

ODE State Consultants' Report

OFLA Annual Business Meeting 2011

Deborah W. Robinson and Ryan T. Wertz

www.education.ohio.gov

1. Clear Expectations for Students

ODE began the **World Language academic content standards revision process** with stakeholder groups and expert reviewers in June, 2010. The timeline for adoption has been extended. In the late autumn of this year (2011) the draft standards will be posted on the ODE Web site for public input. The revised standards will be presented to the State Board of Education in the spring of 2012, with adoption slated for June of that year. Following adoption, ODE consultants will work on model curriculum and the SBOE will vote on the K-8 vertical alignment documents and high school syllabi that will show how to unpack the revised standards (currently scheduled for June, 2013). With more flexibility this go round, the standards and model curriculum will be framed around levels of proficiency rather than grade levels as other states do. Elements of the LinguaFolio student self-assessment instrument will also be incorporated.

The ODE's **K-4 Content-Related Mandarin Chinese Curriculum** project is now largely finished. With the exception of one 4th grade unit which is undergoing some final edits, all of the 53 other K-4 units have been revised and posted on the ODE web site (type "Ohio's content-enriched Mandarin" in search box to quickly locate). The work was supported by a Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) grant that was awarded to ODE by the U.S. Department of Education in 2006 and matching funds from the state of Ohio.

Information on ODE's Web site on **credit flexibility** for world language learners (type "credit flexibility guidance documents" in the search box and scan down the page for world language information) continues to be regularly updated. By law (Am. Senate Bill 311), local districts must now have a plan in place to award credit in all subjects and communicate that plan to stakeholders. Learners may earn credit for experiences/service learning/internships/demonstrations of proficiency. Credit earned in this manner will be transcribed just like any other credit. Although the actual awarding of credit has been left to local control, the ODE may call upon OFLA to recommend a uniform means of awarding credit based on results on proficiency measures (e.g., Intermediate-Low = 3 credits of A work).

2. Teacher Capacity

Consultants continue to **advise world language educators in the field** on the use of Ohio's academic content standards, the model curricula on the ODE Web site (follow the ODE Web site link to the IMS) as well as on multiple entry points, differentiated instruction, and performance-based assessment. Consultants also continue to give in-services and workshops on LinguaFolio, a student self-assessment instrument sponsored by the National Council of State Supervisors for Languages.

The ODE, in partnership with the OFLA and the Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS), is pleased to announce the creation of the Ohio **Global Language Educators Network (GLEN)**. The GLEN will be a community of practice consisting of beginning language teachers committed to lifelong professional improvement. A two-year process focused on action research and leadership development initiates teachers into the world language teaching community. Beginning world language teachers throughout Ohio with two-to-five years of experience are encouraged to join the GLEN by registering for the first summer 2011 institute to be held **July 5-9** at Denison University in Granville, Ohio. This community of practice is particularly important for rural world language teachers with little local support or for new teachers within a department of seasoned veterans. The institute is limited to the first 25 teachers who apply. More information, including a link to registration materials, can be accessed on the ODE Web site (type "GLEN" in the search box).

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In July 2009, Ohio House Bill 1 was approved, which mandated a new licensure system for teachers in Ohio, including a **Resident Educator** license. ODE has developed a **Resident Educator Program** with the first licenses being issued in January, 2011. This four-year experience will provide Ohio educators just entering the profession with quality mentoring and guidance essential for a long and flourishing career. Full implementation of this residency program begins in August, 2011. Successful completion of the program will be required for beginning teachers to qualify for a five-year professional educator license. This program requires novice teachers to be mentored for one year and then participate in job-embedded action research and formative assessment of their teaching based on the seven domains of Ohio's Standards for the Teaching Profession for the following three years. A series of workshops has been offered over the past year with more than 10,000 mentors, cooperating teachers and resident educators receiving initial training. Type "Ohio Resident Educator Program" into the search box on the ODE Web site for more details.

Consultants continue to help heritage speakers seeking **alternative licensure**. For information, type "educator licensure" in the search box of our ODE Web site and click on the link on the left called "alternative licensure."

We'd like to warmly congratulate the following Ohio teachers, who achieved National Board Certification in World Languages Other than English/Early Adolescence through Young Adulthood in November, 2010:

Dana Fellows – Worthington City Schools

Deborah McCorkle – Union-Scioto Local Schools

3. Advocacy

Consultants worked with OFLA Committees to provide information on the importance of World Languages to the overall school program, 21st century skill development, and legislation/representatives friendly to WLS. Through the National Council of State Supervisors of Foreign Language (NCSSFL), consultants remained abreast of and passed on information about world language issues at the national level that impact Ohio.

4. Miscellaneous

ODE consultants also:

- Attended OFLA meetings and reported to the Executive Board;
- Submitted articles to *The Cardinal*;
- Advertised Camp OFLA and other travel, study, staffing, and funding opportunities in the *Ides of ODE* and *Tools for Teachers* e-newsletters;
- Continued to strongly advocate for ALL languages with an emphasis on maintaining Ohio's heritage language programs in French and German while also encouraging schools and districts to consider offering students at least one less commonly taught language.
- Held informational webinars for districts on the visiting international teacher programs in 2011-12.
- Went to China and Spain to interview prospective visiting teachers candidates;
- Provided a fifth cohort of visiting teachers from Spain and China with orientation to schooling, standards, classroom management, and grading and assessment, among other topics; and
- Represented Ohio on the National Council of State Supervisors for Languages (NCSSFL) as Immediate Past President (Debbie) and Treasurer (Ryan).

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5. International Education

ODE consultants are pleased to announce the fulltime appointment of a new International Education Coordinator. Desiree Caliguire-Maier (who happens to be a long-time OFLA member) took up this post in January, 2011. Desiree can be reached at Desiree.Caliguire-Maier@ode.state.oh.us. It should be noted that Ryan served as the Interim International Education Coordinator during all of 2010.

The *Think Global Ohio* Web site continues to be the primary clearinghouse for information and resources related to K-12 international education in Ohio. To visit the site, go to www.thinkglobalohio.org. Many resources are available to Ohio K-12 educators. Of particular interest are two documents that are available via the Text Resources link: the *Strategic Plan for International Education in Ohio* and the *International Education Rubric for Ohio Schools*.

The **2011 Global Institute for Teachers** is a three-day residential workshop that will be held August 2-4 for K-12 educators of all content areas across the curriculum. This event provides participants with the opportunity to:

1. Share best practices in international education;
2. Obtain new resources and tools for internationalizing across the curriculum;
3. Network with Ohio and international PreK-12 educators; and
4. Develop an action plan for implementation in their classrooms and schools.

The 2011 Global Institute results from a collaborative effort between the ODE, Ohio University, the OSU Office of International Affairs, OSU and Ohio University Area Studies Centers, the Gerald H. Read Center at Kent State University, the University of Cincinnati, Shawnee State University and the Ohio Geographic Alliance. Primary funding comes from a generous gift from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. The application deadline has been extended to April 29, 2011. For more information, visit the Institute Web site at: <http://www.ohio.edu/conferences/globalinstitute.cfm>.