

SSTESOL: News and Events to Smile About



Issue 3 May 9, 2020 Arlene Costello, Ed.D. President



A Message from SSTESOL Board of Directors

At the conclusion of the 2020 National Teacher Appreciation week, please join me in thanking teachers and educators of English Learners who are going far and beyond their call of duty in educating their students through distance learning.

Sincerely,
Arlene Costello, Ed.D.
President, SSTESOL



Meet SSTESOL Educator of the Quarter, Ms. Tania Artile from SWFL Chapter

Nominated by Carla Huck, President of SWFL SSTESOL Chapter
From left to right: Tania Artile and Carla Huck

I met Tania at Dunbar High School four years ago as she was transitioning from the position of ESOL paraprofessional to

More from Message... For example, in the First Live Virtual Chat with presidents of local SSTESOL chapters, they shared with me countless stories of what teachers do to connect with their students, distribute laptops, teach parents to use Zoom, deliver meals and ensure that learning and assessing take place in different forms. We are thankful and appreciative of your contributions.

I want to let you know that on behalf of the SSTESOL of Florida Board of Directors, we celebrate, honor and thank you! Lastly, I encountered this unusual opportunity, Thank a Hero Sweepstakes. If you'd like to say thank you to public employees, you may nominate a hero (educator, nurse, or public employees or yourself) and win dinner from a local restaurant or books for your students or kids. Visit <https://sharemylesson.com/thankahero>

Celebrate!
2020 National Teacher Appreciation Week
Nurses Week
May: Asian Pacific Islander Month
May 10: Mother's Day!

Featuring: Southwest Florida TESOL Chapter by Carla Huck, President

ESOL teacher. She has been instrumental in the success of her school's International Center, which teaches 200 newcomers (including 80 SLIFE) in a cohort-model within the school. Tania works tirelessly to plan standards-based, rigorous lessons using the SIOP lesson format; functions as the advocate and cheerleader for 400 ELs; coordinates the ESOL department PLC; and has participated in every training I have offered at her school and across the district. She is eager to learn, grow as a professional, and share her knowledge and expertise with others. Congratulations, Tania, SSTESOL Educator of the Quarter.



The Southwest Florida TESOL Local SSTESOL chapter was founded in 2018 to address the need to network our ESOL professionals in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Monroe, Hendry, and Glades counties. With 250 SWFL TESOL members, our chapter has also attracted educators from other counties around the state who participated in our recent annual conference at Florida Gulf Coast University. Held on February 29th, this conference kicked off with introductions from university president Mike Martin followed by keynote Kathy Lobo from TESOL International. The conference theme was, "*Empowering Teachers of English Learners: Every Teacher is a Language Teacher.*" Kathy addressed TESOL's 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching of English Learners and facilitated two workshops based on her practice as a middle school teacher..

Photo on Left: Kathy Lobo, TESOL International, Keynote Speaker

Below: Members of SWTESOL of Florida Local Chapter, February 29, 2020



Live-Virtual Chat with SSTESOL President and SSTESOL Local Chapter Presidents

As we continue our launch of SSTESOL's Strategic Goals to improve governance operations, strengthening local chapter's relationships and support is of importance to achieving this goal. On May 5, 2020, SSTESOL President, Dr. Arlene Costello, hosted the first Virtual Chat with local chapter presidents for one hour. Presidents of SSTESOL's Local Chapters who attended included Catherine Baucum of Northeast FL, Andrea de Capua representing Bay Area, Cheryl Shannon of Palm Beach, Jennifer Killam of Broward County, Raydel Hernandez of Miami-Dade, Carla Huck of Southwest FL, and Arlene Costello of Emerald Coast. SSTESOL Board members Tony Erben, Andrea Lypka, and Amany Habib joined the Chat as well.

The Chat was designed to celebrate online teaching and learning successes

during this year's Teacher Appreciation Week, to explore the challenges and obstacle of achieving equity in English Learners' distance learning, and identify ways SSTESOL can support members' needs through local chapter leaders as agencies in the forefront of creating culturally responsive virtual education. Participants found the Chat productive and wise use of their time, a wonderful sharing of resources, very valuable and highly provocative. The next virtual Chat is set for August 5, 2020.

SSTESOL and ESL Library – A Partnership Initiative and SSTESOL Member Benefit

We are proud to announce that effective May 1, 2020, SSTESOL of Florida and the ESL Library have formed a partnership to provide meaningful resources to our members as part of your membership benefits and which could result in a WIN/WIN for both entities. You will see the ESL Library logo as a Silver Sponsor on our website and social media platforms, as well as all conference promotion materials. SSTESOL plans to use their sponsorship donation to fund SSTESOL's Awards, Scholarships and Professional Learning Programs. We encourage all 2020 active SSTESOL members and new members to email tammy@esllibrary.com and use the email header SSTESOL 2020 member. A coupon entry code as login is being created which will take a few months while ESL Library updates its system. As part of the qualitative evaluation of the success of this partnership, please email a short reflection of your experience in accessing resources in ESL Library to sstesol@gmail.com and tammy@esllibrary.com.

Contact SSTESOL of Florida at sstesol@gmail.com



Thank You



Highlights of SSTESOL Board of Directors Meeting, May 7, 2020

Providing you with timely information as part of your membership benefit in SSTESOL is a way of improving communication with SSTESOL members as we advance the quality of English Language teaching and learning through professional learning, research, standards and advocacy. To that end, we are proud to share with you the topics and decisions that were voted on by the SSTESOL Board. They are as follows:

- **2020 SSTESOL Annual Conference will go Virtual! SAVE THE DATES:** Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 13 – 14, 2020. Deadline for presentation proposal submission is August 3, 2020. Start saving for your registration fees today. Registration fees are very affordable. Active members: \$35.00; non-members: \$45.00; students: \$10.00; para-professionals, retired, and adjunct instructors: \$20.00. Application for Awards and scholarship opportunities will begin accepting applications on May 15, 2020 and are due on or before September 1st. Exhibitors and sponsors are important constituents of the conference. We welcome your support and participation. For questions, please contact SSTESOL Conference Team at sstesol@gmail.com.
- **Standing Committees.** Standing Committee members are hard at work with new initiatives and projects. They include professional learning,

technology/website, awards and scholarships, finance, communication, initiatives and advocacy. If you would like to get involved in these committees, please send your name and contact information to sstesol@gmail.org with SSTESOL Standing Committees on the subject line.

- **Farewell and Welcome.** The president awarded certificates of appreciation to Krista Royal, Member-at-Large and Chair of Initiative standing committee from 2018 – 2020 and Mariah Schuemann, Member-at-Large, Exhibitor Liaison and Webmaster, as they exit from the Board.

Welcome to Carla Huck. The Board approved her appointment as Member-at-Large and Webmaster starting on May 7, 2020. Carla is president of Southwest FL TESOL, a SSTESOL Chapter.

- Please visit SSTESOL's Facebook and sstesol.org for more news, president's report, updates, and teaching and learning resources. .