



EAST LOS ANGELES SKILLS CENTER WEEKLY BULLETIN

October 21, 2019

Volume 7, Issue 10

Please submit items for publication to the editor: Julio Melara, APO at jmelar01@lausd.net

East Los Angeles Skills Center
3921 Selig Place Los Angeles, CA 90031
Office: (323) 224-5970
Monday through Thursday 8:00am-4:30pm
Friday: 7:30am-4:00pm
Saturday 8:00am – 12:15 pm

Eastside Learning Center
4355 Michigan Ave. LA, CA 90022
Office: (323) 729-1800
Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00am-9:00pm
Friday: 7:30am-4:00pm

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 22, 2019 - ESL planning meeting 11:45 am – 12:15 pm ELASC
- October 22, 2019 - HiSET 9:00 am ELASC
- October 23, 2019 - CTE PLC 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm ELASC
- October 24, 2019 - Open House ELASC 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- October 24, 2019 - ESL planning meeting 11:45 am – 12:15 pm Eastside
- October 26, 2019 - CCAE Conference
- October 31, 2019 - Suicide Prevention Training Due

Professional Development/Workshops

Facilitated Online Courses

- Optimizing ESL Instruction planning: Management, Monitoring and Reflection – Oct. 28-Nov.24 visit <http://bit.ly2LpqVDI>

National Geographic Learning in person PD

- Unpacking the concepts of College and Career Readiness Standards and including them in your lesson plans – Friday, November 15, 2019 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Baldwin Park Adult School RSVP Steven.Maggiore@Cengage.com



Community Wellness Fair

On Saturday, October 19th, 2019 the East Los Angeles Network held its annual Community Wellness Fair at the Civic Center in East Los Angeles. ELASC had a booth at the event. We want to thank Julio Melara, Oscar Rodriguez (Not shown on the photo), Olivia Romo, and Vanessa Sanchez for representing us at the fair.

Cooperative Learning (From Learning Together, Sept. 2013)

What? Cooperative Learning is an instructional approach in which learners work in groups to complete a shared task that has a specified time limit. Students benefit by learning to work in teams. They use interpersonal skills that are required in the workplace and the community.

Why? Over 1000 studies have proven that cooperative learning maximizes student engagement and boosts achievement. We are social beings and our basic nature is active and interactive. Students want “to do” and talk. ESL students gain fluency and comprehension more readily than when they only listen to the teacher model accurate speech. ABE, ASE, and CTE students also benefit from cooperative learning strategies. They learn from peers as they receive multiple chances to explain their thinking processes and work procedures. Students get input as they solve problems and use critical thinking and reasoning skills.

How? Cooperative learning works through:

Simultaneous and equal interaction: There is equal time for each student to share and as many students as possible talk and listen at once.

Interdependence: The success of one student produces benefit for all, and each one’s contribution is necessary to complete a task.

Accountability: A public performance by each student is required.

- 1- Group desks or tables and chairs in teams of four. If tables are bolted to the floor, have students move chairs or stools around the end of a table.
- 2- Assign students within teams: Partner A and Partner B for partner work; Team members A1/B1 and A2/B2 for partners to partners; and team member 1,2,3,4 for round table tasks.
- 3- Create a safe place for interaction by regularly using class and team building activities.
- 4- Introduce cooperative activities using simple tasks so students learn the process before applying it to harder content or skills.
- 5- Use a quiet signal to stop group work for instructions or sharing. Only speak when all students are quiet.
- 6- Use a large and, preferably, audible timer to keep student interaction equitable and moving along.
- 7- If at first you don’t succeed, reflect, talk with colleagues to receive their input, and then try the strategy again. Don’t give up.

References and Resources:

Slavin, Shara, Kagan, Hertz-Lazarowitz, Webb, Schmuck. Learning to Cooperate, Cooperating. NY, NY, Plenum Publishing, 1985.

Kagan, S., Cooperative Learning, CALPRO Fact Sheet No 6, Sacramento, CA 2009

PLC Basics

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are a research-based “best practice” focused on improving student learning through teacher collaboration and capacity building. The following are the PLC Basic:

4 Critical Questions, 3 Big Ideas, 2 Purposes, and 1 Goal, Learning for All. Check for more information in the next issues of your ELASC Newsletter. Also remember to check the Professional Development Opportunities posted on the board at both main offices.

Meet One of Our Own: Mariam Sidhom, Career Planning Teacher Advisor

Our Saturday Program Advisor, Mariam Sidhom, started working in 2007 at Gardena CAS as, both, WIOA and DL adviser. She taught math and reading and the II Lab. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Cal State LA, with a minor in Economics and is currently working on her Master of Science in Education, along with her Administrative Services Credential. She also holds an Adult Designated Subjects Credential. Although Ms. Sidhom did not serve in the military, her initial plans were to join the Coast Guard and be deployed overseas. She got accepted in The California State University Maritime Academy in Vallejo, California. But life got in the way of her plans even though she felt her knowledge of the Arabic language would have served her well, especially after September 11, 2001.

She enjoys family time, the beach, rollerblading, taking walks with her two dogs and reading. Two of her favorite books are “Kite Runner” by Khaled Hosseini and “The Four Agreements” by Don Miguel Ruiz. She especially enjoys doing academic research and is fascinated by behavioral science and by how people make choices in life. She would travel the world bartering for lessons and open schools for the people if she had the opportunity. She gets inspired by helping people overcome their obstacles and achieve their goals. Her philosophy in life is to keep it simple and give back to others. A quote by Helen Keller that reads: “The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be touched, they must be felt with the heart” inspires her every day.



Happy October Birthday to: Mac Velazquez – October 31

“Confidence comes not from always being right, but from not fearing to be wrong.” Morgan Freeman

ELASC Official Website: www.eastlaskillscenter.org
Visit us at Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eastlaskillscenter.org>



Our Mission

The East Los Angeles Skills Center in collaboration with community—based organizations and stakeholders will provide access to educational programs and services to students to achieve their personal and or career goals through language acquisition, academic and career pathways.

Our School-wide Learning Outcomes

The East Los Angeles Skills Center offers opportunities for all students to:

- Have access to an educational plan and course of study to increase employability
- Obtain technical skills for entry and advanced employment
- Acquire language and academic skills for advanced educational options and careers

Our Vision

To be a dynamic educational and job training institution to empower students to be college prepared and career ready.