assessment of world languages, no one knows to what extent Kentucky students are meeting or will be able to meet this competency goal.

The goal of this project is for a cohort of teachers to develop a suite of assessment that guide instruction toward preparing students to meet the novice high competency level, and for those teachers to be able to train other teachers in this process. A second goal is for participants from middle and high schools as well as colleges and universities to understand the concepts and processes behind performance-based assessment in order for K-20 world language teachers to come to consensus on their expectations for incoming college students.

As a member of a select cohort of teachers you will ...

- *participate* in free professional development trainings
- *learn* in collaboration with other teacher leaders through online discussions.
- *network* with other teachers from across the state;
- *learn* about K-20 articulation and world language expectations for incoming college students;
- *diversify* your instructional and assessment strategies;
- *increase* your familiarity with the latest technology tools;
- *gain* experience with influencing strategies and *shape* statewide policy;
- *help* to grow and sustain high quality world language programs;
- *prepare* yourself for possible national board certification;
- *receive* daily stipends for face-to-face meetings, housing & lodging, and travel reimbursements.
- *earn* potential university credit (details to be announced).

Expectations

We are looking for a broad spectrum of participants who can answer yes to at least one of the following questions. Up to 20 middle and high school teachers will be chosen as Year 2 participants for this two-year project.

- YES! No. Are you looking to improve your students' language proficiency?
- YES! No. Are you interested in learning more about the latest research-based trends in proficiency-oriented instruction and assessment, and how to implement them in your classes?
- YES! No. Are you committed to teaching a language in Kentucky for at least the next five years?
- YES! No. Are you willing to share your expertise with other teachers?
- YES! No. Are you willing to move beyond your comfort zone and encourage others to do the same?
- YES! No. Are you willing to implement new instructional or assessment strategies?

Time Commitment

The Kentucky World Language Teacher Network Class of 2010 runs from November 2009 to June 2010. A tentative schedule is currently being developed but will include monthly meetings either online or face-to-face. In order to accomplish projects objectives, the full participation of each individual is essential. Expected participation includes all sessions as well as additional time outside of the sessions, as needed. Participants are expected to attend at least 80 percent of all scheduled sessions.

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Application Form

How to apply: Please submit your application by e-mail. Simply complete the short form and answer each of the questions below. Indicate the number of each question before your response. Do not send CVs or resumes! Send your application by e-mail to: network@kwla-online.org. Please write "Network" followed by your family name in the subject line. In order for your application to be considered, it must be received by October 16, 2009.

Applicant Information:

Name: _____ Language: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

School Name: _____ District: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Administrator Contact:

Principal Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

School Profile:

School Level: Elementary Middle High College/University

School Setting: Urban Rural Suburban

Poverty Level: _____

(% of students on
free/reduced lunch)

Please submit responses (2-3 paragraphs each) to the following five questions :

1. Describe your understanding of world language proficiency and the role it plays in your classroom.
2. Describe your experiences developing assessments for learners (both formative and summative.)
3. Describe a lesson or unit that you have developed for your learners.
4. Describe how you incorporate the Kentucky Framework for World Language Learning and/or ACTFL Performance Guidelines into the learning in your classroom.
5. Describe your reasons for applying for this program and what do you expect to get out of it.

I verify that all the information that I have provided on this application is accurate. I understand that participation in this grant requires a **serious time commitment** and should I be accepted to the grant I pledge to attend at least 80% of all meetings.



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