

May 2022 President's Message

The Scoop

Beckie Bray Rankin, President 2022

Dear MaFLA members,

I hope that April gave you time to rest, relax, recharge, and rejuvenate for the last few weeks of the year. On a personal note, I was able to visit with my family and welcome the Swiss Exchange to our school. I can't say either of those gave me the energy I needed to finish out the year but I am glad for both opportunities.

Here at MaFLA, things never slow down! Your board is hard at work in all of our committees: Advocacy, Awards & Service, Communications, Finance, Nominating, Programming, Needs & Policies, Membership & Marketing. In case you've never been a part of the board, we meet five times per year for 6 hours to do the business of the board and we also meet virtually in these committees to get the work done. As members, you perhaps realize the results of the [Awards & Service Committee](#) in the honors you and your students can be nominated for or win (available [here](#) now!), and perhaps you recognize our hard working Communications Committee when you receive our [Newsletters](#) or follow us on social media. I always include information about the [Programming Committee](#) in my messages to you because PD is at the heart of MaFLA and [Advocacy](#) works with DESE and JNCL to promote strong programming at the state and national levels. The outcomes of the other committees (Finance, Nominating, [Membership](#), Needs and Policies) are just as important to the health and guidance of our organization and we are grateful for the members of each committee. Are you interested in joining one of these exciting committees as a Member at Large? Email [me](#)! Additionally, the nominating call is [here](#) if you are interested in becoming a board member.

One of the board's objectives this year is to finalize a strategic plan. While no motion has been made to vote in these draft areas to consider, I am sharing with you the four areas of focus: Raise & Retain Leaders, Instruct & Influence, Build Bridges, Promote Programs. Do you see your strengths and hopes in our 4 proposed goal areas? Our dreams include: creating a stronger board structure including a pipeline for board members, connecting k-12 to higher ed to strengthen the teacher pipeline, continuing our successful professional development, supporting world language education in every district. Over the next 2 board meetings and before our November Member Meeting during ACTFL, we hope to prepare specific actions under each goal area to give direction to MaFLA in the near future. We invite your ideas and your participation in the process.

Beckie Bray Rankin



The Spotlight

With the "tapped out" feeling amongst us all, we felt it was a good time to hire a part-time Administrative Assistant, allowing our board members time to cast vision and tackle some hard topics like board structure and strategic plan. If you get an email from Catherine Monson, know she may be emailing on MaFLA's behalf! Catherine also works in Sharon as a French teacher and will be working on supportive tasks from POs to Document Archiving.

Upcoming Events

[Proficiency Academy](#) registration is open!

→ MaFLA is accepting POs: <https://mafla.org/about/membership/purchase-order>.

[ACTFL registration](#) is open!

→ Your MaFLA [membership](#) gives you the ACTFL member rate and so much more.

