

In Medias Res

Greetings from MAFLA! We kicked off a new year in January with our Board meeting and welcomed our new Board members, Vicky D'Annunzio, Katia Marticorena, and Terresa Pietro. They join the full Board and participated in committee work as the *top notch candidates* that they are. We have one more new member, Evan Greenwalde, who will join us in March.

February is an important month for us as language educators for many reasons. For one thing, we begin to offer our student essay, poster, and video contests and heralded by the annual Proclamation announcing World language Week from the governor's office. It is also Black History Month and World Language teachers focus on curriculum and instruction that highlights important Black athletes, media personnel, and screen actors, surgeons, government officials and other prominent and famous people from that community.

January saw another MAFLA Meets hosted by Vilma and Teresa with a great Powerpoint Presentation that included a discussion protocol to generate conversation with relevant and insightful questions. February and March sessions are also planned. Please join us as we connect with colleagues throughout the state to share stories, network, and just collaborate in general.

Winter Workshops continued in January with workshops featuring a great session on Heritage Languages and it was very enlightening to hear experts speak on the topic. Also, coming up are Core Practices at BU with Danja Mahoney, MAFLA's Clerk and Greta Lundgaard. You won't want to miss the



great array of professional development that MAFLA offers.

DESE continues offering Curriculum Alignment Labs in the months of February and March and those sessions are linked at the end of this message. These sessions focus on Modules 9-14. All levels of language are included: Elementary, Novice, and Intermediate. Many MAFLA Board members are involved in The Volunteer Implementation Teams so be sure to follow this important topic.



Member of the Month: Dr. Danja Mahoney

Danja is MAFLA's Clerk, who diligently takes notes throughout our Board meetings. As Chair of the Executive Governance Committee, she runs the meeting as we discuss important matters that relate to Board operations. As our liaison to CAM, the Classical Association of Massachusetts, she advocates for the study of the Classics and ensures that professional development serves those needs. Aside from those weighty tasks, she is also the World Language Dept chair at Reading Memorial High School. She is a multi-purpose *MAFLA Board member!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [CAL 4](#) :February
- **MAFLA Core Practices** - Information and registration for them [here](#)
- **MAFLA Proficiency Academy** – at Westfield State University, June 26-29, 2023 Registration for this summer's Proficiency Academy opens on 2/4/23 . Info and registration [here](#).

Pat DiPillo, Ed.D.

MAFLA President 2023