

# POWeRFuL

## *Educators*

Putnam- Westchester Foreign Language Newsletter

Issue No. 33

**PWRFL Meetings:****Jan. 13- Oral Proficiency- Somers Middle School- 4-6pm****Feb. 3- Webinar- Valhalla High School- 4-6pm****Mar. 3- SNOW MAKE-UP DATE IF NECESSARY****Mar. 21- PWRFL SPRING Conference (stay tuned for more information)**

**CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE WILL BE GIVEN BUT WE ARE NOT LISTED ON MYLEARNINGPLAN!**

## Dec. 2014!

Our next workshop is scheduled for January 13th from 4-6pm at Somers Middle School (250 U.S. 202, Somers, NY 10589). This will be a workshop on Oral Proficiency- page 2 has a full description of all of the information about this workshop! As always, please RSVP to [powerfuleducators@hotmail.com](mailto:powerfuleducators@hotmail.com) if you are going to be attending!

REGIONAL CONFERENCE:

We are starting to plan for our March 21st full-day conference!!! If you have any workshops you are interested in seeing or PRESENTING, please e-

mail us at

[powerfuleducators@hotmail.com](mailto:powerfuleducators@hotmail.com).

*New incentive- if you are presenting, you get free attendance all day!*

*Remember there is no fee for our standard workshops throughout the year if you are already a paid PWRFL member for the year but there is a small charge for the Regional which includes breakfast and lunch.*

NOMINATIONS:

*Once again, it is time for us to nominate officers for a two year term. Please see page 3 for a letter from our nominations chairperson. Please consider running or nominating someone else!*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- NYSAFLT Update- page 4
- BOCES CONFERENCES- page 6

DUES:

*Our year runs September- June! This year we are asking for \$26. Remember, with your paid dues, you get to attend workshops for free, your students get to apply for awards and there is a discount on the Regional!*

CONTESTS:

*Will be announced in January!*

WEBSITE:

*Please check out our website- [www.powerfuleducators.com](http://www.powerfuleducators.com)*

**1. Title:**

Effectively Using your Curriculum to Enhance and Assess Oral Proficiency.

**2. Your workshop is designed for grade levels (check all that apply):**

6-8, 9-12, and Post-Secondary

**3. Examples will be given in the following language(s):** Spanish**4. The workshop will be conducted in following language(s):** English**5. Description (synopsis) of the workshop:**

In this workshop I will explain two methods I use that truly get my students to use the target language meaningfully and communicatively while also allowing me to assess their level of oral proficiency. Using my curriculum as a guide, I will discuss how to **create** and **implement** “discursos” (oral exams) for each chapter as well as audio lessons. Using any curriculum, both methods have been proven to have students practicing their speaking with any given chapter.

**6. Procedures and/or activities to be employed:**

I will discuss how to develop and implement “Discursos”, oral exams that are given with each chapter. Students are shown several pictures and are given verbal prompts which they use to describe the picture. Students are also given a rubric that assesses their preparation, fluency and pronunciation, grammatical structures, and vocabulary. A copy of the rubric will be provided to the participants so they are able to see how students are evaluated. I will discuss different ways to implement the discursos in a period or block setting.

Lastly, I will discuss how to create “Audio Lessons”. Using “Mix Craft 5” or “iMovie” I can create audio lessons that are geared based around the current chapters target vocabulary and grammar. Through pronunciation practice, repetition, wait time, and self-correction students are able to practice their oral production in an audio lesson that takes up an entire period.

Dear PoWeRFuL colleagues,

As immediate Past President and Nominations Chair, it is my responsibility to gather nominations for the upcoming PoWeRFuLelections. This year we are seeking nominees for the following positions:

- Vice- President: two-year term
- Treasurer: two-year term

It is vital that we keep our local Westchester/Putnam language association strong, current, and vibrant. We welcome new faces with new ideas! Please consider volunteering to be an officer in PoWeRFuL. Not only does it look GREAT to your administrators (it satisfies the requirements in Domain 4 of the Danielson APPR framework!!!!), but it is GREAT for you both personally and professionally. If **you** are not able, please talk to your colleagues to see if they are interested.

Please email all nominations to: [nkress@briarcliffschools.org](mailto:nkress@briarcliffschools.org) .

Finally, as a PSA for PoWeRFuL, please encourage your colleagues to join PoWeRFuL and our parent organization NYSAFLT and to attend meetings. It is healthy and fulfilling to spend time learning from each other and discussing our craft. It keeps us fresh, young, current and dynamic!

Sincerely,  
*Nancy*

Nancy Kress  
French/Spanish Teacher  
PoWeRFuL Nominations Chairperson

Briarcliff Middle School  
444 Pleasantville Road  
Briarcliff Manor, New York 10510  
(914) 488-8408

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## December 2014 NYSAFLT UPDATE

### Conference Schedule for 2015: Join us !

- **Colloquium** in Syracuse NY on May 2, 2015: “A LOTE Odyssey: Setting a Course to Universal Proficiency”
- **Summer Institute** in Oneonta, NY August 4-7, 2015: “World Languages: Transforming Lives, Preparing Global Citizens”
- **Annual Conference** in Saratoga Springs, NY October 30-31, 2015: “21<sup>st</sup> Century LOTE Education: Providing the Keys to College and Career Readiness”
  
- **Webinars:** NYSAFLT offers numerous webinars for purchase. Please check them out on the website.
- **2015 Scholarships, Travel Grants and Awards: IT’S NOT TOO LATE!** For teachers and students– look at the NYSAFLT website for more details.
- **Administrator’s Page, Common Core and SLOS:** Check out these **terrific resources** to use on our website.
- **Advocacy: Get involved** by checking out the Advocacy section at NYSAFLT.
- **People Who Inspire:** Check out those who have been honored on the NYSAFLT page. **Nominate a colleague for \$25** – the fee goes to NYSAFLT annual scholarship funds.
- **Membership:** Remember to **renew your NYSAFLT membership** so you can take advantage of discounted rates on all of these great events! The calendar year for NYSAFLT runs from January through December, **so RENEW NOW!**

Keep checking [nysaflt.org](http://nysaflt.org) for updated information about webinars, scholarships and more!



## Sept. 2014-Jun. 2015 PoWeRFuL Registration Form

Please fill out this form and return it, with a check, to Charlene Sirlin.  
(see address below)

Please note, registration will cover attendance at all scheduled meetings but there will be an additional cost for the Regional Meeting held in the spring.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$26 Full Membership\*    \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Retired    \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Student

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_

Preferred E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Language(s) taught: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Certificates of completion for each workshop will be given (we are not listed on mylearningplan)! Each person is responsible for contacting their school district regarding in-service credit/ credit towards the 175 hours needed for recertification!**

\*Remember, starting in October, we will only be sending our e-mails to current members of PWRFL so if you would like to continue to be informed about job openings, important e-mails, you need to register to be a member!

Please make checks out to Westchester Association of Foreign Language Educators (we continue to use this acronym for our banking) and mail to:

Charlene Sirlin

7 Kisco Park Drive

Mount Kisco, NY 10549

**\*\*\*NO SCHOOL PO's ACCEPTED\*\*\***

*Please sign-up/ bookmark these sites:*

*E-mail: [powerfuleducators@hotmail.com](mailto:powerfuleducators@hotmail.com)*

*Twitter: PoWeRFuL\_Ed*

*Facebook: PoWeRFuL Educators*

# BOCES WORKSHOPS 2014-2015

## Putnam/N. West. BOCES

To access:

[Pnwboces.org](http://Pnwboces.org)

Then click on : Professional Development Catalogue (on lefthand side)

**12/05/2014** Effective Practices for Teaching a Foreign Language

**2/10/2015** Second Meeting of Foreign Language Chairs and Lead Teachers- 12-3pm

**3/11/2015** Teaching Reading and Writing in the Foreign Language Class

**3/16/2015** Integrating Culture into the Foreign Language Curriculum

**4/8/2015** Third meeting of Foreign Language Chairs and Lead Teachers- 12-3pm

**5/11/2015** Teaching ALL students in mixed ability Foreign Language Classes

Please contact BOCES for a registration form or Harriet Barnett  
[hsbarnett4203@gmail.com](mailto:hsbarnett4203@gmail.com) with any questions.

# Your officers:

Please feel free to contact any of the officers for more information:

Alexis Thornton (President)- [athornton@pvcasd.org](mailto:athornton@pvcasd.org)

Roxanne Franquelli- Beras (Vice-President)-[roxanne.franquelli@gmail.com](mailto:roxanne.franquelli@gmail.com)

Julie Bianchi (Treasurer)- [jbianchi@ardsleyschools.org](mailto:jbianchi@ardsleyschools.org)

Charlene Sirlin (Registration)- [charlene.sirlin@chufsd.org](mailto:charlene.sirlin@chufsd.org)

Nancy Kress (Nominations Committee Chair)- [nkress@briarcliffschools.org](mailto:nkress@briarcliffschools.org)

## NYSAFLT Directors:

Fabien La Rivière (NYSAFLT Regional Director 2013-2015)- [fabienriviere@gmail.com](mailto:fabienriviere@gmail.com)

Sally Barnes (NYSAFLT Regional Director 2014-2016)- [sally.barnes@chufsd.org](mailto:sally.barnes@chufsd.org)

Our logo, compliments of Kelly from Pocantico Hills.

