

FLAGS Pole

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FLAGS is a membership organization whose purpose is to provide networking, resources and professional development to world language teachers in the greater Sacramento area.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO



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FLAGS Winter

Workshop: Unpacking the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

On Saturday, January 25, 2014, more than 30 World Language teachers from the greater Sacramento area had the opportunity to take on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and get the inside scoop from the experts.

Workshop participants dissected and discussed the scope of the standards, and the ways in which the standards apply to our WL classrooms. Participants also looked at the alignment and made comparisons among CCSS, Anchor Standards and the Partnership for 21st Century Skills.

While thinking through these standards and their applications in the classroom can be daunting, it is important, as teachers to ask not IF we are using them (we are!), but HOW they show up in our classrooms and how they manifest themselves through our students' learning outcomes.

To delve deeper into the CCSS and look for active applications for your teaching, don't miss the [CLTA 2014 Conference](#) in San Diego this March! See pg. 4 of this issue of the FLAGS Pole for more information!

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Upcoming Events

Thursday, Mar. 13 - Sunday, Mar. 16, 2014:

California Language Teachers' Association (CLTA) Conference: March 13-16, 2014
San Diego, CA; for more information, visit the [CLTA Web Site](#)

Saturday, May 3, 2014:

Student Awards Breakfast, 8:30-10:00 a.m.; Denny's



The President's Perch: A Letter from Nicole

Welcome to 2014!

Hello FLAGS Members and Colleagues!

It feels like August was last month, but it is January, and we are now half-way through the 2013-14 school year! We've increasingly gotten to know and understand our students and our students have developed a rapport with us and with each other. There are inside jokes that differ from class period to class period and best of all, we have already experienced at least one moment when we could "see" our students' understanding: it was visible in their faces.

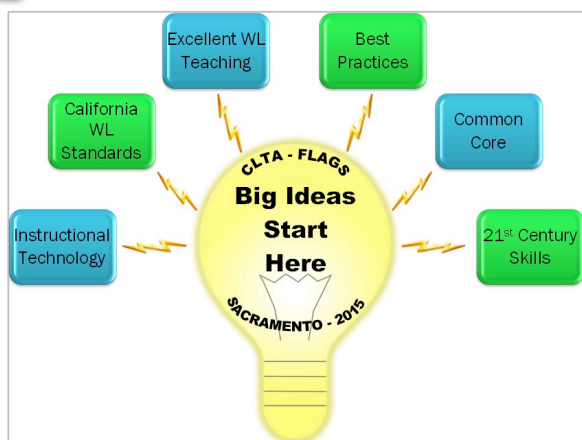
Your FLAGS board members have been relishing those same moments in their classrooms and we know you are eager to keep things fresh and engaging for your students. To that end, we have exciting plans for the winter and spring of 2014, including a winter workshop and the ever-popular annual Student Awards Breakfast. We are sure you will want to join us at these events; not only are these events a wonderful time to connect with one another, they also provide unique opportunities to network with our colleagues, share strategies and successes and celebrate student achievement. Keep an eye on the FLAGS Web site (<http://www.flagsteacher.com>) for information about dates and times.

In addition, the Capital World Language Project is planning a series of after-school sessions in Spring 2014 to unpack the Common Core State Standards through the lens of language teaching. You won't want to miss these opportunities to find out just how world language programs contribute to student achievement of the CCSS. Dates and locations to be announced on the FLAGS Web site.

We look forward to seeing you at our Winter/Spring events and wish you a successful and fun 2014!

Nicole Naditz

president@flagsteacher.com or nnaditz@gmail.com



CLTA IS COMING TO SACRAMENTO!!!

In 2015, FLAGS will be hosting the annual CLTA Conference. We will be focusing on **BIG IDEAS** and bringing them to the classroom. Stay tuned for more information, and if you want to help make this the best conference

ever hosted, contact us at:

president@flagsteacher.com.

ACTFL, 2013

New Spaces, New Realities at ACTFL 2013

by Christine Lanphere and Nicole Naditz

Nearly 7,000 world language education professionals gathered at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida for the 2013 ACTFL World Language Convention and Expo from Nov. 22-24. More than 600 sessions were available focusing on a wide variety of topics of interest to the profession, ranging from technology to immersion to best practices, as well as numerous language-specific sessions.

At the opening general session, ACTFL President and 2009 National Language Teacher of the year, Toni Theisen, wowed the audience by making her entrance virtually, using green-screen technology to “appear” in the aisles of the hall and then projected into outer space to begin her welcoming address before appearing in person onstage.

Following the welcome, the five regional finalists for National Language Teacher of the Year 2014 were introduced with videos showing them in their classrooms as a backdrop. Following this introduction and acknowledgement of all five finalists, Toni Theisen announced that Linda Egnatz from Illinois (Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Language) was selected as the 2014 National Language Teacher of the Year. Linda is a high school Spanish teacher at Lincoln-Way Community High School in Frankfort, IL. She has been teaching for over 30 years at middle- and high-school levels, as well as serving as adjunct instructor at local colleges and universities. Linda was also closely involved in the development and implementation of the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy for high school graduates.

Following the announcement, the attendees had a unique opportunity to hear renowned educational author and consultant, Dr. Tony Wagner, speaking about creating innovative citizens by embedding innovation, including creativity, risk-taking, failure and fun into their learning experiences.

This year's conference also included some new features, such as a student panel representing authentic student voices on varied aspects of educational design and experiences, a TED Talk-style session featuring 2013 Southwest Conference on Language Teaching and ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year Noah Geisel, and a "power share" session using a Pecha Kucha format, featuring FLAGS President Nicole Naditz as one of four nationally-known presenters.

Pecha Kucha is a Japanese term. In this style of presentation, presenters have 20 PowerPoint slides in which to present their content, but only 20 seconds per slide to speak. Needless to say, this was a fast-paced, high energy session that left participants thrilled and excited to learn more about each of the topics presented.

(Continued on pg. 4...)

Membership Message

While we are in the midst of the school year, it is NOT too late to join **FLAGS** or **CLTA**! Membership brings opportunities for great deals on professional development workshops and conferences, a quarterly newsletter, networking opportunities, and classroom and teaching ideas to inject into your standard routines. To renew or join **FLAGS**, print and send in the membership form on page 5 of this news letter or visit <http://www.flagsteacher.com/membership.html>. To renew or join **CLTA**, visit <http://www.tfaforms.com/293845>. We look forward to having you on board!

~ Evelyn

CLTA Conference!!!

THE BASICS:

California Language Teachers' Association (CLTA) Conference: March 13-16, 2014 in San Diego, CA; for more information, visit the [CLTA Web Site](#).

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?!?!?

- Common Core! We hear about it every day, but how does it apply to us? How do we make it meaningful? COME FIND OUT!
- 20+ three-hour workshops on Thursday and Friday designed to introduce and instruct participants in innovative techniques to stimulate your classroom and boost student engagement.
- 25+ Hour-long Interest Sessions designed to help you bring new ideas and techniques to your classroom, give you new ideas, and allow you to interact with your colleagues.
- 3-4 Days in Sunny San Diego re-charging your batteries!

New Spaces, New Realities at ACTFL 2013 (Continued from pg. 3)

Several California Language Teachers' Association members represented California as presenters at this conference. In addition to Nicole, California presenters included Terri Nelson of CSUS San Bernardino, Yo Azama (2012 National Language Teacher of the Year), and **FLAGS** Board member Christine Lanphere (2007 National Language Teacher of the Year).

Please consider joining us for the 2014 ACTFL Convention and Expo in San Antonio, Texas, November 21-23, 2014. Given the quantity and variety of sessions and the number of attendees, this conference presents an unparalleled opportunity to expand your professional learning network and to enhance your understanding of

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO

(A regional affiliate of the California Language Teachers Association)

Membership Application or Renewal

FLAGS: January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014 [CLTA: Jan 1-Aug 31, 2014]

Circle One

Name (please print)

New Renewal

Title (circle one) Miss Ms. Mrs. Sister Dr. Mr. Rev. Brother

Home AddressCA.....

number street city zip

Home Phone (.....)..... School Phone (.....).....

School Language(s).....

School AddressCA.....

number street city zip

E-mail Fax

(New members) I was encouraged to join by

FLAGS dues (\$20 Regular & BOGO; \$10 Student; \$5 Retiree) \$_____ (A)

☐ I'm doing BOGO with _____
(name, both BOGO members must complete forms)

CLTA dues (\$35 Regular; \$28 Student or Retiree; 9 months) \$_____ (B)

TOTAL (A + B) \$_____

If paying both FLAGS & CLTA dues (but NOT BOGO), please make check payable to **CLTA** and send it with this form to:

REGINA COSTON, CLTA Membership Chair
1510 Colwood Dr.
Petaluma, CA 94954

If paying FLAGS dues only (including BOGO), please make check payable to **FLAGS** and send it with this form to:

CHRISTINE LANPHERE, FLAGS Membership
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Elk Grove, CA 95758

