Pivoting instruction in a changing landscape: Strategies for encouraging and maintaining engagement in diverse settings

Join 2019 PSMLA and 2020 NECTFL Teacher of the Year Megan Flinchbaugh and 2017 PSMLA Outstanding World Language Educator of the Year Nathan Campbell to learn and discuss how to engage your students no matter your instructional setting.

1:00-1:10 Introduction and Overview

Fostering community and belonging

Classroom environment impacts students’ willingness and ability to engage and interact, both essential to language learning.

How can teachers build a sense of safety and community in the classroom? How can teachers support and empower students to build community and guide learning? How can teachers accomplish this in diverse learning environments?

This session will discuss ideas and strategies to help teachers create a welcoming and supportive classroom, both in person and online.

1:10-2:00

Break

2:00-2:10

Discovering culture: Exploration of culture in the target language

Language and culture are inseparable and complementary. Exploring culture through the target language is essential but can be a challenge, especially at the novice levels.

How can students develop intercultural competence in different classroom settings? What adaptations can teachers consider for virtual learning?

This session will provide ideas and strategies for teaching culture in the target language at different levels.

2:10-3:00

Whether you and your district will be offering in-person, virtual, or hybrid instruction, you’ll undoubtedly find yourself building a supportive classroom environment in which students can comfortably use the target language to explore important topics like cultural products, practices, and perspectives. In this webinar, Megan and Nathan will share strategies to address these topics. In breakout rooms, you’ll have the opportunity to collaborate with your colleagues to share your own experiences and ideas and discuss strategies for all levels and types of instruction.
Megan A. Flinchbaugh, MBA, MSW

Megan Flinchbaugh has been a high school teacher in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania for 15 years. She studied Spanish education at Millersville University and earned graduate degrees from Foro Europeo (Pamplona, Spain) and Temple University. Additionally, she is an adjunct professor at Millersville University where she has taught Teaching Foreign Language in the Secondary Classroom, a methodology class for future language teachers. In her home school district, she serves on a committee for the district’s dual language immersion program. As a representative of the program’s parents and families and with her professional background, she contributes to the program’s evaluation and vision for the future.

2015 - Present Spanish Teacher, Manheim Central High School
2005 - 2015 Spanish Teacher, Solanco High School
2019 - Teacher of the Year, Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA)
2020 - Teacher of the Year, Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL)
2020 - 2nd Vice President, PSMLA
2016-2019 - Editor, Pennsylvania Language Forum, PSMLA
2022 - Conference Co-Chair, PSMLA
2019 - Present Leadership Initiative for Language Learning, American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
2011 - Present, Co-founder and Co-director, Association of World Language Educators

Nathan D. Campbell, M.Ed., NBCT

Nathan Campbell has been a high school teacher in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania for 15 years. He completed both his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Spanish education at Millersville University. Additionally, he completed extensive coursework at the Universidad de Salamanca in Spain. Nathan serves as the department chair for the World Languages Department at Manheim Central School District and has served as an academic committee member where he helps drive curricular decisions for the district.

2008 - Present Spanish Teacher, Manheim Central High School
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2017 - Present News Manager, PSMLA
2019 - Present Co-Editor, Pennsylvania Language Forum, PSMLA
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