Dear MaFLA members,

I am excited to share with you a few new changes your MaFLA Board has been strategizing for over the past year. We have heard from our board members that the system can be confusing, inequitable, exclusive, and overwhelming. Our Past President, Jeanne, made it her goal to begin the work of systematizing our committees, roles, and tasks so that the board can bring fresh voices in without losing the important institutional knowledge. Next, we looked closely at our board structure to update it for sustainability, inclusiveness, and simplicity. This Fall, MaFLA members will be voting to confirm some of the changes we've made so I thought I'd give a preview here.

1. We've increased the number of directors per “class” from 3 to 4 to inculcate a system of mentorship as directors take on more responsibility. First year and second year (sophomore) directors will learn the ropes of their committees and take a chairship in their junior or senior year. The graduating seniors will decide which among them will extend their time an additional 3 years to enter the presidential track.
2. The graduating senior who continues the track will be President Elect (prepping the conference), President (conference chair and running meetings), Past President (mentoring and running some advisory councils).
3. By reducing the number of coordinator roles and adjusting their tasks, we’ve increased support for the presidential track and the director chairs. Our Coordinator roles are now: Membership & SIGs, Conference, Professional Development, Technology, Exhibits & Sponsorship.
4. To work on the pipeline of teacher leaders both before and after board service, we are supporting the invention of Special Interest Groups (a group of 10+ individuals who want to collaborate under the MaFLA title on a particular topic related to our field), a Past-President Council (where our past leaders can mentor our current leaders), and an Affiliate’s Council (for partner organizations like the AATs).

Stay tuned to our social media to preview the Bylaw changes we are proposing so you can participate in the member vote. Your voice is also important to our incoming Conference Chair, Vilma, who has asked for your input on the 2023 Fall Conference in Springfield through this form!

Beckie Bray Rankin

MaFLA Incoming Director Slate

Each September the Nominating Committee brings a slate of directors to the board for approval. We then bring that slate to the membership, usually during the Awards & Business Meeting at our annual conference. This year, that meeting will be held at ACTFL (registration here) and we will also send an electronic vote to members. Our incoming First Year Class of Directors slate is below, in the order of their photos above.

- Tanya Alvarado, K-8 Curriculum Coordinator in Brookline
- Victoria D’Annunzio, Interim World Language Director in Belmont
- Katia Marticorena, World Language director in Melrose
- Terresa Pietro, Spanish Teacher at Wilmington High School

Upcoming Events

ACTFL registration is open! Your MaFLA membership gives you the ACTFL member rate and so much more.