

EL/DL NEWSLETTER

🍁 February 2023 🍁



'Gong hei fat choy' | 恭喜发财 🧧

What does that mean? It's a common Cantonese Chinese New Year greeting that means "Wishing you prosperity and good fortune" for this 2023!

[Here](#) are some other traditional greetings, including how to pronounce them!

Happy Lunar Year!



Lantern Festival

Read all about it [here](#).



The Monster Nián

Read about him [here](#).



Traditional Foods

Read about them [here](#).

ACCESS WIDA Test Mode On 🗒

As we continue administering the WIDA ACCESS this 2023, we try to think of the best ways to help prepare our students. What are the best WIDA ACCESS practice tasks? How can we motivate them? How can we encourage them and make them feel successful? The ACCESS test may be daunting and exhausting for our students. BUT there are some ways to help our students feel ready for it!

Here are 5 big things that we can do to help prepare our ELs for the WIDA ACCESS Test!

1. Approach WIDA from a positive standpoint.
2. Get students familiar with the WIDA website /app .



3. Model how you would respond to the practice test questions.
4. Do WIDA ACCESS practice tests and track student data.
5. Practice using your headsets and give students motivational notes!

There are so many strategies and ways to help your students!

A Note of Thanks 📧

Dear Colleagues,

Your positive influence is observed every day in each of our GCS schools, in and out of the classrooms, and around the Guilford community.

As teachers you make a difference. You teach students to expand their knowledge, encourage them to take academic risks and inspire a passion for learning that will live on long after they have left your class. Do not underestimate the weight of your influence or the extent to which it will carry on beyond the classroom. You rock!



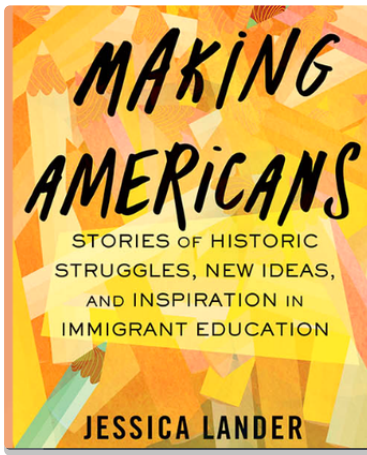
February is Black History Month

Put the power of primary sources to work in the classroom. Browse ready-to-use lesson plans, student activities, collection guides and research aids from the National Archives for your 3Ls units.

A Great Source of 4Cs Texts.

Click the photo below to learn the history behind Black History Month ! ✓





Making Americans PD with author Jessica Lander 📖

We are very excited that Jessica Lander, author of Making Americans, will provide PD sessions for us. As you know, Ms. Lander's book has been published, and an excerpt from the chapter about Guilford County was featured in the Harvard Ed magazine. Her book has a chapter about GCS schools and our implementation of the 3Ls !

Making Americans Mandatory PD 📅

When

Thursday, Feb. 9th, 3pm

Where

This is an online event.

More information

- 1st PD session 2/9/23

Elementary 3:00-4:00 PM

Middle and High 4:00-5:00 PM

- 2nd PD 3/9/23

Elementary 3:00-4:00 PM

Middle and High 4:00-5:00 PM

- 3rd PD will be during May

📷In the Spotlight📷



Ms. Palacios' students enjoying their new carpet and useful magnetic grid courtesy of the PTSA at Southwest High .



Murphey Traditional Academy students doing Reading Closely in Ms. Kouba's Kindergarten class



Swann Middle students ready to express their arguments in their EL debate.



Ms. Rivera's DL Kindergarten class is learning about La Granja (Farms) at Allen Jay ES.



EL coordinators presenting an overview of our 3Ls framework at High Point University .



Ms. Polito's students working on their Reading Closely element at Millis road ES .

Program for Middle School Families to Talk about Difficult Topics 💡

LatinX and UNCG have developed a video-based program to support parent-child communication in middle school aged families with the ultimate goal of supporting educational outcomes in youth. They are currently recruiting families for their Una Plática a La Vez (One Talk at a Time) program at UNCG! Una Plática a La Vez is a free online parenting program for Black, Asian, and Latinx families with middle schoolers (11-13 years old). It consists of short videos and handouts available for families to talk about difficult topics during adolescence. These topics may be around race and culture, adjusting to middle school, school and family relationships. Parents spend no more than 2 hours learning different skills and strategies to improve their relationship with their middle schooler.

Parents and kids are compensated for their time for completing short surveys about our program to test its effectiveness that are sent out every 3 months for a year. Families may receive up to \$290 in



compensation for their time. Since it's online, it is accessible anywhere in North Carolina. Share this opportunity with your families!



OTAAT Latinx Flyer English.pdf

Download

2.3 MB

Do You Need CEUs?

This is a great opportunity to get CEUs . Check the details out.



Beanstack : Reading Incentive Program



Teachers, and students now have access to Beanstack, an app that motivates students to read independently and supports our district reading incentive programs. Students can access Beanstack through Clever. [Read more here](#) or contact your school library media coordinator for details. Schools also have the option to use Beanstack for school based or classroom reading incentives.

DPI Opportunities

The NCDPI ML/Title III Team has designed a series of professional learning opportunities in collaboration with other content area consultants . Check them out [here](#).



Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction



Become a Host for International Students.



When you host a foreign exchange student, your entire family will discover a world of fun and enlightening adventure. Simply by sharing your home for as little as a semester or a school year, you will be giving an exceptional young person from another country the opportunity of a lifetime—to live with your family and experience the language, customs and culture of our country. In return, your exchange student will bring to your family a bit of his or her homeland and become a part of your family, building life long friendships. Learn more [here](#).

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GUILFORD
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2024-2025
English Learners

GCS English Learners Department

📍 134 Franklin Blvd, Greensboro, ...

☎ (336) 370-8982

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