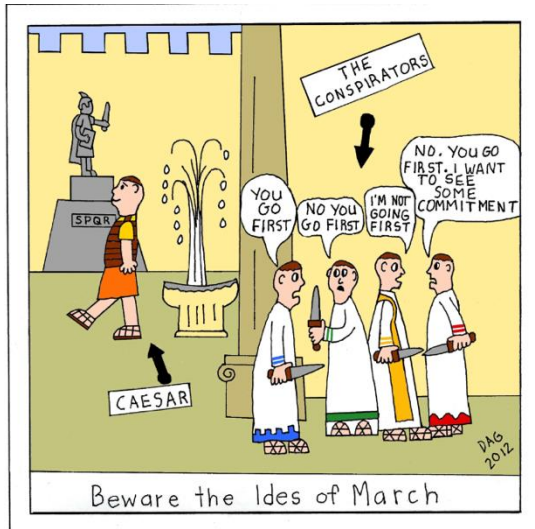


## Beware the Ides of March!

As I write this message for March, I am currently en route to New York City. Many of the MAFLA



Board are attending NECTFL and presenting, or advocating for our state organization, or just meeting up with fellow language colleagues and friends in engaging and timely workshops and sessions. We'll also attend the keynote, and the ceremony to select the NECTFL representative to ACTFL for Teacher of the Year.

Vilma Bibeau and I will be attending the meeting for State Leaders as MAFLA's representatives and to strengthen our



advocacy skills. She and I will spend three hours with our colleagues from the regional states represented and plan for much needed grass roots work for the study of world languages. That meeting along with the NADSFL breakfast energized and invigorated me by refocusing my efforts on the key issues we face as world language teachers and turning those efforts into actions! I always look forward to this weekend for the camaraderie and the chance to reconnect with all the people who provide MAFLA with the talent and expertise for our various PD events. And a trip to the Exhibit Hall is also a plus!

MAFLA is also in the midst of our Core Practices Workshops at BU. I am very much looking



forward to spending Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup> with Greta Lundgaard in her session on: "It's Not This or That: Grammar Acquisition in the Contemporary Language Classroom." She is inspiring, knowledgeable, and full of lots of tips and helpful hints. Along with Greta is Danja Mahoney, with: "Option B: Language Learning is for Everyone! Building a Toolkit for Supporting Students with Learning Disabilities in World Language Classrooms". This is so important for all world language teachers to help students who are challenged. Both sessions are on **Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00-3:30.**

March also brings us World Language Week, **March 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>** and focuses the spotlight on languages and how they benefit students. Teachers provide special events and activities geared to broaden and enhance the language experience for students both inside and outside of the classroom. We want students to not only enjoy their language but to learn about each other's



cultural differences. I look forward to hearing about the games, activities, and celebrations from all of your schools!

#### **Upcoming Events:**

• **MAFLA Proficiency Academy – at Westfield State University, June 26-29, 2023**  
Registration for this summer's Proficiency Academy is now open. Info and registration [here](#).

**Conference proposal deadline: April 19, 2023: Submit a proposal [Here](#)**

Stay tuned for more of MAFLA in April!

Pat DiPillo

MAFLA President 2023