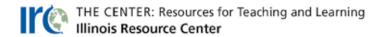


2025 Statewide Conference

for educators serving linguistically and culturally diverse students

December 9 - 11, 2025Tinley Park Convention Center, Tinley Park, IL





INFORMATION ш U Ž Ш \propto ш ட Z 0 ERAL Z ш G

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

NAME BADGES

For security purposes and proof of registration, all participants are required to wear name badges during conference hours. Please make sure your badge is easily visible. If the information is not accurate, please go to the registration area.

CVENT EVENT PLATFORM— COMPLETE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Complete descriptions of concurrent sessions and the entire conference schedule can be found on the Cvent Events website and app. Conference registrants have received the Cvent Events website and app links via email. Up-to-the-minute conference updates such as new sessions or cancellations will also be included on the Cvent platform.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS

Conference participants are required to sign-in and signout electronically each day of the conference in order to receive an ISBE Evidence of Completion form. Conference participants will receive an ISBE evaluation email after the conference which must be filled out before receiving the ISBE Evidence of Completion form. The number of professional development hours for each day is listed on the Evidence of Completion form.

It is the responsibility of conference participants to submit attendance information to ISBE and to keep the Evidence of Completion form for your records. If you have any questions, please stop by the registration area.

EXHIBITORS

Publishers will be exhibiting throughout the conference in common areas of the Convention Center. Please show your support by visiting each publisher representative. Publisher sessions will be identified with the following icon:

COFFEE/BREAKFAST

Coffee and breakfast can be purchased at the Even Hotel restaurant connected to the Tinley Park Convention Center.

COAT RACKS

For your convenience, there are coat racks in the South Pavilion. Please see signs directing you to this location.

SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited in any area of the Conference Center.

PHOTOGRAPHS/SOCIAL MEDIA

Photographs of conference activities and participants may be taken during the conference for social media purposes and/or future publications. Please tell the photographer if you do not want your picture taken.

Join the conversation! Follow us on Facebook, X, Instagram and TikTok, and share your thoughts using #MultilingualIL25!









IAMME

The Illinois Association for Multilingual Multicultural Education (IAMME) needs your support to continue its work on behalf of Illinois' students of diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Please consider becoming a IAMME member. Also, the purchase of one or more conference mementos being sold at the IAMME booth will help the organization meet its yearly financial obligations. Please be generous in your support and come visit representatives from IAMME during the conference.

PLEASE NOTE

Every effort has been made during conference planning to ensure that individual sessions will be open to all registrants who wish to attend. However, we ask for your patient understanding if overflows occur due to room size capacity and some sessions must be closed.

Some sessions during each day of the conference that are part of strands will be denoted by the following icons:





EARLY CHILDHOOD



(Diversity, Equity and Inclusion)



EXCEPTIONAL NEED





EDUCATE TO ADVOCATE

Adelante Educational Specialists Group partners with school districts to build sustainable, culturally responsive programs that serve multilingual students with excellence.



What We Do:

- ✓ Collaborative Program Review
- ✓ Dual Language and ML Program Design and Implementation
- ✓ Professional Development
 Biliteracy Instruction and Second Language Acquisition
- Biliteracy Curriculum Mapping and Unit Development
- ✓ Administrator & Teacher Consultation and Feedback
- ✓ Virtual Professional Development
- ✓ Administrator Academy: Effective Leadership in a Dual Language District

Who We Serve:

- ✓ Dual Language & Bilingual Program Teachers (Transitional, One-Way, or Two-Way)
- ESL/ELD Teachers
- Instructional Coaches
- Administrators
- New staff or those seeking to strengthen their foundational knowledge in biliteracy

Scan To Learn How We Can Support Your Educators!



"None of us can do everything, but we all can do something."

— Letter to the Editor, Chicago Tribune, Nov 13, 2025 from 38 retired Chicago broadcast journalists including

Craig Dellimore, Walter Jacobson, Ron Magers, Carol Marin, Phil Ponce, and Linda Yu.

Welcome...

...to Multilingual Illinois 2025, the forty-seventh annual statewide conference.

As we prepare for this year's conference, the current events affecting our cities, towns, schools and neighborhoods, especially in our immigrant communities, cannot be overlooked. Last month, many of us saw the video of a Chicago child care teacher being detained in front of the preschool where she worked. Thankfully, after more than a week, she was finally released to return to her family and resume working at Rayito de Sol. However, what continues to be happening to immigrant families and to children is reprehensible and immoral, promoting trauma, fear and anxiety. No one is this country should have to look over their shoulder, especially children.

As teachers and administrators, you are the front line support system and anchors for students and families, and the person to assure them that what is happening is not normal, to tell them that, with luck, in the near future, these destructive behaviors will dissipate and largely disappear. As educators, your role is paramount to uplift and encourage students as they become our future trail blazers and leaders. As students spearhead into future, hopefully their generation will not commit the grievous errors of the current day.

During this conference, you will see many valuable presentations from colleagues applicable to your students, your classrooms, and your programs. Listen, share, meet and talk, with educators who have similar interests as yours. We should all take a collective breath, and reassure ourselves that this effort is extraordinarily valuable, no matter how many obstacles may be put in the way. Support one another, because the work with linguistically and culturally diverse students is so critical.

Take time to recharge your batteries, both physical and emotional. Gather strength from being in community with other educators who are involved in the same endeavor. No one is alone, and know that together we can make a huge difference in the lives of students and their families.

Thanks for being here! Have a great conference!

Josie Yanguas, Conference Chair

Conference Planning Committee December 2025

Joanne Clyde	Illinois State Board of Education
Joyce Gronewold	
Sergio Hernández	
Lynn Osheff	Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights
Kimako Patterson	
Christine Paxson	Illinois State Board of Education
Ron Perlman	The Center: Resources for Teaching and Learning
Carly Spina	Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights

IAMME Executive Board Illinois Association for Multilingual Multicultural Education

President

James Cohen, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb Vice-President

Francela López, North Berwyn School District #98 Secretary

Josie Yanguas, Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights Treasurer

Jane Montes, *Education Consultant*

Public Relations

Angelo Chávez, Chicago School District #299, retired Directors

Eva Corona, Chicago School District #299
Amanda Montes, Northeastern Illinois University
Michael Murguía, North Berwyn School District #98
Parent Representative

Elizabeth Campos

Special thanks to Belinda Alvarado, Seana Bagemihl, Nina Baginski, Yvonne Baginski, Rose Bastien, Eddy Borrayo, Lindsay Eanet, Louisa Finnberg, Rosie García, Lucina Hernández, Barbara Hochgesang, Liliam Pérez, Pedro Pérez, Migdalia Rodríguez, Gulliver Saquimux, Kim Scannell, Francisco Soria, Diana Silvas and Rosli Zaccarro for their efforts in making this conference successful.

Grateful appreciation to the Illinois State Board of Education for their support in contributing to the success of this conference.

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SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Conference Registration
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Publishers' Exhibits
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	GENERAL SESSION Speaker: Carly Spina
	Mindsets that Matter when Serving Multilingual Students
10:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	LUNCHEON
1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Featured Session Speaker: Maggie Essig Reimagining Classroom Libraries: Must-Have Books for Multilingual Learners

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Conference Registration
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Publishers' Exhibits
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	GENERAL SESSION Welcome Remarks: Laura González Speaker: Carl Hooker Learning Evolution: Empowering All Voices in the Age of Al
10:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	LUNCHEON
1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Featured Session Speaker: Victor Gómez The Journey of a Monarch Butterfly: Mi Testimonio Como Maestro Bilingüe de STEM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Conference Registration
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Publishers' Exhibits
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	GENERAL SESSION
	Speaker: Lynmara Colón
	Leading Together: Empowering Every Educator to Elevate Multilingual Learners
10:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	LUNCHEON
1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Featured Session
	Speakers: Juan Díes and Mónica Colfax
	Presenting an Integrated Mexican Music and
	Culture Curriculum in Spanish





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South Pavilion 5 and 6



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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

SOUTH EXHIBIT



GENERAL SESSION

Presiding/ Welcome:

Joanne Clyde

Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago

Introduction of Keynote Speaker:

Rita Guzman

East Aurora School District 131

Keynote Speaker:

Carly Spina

Mindsets that Matter when Serving Multilingual Students

Concurrent Sessions 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

SOUTH PAVILION 1

Differentiation and Scaffolding for MLs

Presenter: Vanessa Figueroa, Illinois Resource Center, **Arlington Heights** Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



SOUTH PAVILION 2

Biliteracy Mapping through the Cross-Linguistic Co-Planning Process

Presenters: Elizabeth Howard and Shera Simpson, Dual Language Connections, LLC, Storrs Mansfield, CT *Grade Level:* Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

Equitable Identification: Navigating Special Education for Multilingual Learners

Presenter: Veronica Diaz, Mannheim School District 83, Northlake

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

PUBLISHER



SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

The World is Your Library: Selecting International **Spanish Literature**

Presenters: Carolina Duque and Heather Robertson-Devine, Books Del Sur, Antioch Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



BREMEN ROOM

The Language Link Framework: Building Bridges for Biliteracy

Presenter: Rocio del Castillo, Freeport School District 145 Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Middle School

SAM TINLEY ROOM

Newcomers at a Glance

Presenters: Michelle López, Seng Naolhu and Randi Sucic, Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago Grade Level: All Levels

S E C O N D A R '



NORTH PAVILION 1

Holistic Approaches to ESL Placement: Honoring Students' Full Linguistic Repertoires

Presenters: Gloria Verástegui and Araceli Welsh, Elgin School District U-46 Grade Level: Middle School through High School

NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

More than Words: Weaving WIDA English **Language Department into Instruction**

Presenters: Shurook Abdeljaber, Barbara Dziatkowiec, Zain Fakhoury, Jasmine Hakawati, and Lizet Sibaja, North Palos School District 117, Palos Hills Grade Level: All Levels

EARLY CHILDHOOD



NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Multilingual and EL Learners in Birth-5: **Identification, Assessment, and Supports**

Presenters: Raisa Blazquez, Illinois Workforce and Education, Research Collaborative (WERC), Chicago, Tammy King, Early Childhood Professional Learning, Arlington Heights, and Lindsay Meeker, Latino Policy Forum, Chicago

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary

NORTH PAVILION 6

AI Strategies for Culturally Relevant Classrooms

Presenter: Rebecca Morales, Elmhurst School District 205 Grade Level: All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

Listening to Parents: What Families Facing Homelessness Need from Schools

Presenter: Alyssa Phillips, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Grade Level: All Levels

SECONDARY



CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Keeping Students Engaged by Using Interactive Learning Strategies

Presenters: Maricruz González and Maria Ovalle, Chicago School District 299

Grade Level: Middle School through High School

DEI



CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Strategies for Engaging Long-term/Experienced Multilinguals

Presenter: Jacinta Thomas, College of Lake County, Grayslake

Grade Level: All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Math is More than Just Numbers

Presenters: Crystal Jimenez and Kathleen Meyer, Addison School District 4

Grade Level: Elementary through Middle School

Concurrent Sessions 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

See Cvent event platform for session descriptions

SOUTH PAVILION 1

Encontrando el Camino del Laberinto de los Estándares de Artes del Lenguaje

Presenter: Norma Monsivais Diers, University of Illinois at Chicago

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

DEI



SOUTH PAVILION 2

Beyond Scaffolds: Reimagining How We Serve Newcomers

Presenters: Laura Heneghan and Kelly Zimmerman, Berkeley School District 87

Grade Level: Elementary, Middle School through High School

EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

Effective Scaffolding Instructional Practices for Dually Identified Students

Presenter: Guadalupe Gallardo-Escobedo, Valley View Community School District 365-U Grade Level: Elementary through High School

SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

English Learners and State Testing Supports

Presenter: Barry Pedersen, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield

Grade Level: Elementary through High School

DUAL LANGUAGE



SAM TINLEY ROOM

Are Students Learning Enough Spanish? Authentic Spanish Proficiency Assessment in Dual Language Programs

Presenters: Meghan Bird and Reyna Sandoval, Kildeer District 96 and Sonia Esquivel and Danette Meyer, With Partners Education, Arlington Heights Grade Level: Elementary through Middle School BREMEN ROOM

You Just Need a Juicy Sentence for Great Tasting Comprehension!

Presenter: Sarah Said, Elgin School District U-46 Grade Level: Elementary through High School

SECONDARY



NORTH PAVILION 1

Establishing Holistic Support Systems for Multilingual Learners at the High School Level

Presenter: Nicholas Dilley, Monmouth-Roseville Community Unit School District 238 Grade Level: High School

NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

Language Lessons: Integrating Effective Grammar Instruction into Content

Presenter: John Evar Strid, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb *Grade Level*: All Levels

EARLY CHILDHOOD EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS

NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Multilingual Learners, Special Education, Early Childhood, MTSS, and You...Wait! WHAT?!

Presenter: Antoinette Taylor, A.T. Exceptional Consulting, Chicago

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

NORTH PAVILION 6

From Boomers to Zoomers: Generational Culture Competency

Presenters: Sherese Johnson and Patrick Rice, Black Educational Advocacy Coalition, Mt Vernon Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

The Effects of Dual Language Programs on Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) Students

Presenter: James Robinette, Bensenville School District 2 Grade Level: Elementary through Middle School

CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Interpreting Spoken Languages: Building Knowledge and Skill

Presenters: Gladys Guerra and Hector Ontiveros, National Association of Educational Interpreters of Spoken Languages

Grade Level: All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Dialogue in Math

Presenters: Brianna DeSilvia and Lauren Dobben, Community Consolidated School District 59, Arlington Heights

Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Student Voice and Identity in Dual Language Assessment Practices

Presenters: Sarah Cohen, Almudena Coloma Luque and Massiel Zaragoza, Chicago School District 299 *Grade Level:* All Levels

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

SOUTH EXHIBIT

LUNCHEON

Presiding:

Angelo Chávez

Illinois Association for Multilingual Multicultural Education (IAMME)

RAFFLE

1:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

NORTH PAVILION 6

English Learners Advocacy Council in Higher Education (ELACHE) Annual Meeting

Presenters: James Cohenand John Evar Strid, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb and Sonia Soltero, DePaul University, Chicago Grade Level: All Levels

Concurrent Sessions 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

See Cyent event platform for session descriptions

DUAL LANGUAGE



SOUTH PAVILION 1

Guiding Principles for Dual Language Education: Updating for Authenticity and Innovation

Presenter: Analleli Hernández, Center for Applied Linguistics, Washington, DC *Grade Level:* All Levels

SOUTH PAVILION 2

Triple Threat: A Framework for Extraordinary Multilingual Learner Growth

Presenters: Madison Gillofo, Jackie Griffin and Hal Schmeisser, East Prairie School District 73, Skokie *Grade Level:* All Levels

Publishers' Exhibits

You are encouraged
to take the time to view
the latest instructional materials
being exhibited
by publisher representatives

SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

Talk, Listen, and Learn: Practical Oracy Strategies for ML Success

Presenter: Jill Bruellman, College of Lake County, Grayslake *Grade Level:* All Levels

SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

MTSS: Doing it Right - Right Now!

Presenter: Femi Skanes, Leadership EDGE, LLC, Chicago Grade Level: Elementary through High School

BREMEN ROOM

Resilience Tips for Teachers, Parents and Students

Presenter: Julieta Rosales Pasko, Retired Bilingual School Psychologist, Chicago Grade Level: All Levels

SECONDARY



SAM TINLEY ROOM

Centering Language in Secondary Content and Literacy Learning

Presenters: Sarah Cohen, Almudena Coloma Luque, and Massiel Zaragoza, Chicago School District 299 *Grade Level*: Middle School

EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



NORTH PAVILION 1

How to Avoid Overidentification of English Learners for Special Education Services

Presenter: Stephanie Díaz, Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago

Grade Level: All Levels



EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS
NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

Bilingual Special Education Teacher and Speech Language Pathologist (SLP): The Benefits of Collaboration

Presenters: Elspeth Alvarado and Alexandra Cordoba-Lee, Elgin School District U-46

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Teaching with Care: Trauma-Informed Strategies for Language Learners

Presenter: Jaymie López, Waukegan Community Unit School District 60 Grade Level: All Levels

DEI



CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

Building Belonging for Multilingual Learners

Presenter: Anne Paonessa, National Louis University Grade Level: Elementary through High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Cultivating Multilingual Mindsets: Growing Schoolwide Practices for Learning and Motivation

Presenters: Karen Cano and Ashley Whitaker, Waukegan Community Unit School District 60 Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Empowering Multilingual Journeys through the 8th-Grade Pathways to Biliteracy Award

Presenters: Ben Carnehl and Sylvia Gorski Duarte, Glenview School District 34 Grade Level: Middle School

CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Accessing the ACCESS: Applying Accommodations and Improving Accessibility

Presenters: Lauren Ligammari and Randi Sucic, Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago Grade Level: Elementary through High School

Featured Session 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

See Cvent event platform for session descriptions.

SOUTH PAVILION 2



Reimagining Classroom Libraries: Must-Have Books for Multilingual Learners

Presenter: Maggie Essig, Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights *Grade Level:* All Levels

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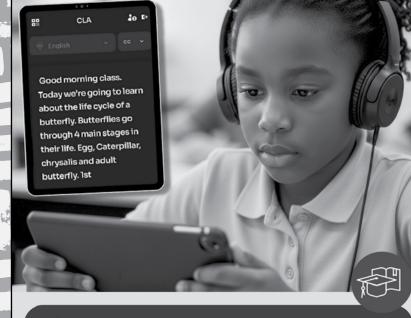
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

SOUTH EXHIBIT



GENERAL SESSION

Presiding/ Joyce Gronewold

Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago

Welcome Remarks: Laura González

Illinois State Board of Education, Board Member

Introduction of Keynote Speaker:

Raquel Kim

Glenview School District 34

Keynote Speaker: Carl Hooker

Learning Evolution: Empowering All Voices in the Age of Al

Concurrent Sessions 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

See Cvent event platform for session descriptions.

SOUTH PAVILION 1

Accessible and Equitable Mathematics Instruction

Presenter: Matt McLeod, Education Development Center Inc., Chicago
Grade Level: Elementary

SOUTH PAVILION 2

Shhh...Let the Students Talk!

Presenter: Lindsey Lurie, Glenview School District 34 *Grade Level:* All Levels

SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

ACCESS Test Success: Data Doesn't Lie, and Neither Will Your Prep

Presenters: Leigh Ann Mondrawickas-Boncher and Sandra Moran, Warren Township High School District 121, Gurnee *Grade Level:* Elementary through High School

S E C O N D A R Y DUAL LANGUAGE





SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

Strengthening Multilingual Voices: Transfer and Contrastive Analysis in Multilingual/Dual Language Classrooms

Presenters: Noris Castro and Nohelia Cruz Alcocer, Elgin School District U-46 *Grade Level:* Middle School through High School

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Help support IAMME
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BREMEN ROOM

Building Multilingual School University Partnerships in Rural Illinois: ¡Si Se Puede!

Presenters: Julia Albarracin, Gloria Delany-Barmann, and Carla Paciotto, Western Illinois University, Macomb and Tammee Petersen, Beardstown Community Unit School District 15

Grade Level: All Levels

EARLY CHILDHOOD

SAM TINLEY ROOM

But They Talk at Home! Understanding Selective Mutism

Presenters: Megan Carlson and Kathy Slattery, STAR NET Regions II & VI/The Center, Arlington Heights Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

SECONDARY



NORTH PAVILION 1

From Plans to Practice: Schoolwide Success for Multilingual Learners

Presenters: Mary Kemp and Lisa Pokorny, Township High School District 214, Elk Grove *Grade Level:* High School

EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

From Plan to Progress: MTSS + IEP/504 in Action for Bilingual and SPED Students

Presenters: Lirio Ramírez and Melinda Thompson, East Aurora School District 131 Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

EARLY CHILDHOOD

NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Buzzing with Brilliance: Fueling Growth through Talk for Young Multilingual Learners

Presenter: Michele Yanong, Illinois Resource Center,

Arlington Heights

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary, Elementary

NORTH PAVILION 6

Shifting Teaching to Learning: High Leverage Practices Boost Student Outcomes

Presenters: Tabitha Schweer and Kelly Zoellner,

Jacksonville School District 117

Grade Level: All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

Bridging the Gaps: Scaffolding a Pre-packaged Spanish Program for All Learners

Presenters: Rachel Owens and Jessica Valverde,

LaGrange School District 102 Grade Level: Elementary

PUBLISHER



CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Research, Resources, and Strategies for Multilinguals (MLs) Long Term - Newcomers

Presenter: Wayne Eichen, Savvas Learning Grade Level: Elementary through High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Building Metalinguistic Awareness of Russian Multilingual Students

Presenter: Tatyana Ruditskaya, Wheeling Community Consolidated School District 21 Grade Level: Elementary

SECONDARY

SEC

CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Teaching English and Content Simultaneously

Presenter: Michelle Vargas, Evanston Township High School District 202 Grade Level: High School

Concurrent Sessions 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

See Cvent event platform for session descriptions.

SECONDARY



SOUTH PAVILION 1

Side-by-Side Structures to Support Literacy in Grades 6-12

Presenter: Carly Spina, Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights

Grade Level: Middle School through High School

SOUTH PAVILION 2

Al as Your Co-Planner: Designing Accessible Lessons for Multilingual Learners

Presenter: Anne Paonessa, National Louis University Grade Level: Elementary through High School

DUAL LANGUAGE EARLY CHILDHOOD



SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

From Rhymes to Readers: Cultivating Literacy in Dual-Language Preschool

Presenter: Berenice Díaz, East Maine School District 63 *Grade Level:* Early Childhood/Primary

SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

Empowering Parents to Succeed: How Liaisons Equip Parents to Thrive

Presenters: Vanessa Deaton, Guadalupe Del Real, Malorie Farrington, and Brazil Lewis-Boursaw, LaGrange School District 102

Grade Level: All Levels

BREMEN ROOM

La Guerrilla del Maestro Lucio Cabañas en México en Los Años 60

Presenter: Juan Carlos González Alarcón, Author, Chicago Grade Level: All Levels

SAM TINLEY ROOM

ISBE English Learner Compliance Monitoring

Presenters: John Crosley-Corcoran, Michelle López, and Emily Mizera, Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago *Grade Level:* All Levels

NORTH PAVILION 1

New and Continuing Multilingual Directors' Alliance

Presenters: Barbara Marler, Marler Consulting & Advisory LLC and Danette Meyer, With Partners Education Grade Level: All Levels

P U B L I S H E R NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3



Integrating and Enhancing Oracy for ALL

Presenters: Mallory Fuessle and Amy Mosquera, Adelante Educational Specialists Group

Grade Level: Middle School

EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Writing Linguistically and Culturally Appropriate IEPs

Presenters: Violeta Bosworth, Summit School District 104, Retired, Elizabeth Campos, Illinois Advisory Council for Bilingual Education, Amy Harder, Arlington Heights School District 25, Jasmine Myalil, Northbrook School District 28 and Besset Sabourin, Mannheim School District 83, Franklin Park Grade Level: All Levels

DEI



NORTH PAVILION 6

Navigating Equity Work in Uncertain Times: A Panel Discussion

Presenters: Eric Junco and Jason Klein, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, and Kristal Shelvin, McLean County Unit School District 5, Normal Grade Level: All Levels

DEI



CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

Embodied Teaching: Somatic Practices for Diverse Communities

Presenter: Kimmy Schuelke, Plainfield Consolidated School District 202

Grade Level: All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Building a Team: A Path to Excellence!

Presenter: Nichole Seal, KIPP Indy. Indianapolis, IN *Grade Level:* All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

The Dictado: Practical Implementation for Multilingual Learners

Presenters: Kathryn Frank, Janet Mathe and Cristina Youtsey, Mundelein Elementary School District 75 Grade Level: Elementary through Middle School

EARLY CHILDHOOD



CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Wrap Around Cohorts to Support the Multilingual Teacher Pipeline

Presenters: Lindsay Meeker, Latino Policy Forum, Chicago, Laurel Mateyka, Early Childhood Professional Learning/ StarNet, Arlington Heights, and Gloria Delany-Barmann, Carla Paciotto, and Gricelda Garcia, Western Illinois University, Moline

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

SOUTH EXHIBIT

LUNCHEON

Presiding:

Jane Montes

Illinois Association for Multilingual Multicultural Education (IAMME)

RAFFLE

Concurrent Sessions 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

See Cvent event platform for session descriptions.

SOUTH PAVILION 1

From Chaos to Clarity: Guiding Newcomers from Day One

Presenters: Michele Yanong, Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights and Erica Beth Brady, Joanna Christopoulos, Stephanie Ulloa, and Ruth Young, Skokie School District 65

Grade Level: Elementary through High School

DFI



SOUTH PAVILION 2

Safety and Well-being Workshop

Presenter: Brian Herrera, Latino Policy Forum, Chicago Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

Exploring Assessment Practices and Data Trends to Advance Biliteracy in Dual Language Education

Presenter: Olimpia Bahena, Proviso Township High School District 209

Grade Level: All Levels

EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

Getting MTSS "Just Right" for Multilingual Learners

Presenter: Barbara Marler, Marler Consulting & Advisory LLC Grade Level: All Levels

NORTH PAVILION 6 MTSS in Action: Improving Attendance through **Tiered Supports**

Presenters: Keri Esparza, Noemi Gálvez, and Erika Martínez, DuPage Regional Office of Education, Wheaton Grade Level: Elementary through, High School

SECONDARY



CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

Global Competency in Bilingual Classrooms: From Argentina to Virtual Exchanges

Presenter: Sofia Gonzalez, J. Sterling Morton High School District 201, Cicero *Grade Level:* High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Employing a Modern Classroom Approach to ESL

Presenter: Kimber Barrera, Chicago School District 299 Grade Level: All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Strengthening School Communities

Presenters: Erin Fagan, Sophia Smith, and Nydia Valle-Cabrera, J. Sterling Morton High School District 201, Cicero Grade Level: All Levels

DEI



CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Their Voices - Our Lessons

Presenters: Patricia Briones, Lisa Jackson, and Portia Ransom, Elgin School District U-46

Grade Level: All Levels

Publishers' Exhibits

BREMEN ROOM

New Migrant Education Program (MEP) Liaison and More

Presenters: Reina Olivares and Melina Wright, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



To the Seal of Biliteracy...and Beyond!

Presenter: Emily Mizera, Illinois State Board of Education,

Grade Level: Middle School through High School

NORTH PAVILION 1

Collaborative Assessment Design using Colleague Al

Presenters: Virak Chan, Chen Li, and Wayne Wright, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN Grade Level: All Levels

EARLY CHILDHOOD



NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

3L Play and Inquiry Triangle — Loose Parts, Language, and Literacy

Presenters: Tammy King, Early Childhood Professional Learning, Arlington Heights and Lindsay Meeker, Latino Policy Forum, Chicago Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary

NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Every Story Teaches: Building Best Practices through Shared Voices

Presenters: Michaela Faust, Elzbieta Mulica, and Kristin Welsh, Burbank School District 111 Grade Level: All Levels

Featured Session 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SOUTH PAVILION 2



The Journey of a Monarch Butterfly: Mi Testimonio Como Maestro Bilingüe de STEM

Presenter: Victor Gómez, Illinois Teacher of the Year, Leyden High School District 212 Grade Level: All Levels

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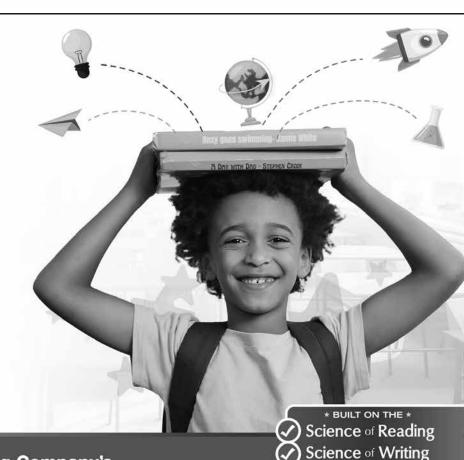
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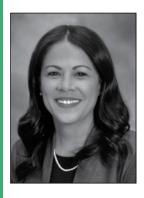


Let's get started! Scan to learn more.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

SOUTH EXHIBIT



GENERAL SESSION

Presiding/ Welcome:

Christine Paxson

Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield

Introduction of Keynote Speaker:

Griselda Pirtle

Elgin School District U-46

Keynote Speaker: Lynmara Colón

Leading Together: Empowering Every Educator to

Elevate Multilingual Learners

Concurrent Sessions 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

SOUTH PAVILION 1

Cheap Thrills: Novelty Items to Boost Engagement in Your Instruction!

Presenter: Carly Spina, Illinois Resource Center, Arlington Heights

Grade Level: All Levels



SOUTH PAVILION 2

Supporting Newcomer Youth Wellness in Schools: A Tier I Approach

Presenters: Yvita Bustos and Catherine Zhou, Lurie Children's Hospital, Chicago Grade Level: All Levels

EARLY CHILDHOOD EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

Empowering Multilingual Futures: Exploring Early Childhood Services and Supports

Presenters: Adelicia Brienzo, STAR NET Region II and VI, Arlington Heights and Tareema Jean-Baptiste, STAR NET Region V, Chicago

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary

SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

Effective ELL Strategies and Language Proficiency Growth in Four Domains

Presenters: Nisrin Al-Takriti and Fabiola Huerta, Mokena School District 159 *Grade Level:* Elementary

DFI



BREMEN ROOM

The Equity Journey Continuum: A Tool for Educational Equity

Presenter: Sergio Hernández, Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago

Grade Level: All Levels **DUAL LANGUAGE EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS**



SAM TINLEY ROOM

Rooted in Community: Advancing Equity for Marginalized Students

Presenters: Mayra Figueroa, Fairmont School District 89, Lockport and Esmeralda Elvir Guzmán, Louise Igoe, Sheri Lucas, and Vanessa Reyes, Lewis University, Romeoville Grade Level: All Levels

SECONDARY



NORTH PAVILION 1

High School Experiences of English Learners

Presenters: Marisa de la Torre, University of Chicago Consortium on School Research, and Jorge Macías, Latino Policy Forum, Chicago *Grade Level:* High School

PUBLISHER



NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

From Barriers to Bridges: Supporting Multilingual **Learners using MAP Reading Fluency and Coach**

Presenters: Heather Cella, and Heather Connolly, HMH/ NWEA Division, Chicago

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Middle School

SECONDARY

NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

History Unlocked: Engaging ELs in the Classroom

Presenters: Jennifer Alarcon and Emily Risner, Lake Park High School District 108, Roselle Grade Level: High School

NORTH PAVILION 6

Advancing Sentence Complexity

Presenters: Rachel Burrell and Anna Sanan, Wheaton Community Unit School District 200 Grade Level: Elementary through High School

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CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

Tracing Shifts in Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: U.S.-Indonesia Insights

Presenter: Tabita Christiana, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb

Grade Level: All Levels

CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Building Word Power: Effective Vocabulary Instruction for Multilingual Learners across the Content Areas

Presenters: Karen Barkley and Elizabeth Buglio, Sauk Village Community Consolidated School District 168 Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Middle School

CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Flight Path to Proficiency: Boost EL Writing with WINGS + AI

Presenter: Cheryl Allaire, River Forest School District 90 Grade Level: Elementary through High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Relationships First: Academic and Social-Emotional Success in the Multilingual Classroom

Presenter: María Barragán Ortiz, University of Seville Grade Level: All Levels

Concurrent Sessions 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

See Cvent event platform for session descriptions

SOUTH PAVILION 1

De la teoría a la práctica: Implementación de los Estándares de Artes del Lenguaje

Presenters: Sylvia Ibarra Delgado and P. Zitlali Morales, University of Illinois, Chicago *Grade Level:* Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

SOUTH PAVILION 2

Using the WIDA Language Charts for Instruction and Assessment

Presenter: Margo Gottlieb, WIDA Consortium, Bonita Springs, FL

Grade Level: Elementary through High School

EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS



SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

The Power of Two: Navigating EL Resource and Special Education Services

Presenters: Janet Diaz and Crystal Jimenez, Addison School District 4

Grade Level: Elementary

SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

Maximize the Biliterate Brain: Pathways to a Foundational Skills Sequence

Presenters: Sara Pletcher and Marty Rentería, Elgin School District U-46

Grade Level: Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

DUAL LANGUAGE



BREMEN ROOM

From PD to Practice: Coaching Strategies that Elevate Multilingual Learning

Presenters: Lauren Linares, Carol Merles, and Lirio Ramírez, East Aurora School District 131 and Vivian Pratts, Sandra Mercuri Educational Consultants Grade Level: Elementary

EARLY CHILDHOOD



SAM TINLEY ROOM

What Pre-service Teachers Really See: Inclusive Practices for Multilingual Students

Presenter: Hae Min Yu, Lewis University, Romeoville *Grade Level:* Early Childhood/Primary

SECONDAR



NORTH PAVILION 1

AI 101 and the High School Classroom

Presenter: Jerry Kim, Niles Township High Schools District 219

Grade Level: Middle School through High School

DUAL LANGUAGE



NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

ISBE's Dual Language Guidance Document: Strengthening Dual Language Education in Illinois

Presenters: Joanne Clyde and Cynthia Elisa Martinez, Illinois State Board of Education, Chicago

Grade Level: All Levels

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NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Actionable Ways to Leverage School Improvement Plans to Enhance Practices

Presenters: Matt Raimondi and Brian Tennison, Elgin School District U46 Grade Level: All Levels

DEI



NORTH PAVILION 6

Supporting Successful Integration of SLIFE Multilingual Learners

Presenters: Muloko Delphin, Susan Griffeth, Melissa Lawson and Sarah Logemann, Rockford School District 205 Grade Level: Elementary through High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 1 - EVEN HOTEL

Translanguaging in War-torn Burma: A Kachin Principal's Perspective

Presenters: James Cohen, EeNwe Saung, and May Hnin Yee Swe Oo, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb Grade Level: Elementary through High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

MTSS through Language Domains: Elevating **Oracy for Multilingual Learners**

Presenter: Margarita Lachica, ACERO Charter Schools Network, Chicago Grade Level: Elementary through Middle School

CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Empowering Student Voices: Creating a Multilingual Student Publication

Presenter: Angela Kosmas, Maine Township High School District 207, Park Ridge

Grade Level: Elementary through High School

S E C O N D A R Y SEC



CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

Accelerating EL Students for AP Courses

Presenters: Brandon Cardenas and JJ Edwards, Zion-Benton Township High School District 126 *Grade Level:* High School

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

SOUTH EXHIBIT

LUNCHEON

Presiding:

Francela López

Illinois Association for Multilingual Multicultural Education (IAMME)

RAFFLE

Concurrent Sessions 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

SOUTH PAVILION 1

Incorporate Language Domains into Activities

Presenter: Brandon Tucker, Glenbrook High School District 225 Grade Level: All Levels

DUAL LANGUAGE



SOUTH PAVILION 2

UDL and Translanguaging: Where These Worlds Meet

Presenter: Olivia Mulcahy, Illinois Resource Center, **Arlington Heights** Grade Level: All Levels

SOUTH PAVILION 3 AND 4

Putting Math Language Routines into Practice

Presenter: Anne Agostinelli, Chicago School District 299 Grade Level: Elementary through Middle School

DEI



SOUTH PAVILION 5 AND 6

History's Second Draft: Reconsidering Everything

Presenters: Jeanette Jones, Annie Murray, Drew Troppito, and Anne Walsh, Lewis University, Romeoville Grade Level: All Levels

BREMEN ROOM

IAR Data that Works: Supporting English Learners in Every Classroom

Presenters: Nisrin Al-Takriti, Mokena School District 159, Angela Foxall, Illinois State Board of Education and Kavita Mahendra, Yorkville Community Unit School District 115 Grade Level: Elementary through Middle School

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEL



SAM TINLEY ROOM

Building an Inclusive System: Engaging Multilingual Families to Strengthen Early Childhood

Presenters: Alicia Hann, Jacquelyn Ledezma, David Quiroz, and Lucero Robles, Birth to Five Illinois, Chicago *Grade Level:* Early Childhood/Primary through Elementary

SECONDARY



NORTH PAVILION 1

Empowering English Learners with AI: Practical Tools for Middle and High School Classrooms

Presenter: Dina Salem, Lincoln Way High School District 210 Grade Level: Middle School through High School

DEI



NORTH PAVILION 2 AND 3

From Invisible to Invincible: Helping Multilingual Learners Belong, Thrive, and Achieve

Presenters: Don Parker, Buena Vista University and Valerie Peña- Hernández, WholeED Systems, LLC Grade Level: All Levels

NORTH PAVILION 4 AND 5

Accessible and Responsive Literacy Instruction: PreK-12 Grade-specific Recommendations for Multilingual Learners

Presenters: Griselda Flores, Chicago School District 299, Raquel Kim, Glenview School District 34, Luisiana Melendez, Erikson Institute, Chicago, Amy Mosquera, Adelante Educational Specialists Group, Huntley, Cristina Sánchez-López, Paridad Education Consulting, Chicago and Betsy Sostak, Aptakisic-Tripp School District 102, Buffalo Grove

Grade Level: All Levels

SECONDARY



NORTH PAVILION 6

Unlocking Language: Teaching Vocabulary in Every Classroom

Presenters: Lindsay Blackburn, Kyle Boyd, Sarah Fromius-Hough, and Diana Martinez, JS Morton High School District 201

Grade Level: High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 2 - EVEN HOTEL

Screens vs Learning: What Screens Are Doing and How to Fight It

Presenter: José Burgos, Rock Island-Milan School District 41 Grade Level: All Levels

SECONDARY



CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - EVEN HOTEL

Rolling the Dice: Equitable Games for Multilingual Learners

Presenters: Monica Reyes and Kendra Smetters, Lake Park District 108. Roselle

Grade Level: Middle School through High School

CONFERENCE ROOM 4 - EVEN HOTEL

IAMME Membership Meeting: Advocating for Multilingual Learners

Presenters: Elizabeth Campos, Angelo Chávez, James Cohen, Eva Corona, Francela López, Amanda Montes, Jane Montes, Mike Murguia, and Josie Yanguas, Illinois Association for Multilingual Multicultural Education Grade Level: All Levels

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Featured Session 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

See Cvent event platform for session descriptions.

SOUTH PAVILION 2





Presenting an Integrated Mexican Music and Culture Curriculum in Spanish

Presenters: Mónica Colfax and Juan Díes, Sones de México Ensemble, Chicago *Grade Level:* All Levels



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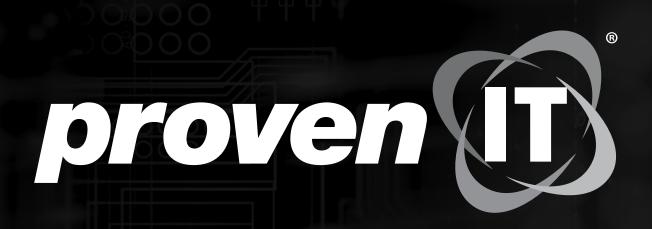
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