
ISSUE 21
AUGUST 15, 2018

This newsletter is brought to you by
Maris Hawkins and Stacey
Margarita Johnson



IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 1

PREVIEW EPISODE 66
WITH WILLIAMSON
COUNTY SCHOOLS

Page 2

RESPONSE TO
EPISODE 65

RESOURCE CORNER

REACTIONS TO PAST
EPISODES

UPDATES FROM PAST
GUESTS &
CONTRIBUTORS

MIDWEEK NEWS AND UPDATES

WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE NEXT
WTL PODCAST EPISODE TO COME OUT...

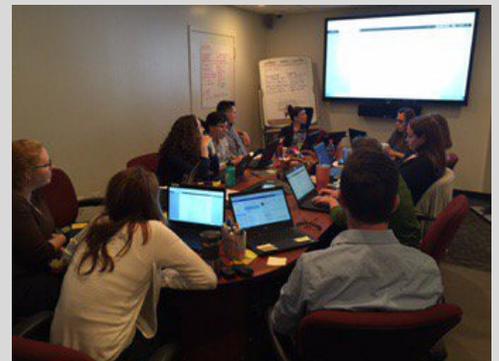


Preview of the Next Episode

EPISODE 66: PURSUING PROFICIENCY IN WILLIAMSON
COUNTY SCHOOLS, PART I

I (Stacey) did not realize the extent of the excellent language teaching happening right in my own backyard until Thomas Sauer, a well-known educational consultant in world languages, invited me to drive down to Franklin, Tennessee, a city just south of where I live in Nashville, and meet the language teachers of Williamson County Schools. This is a district that in the last three years has written, piloted, and implemented a new proficiency-oriented curriculum working together as a team. It wasn't always easy, but they stayed the course, and the results they achieved are REMARKABLE.

If you are looking for inspiration and practical advice on the path to proficiency, the next two weeks are required listening. Share these episodes with your colleagues, administrators, and anyone who may need convincing about WHY and HOW to help students become proficient language users.



**The Williamson County
curriculum writing team**

RESPONSE TO EPISODE 65: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR TESTS WITH SAVAS SAVIDES AND DONGBING ZHANG

This week's episode reaction is from our own Stacey Margarita Johnson!

In this episode, we heard a bit from Beniko Mason and Steve Smith, two of our most popular guests ever, and then we got to hear two new voices who live in very different parts of the world doing very different kinds of work. Four guests representing Japan, the UK, Greece, China (although Dongbing lives in Australia), who all agree on one point: our students need to validate what they have learned in our classes by succeeding on external, standardized tests. But, as language teachers interested in communicative results, how can we prepare them for high achievement on these tests?

If you listened to the recent series on the Seal of Biliteracy (episodes 62, 63, and 64), you heard that many teachers are using external tests such as the AAPPL or AP exam to provide external proficiency validation for their students. In episodes 66 and 67, we will hear how one school district is using tests to measure their success as they pursue proficiency. I hope you have a chance to listen to this episode, even if you are not using standardized tests with your students yet, because the lessons are really universal! Then, please share your ideas in the comments!

Resource Corner

- Bright Classroom Ideas by Savas Savides has a long post of ideas to bring creativity into your classroom.
- Savas has also curated a long list of educational technology resources.
- In addition, he has blogged on ways to build your students' active listening skills.



Reactions to past episodes:

WCS K-12 World Lang @wscCOcg Following
 Replying to @miprofeAP @tjeag and 4 others
 So true! Hope to make community engagement part of the Seal to deliberately get ss to seek out experiences w/ language communities. The more opps they have for engagement, the more likely they are to grow in ICC...and maybe become a lifelong habit. #whatawonderfulworldthatwouldbe

Marissa Coulehan @srtacoulehan Following
 Binged on a few @weteachlang episodes on the #SealofBiliteracy on my way home from #NYSFLT #si2018 highly recommend them! @miprofeAP, @senoraMThomas and Pat DiPillo were super informative!

Nicole Sherf @NicoleSherf1 Following
 Listen to @MaFLAonline Pat DiPillo on @weteachlang episode 64 talking about the @BiliteracySeal.

Sergio Delgado @sergioldga Follow
 ¡Quiero dar las gracias a todos estos pioneros que abrieron el camino en la formación de profesores de idiomas extranjeros en las ondas! buff.ly/2w160P2 @FLMpodcast @weteachlang @radio5_rne @InstCervantes

Updates from Past Contributors



Linda Egnatz (episode 63) has been working with others on the Global Seal of Biliteracy for students and adults. Check out the website for more information and an upcoming release of the standards.



Stacey Margarita Johnson recently wrote a post on the Global ISL blog. In it, she discusses her reactions from the podcast including community engagement and cultural humility.