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Kelly McClendon MIDTESOL President 2020-2021

MIDTESOL Matters

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ATTENTION MIDTESOL MEMBERS!

<u>ESL Library</u> is offering all MIDTESOL members a **FREE 2-month Plus plan subscription**. If you're not familiar with ESL Library, check out their <u>Quick Intro Video</u>.

To learn more about how to get your subscription, <u>log in to our membership website</u>. Then click on "MIDTESOL Members Only" in the left column and follow the steps.



A Welcome from the President

Kelly McClendon
MIDTESOL President
Washburn University
Coordinator of Intensive
English Program
Topeka, Kansas



Dear colleagues,

Greetings from Topeka, Kansas!

I teach English learners at Washburn University in the IEP. I have been teaching at WU for 20 years. Before that, I had the opportunity to teach in Lawton, Oklahoma, Tianjin, China and Tokyo, Japan. Before my year as vice president from 2019-2020, I was the Program Administrators Interest Section (PAIS) Chair.

I have really enjoyed being part of the MIDTESOL board. I have enjoyed membership in MIDTESOL for many years and have learned so many things from conferences and connections with colleagues. This is a professional organization of collaboration.

As we go forward together on this roller coaster that we all seem to be on, let's keep a few things in mind. Advocacy for our students and ourselves is not optional right now. We should help others to think of our students as emerging multilinguals instead of people deficient in English. Equity goes right along with advocacy efforts. We need to continuously comb our curriculum, policies, teaching materials, and communication to make sure we are being inclusive, but we also need to fight for the equal opportunities and inclusion for our students.

Finally, as you continue through this school year that is like no other, do not forget to take care of yourself. Breathe. Get a dose of nature. Reach out in your communities for help. MIDTESOL is here to support you with community and resources. Besides an academic journal all our own, there are newsletters, interest sections with FB groups, a forthcoming video academy on YouTube, and some informal coffee hours.

Kelly McClendon MIDTESOL President 2020-2021

Follow Us!



MIDTESOL on Twitter: Follow us Twitter.com/MIDTESOL



MIDTESOL on Facebook: Like us Facebook.com/MIDTESOL



MIDTESOL on Instagram: Like us Instagram.com/MIDTESOL



Dr. Thu Tran MIDTESOL PresidentMissouri University of
Science & Technology
Rolla, Missouri

Year in Review

It was my honor to serve as President of MIDTESOL. Looking back in reflection, I saw 2020 as one of the most unpredictable years in my career as an English language educator. The pandemic turned the whole world upside down. Our field and organization were no exception. The board had to convene an urgent meeting to decide whether to cancel or move forward with the on-site annual conference that was planned to take place in Des Moines, IA.

Thanks to an excellent team of dedicated and resourceful board members, MIDTESOL was able to adapt to the new reality with the first ever Virtual Conference on October 3, 2020. The conference was a success. It was a day full of diverse and high-quality sessions. After a daylong professional development event, I felt energized, enthused, and empowered by the dynamic and engaging speakers and presenters. I would like to particularly thank Molly Kelley, the Conference Chair of the virtual conference, for the sterling job she and her team did. Molly and the Conference Committee were instrumental in making our first virtual conference a reality. Our conference is evidence that despite challenges facing our field and organization, English language educators are able to adapt and thrive. Our conference has always been the highlight of the organization. MIDTESOL 2020 virtual conference was without a doubt a highlight of the organization. It offered members a much-needed opportunity to continue their love and passion for learning and teaching. The conference is a clear manifestation of MIDTESOL's commitment to assisting its members in professional development.

One of the most important sources of financial support for the virtual conference was from the exhibitors. I want to express my gratitude to the sponsors of the MIDTESOL 2020 virtual conference. Zachary Smith, Exhibitor Coordinator, did an outstanding job in working our sponsors on a regular basis to ensure a diverse group of sponsors. Zachary did a superb job as Exhibitor Coordinator for the MIDTESOL 2019 annual conference in Omaha, NE. He continued the role of Exhibitor Coordinator for the MIDTESOL 2020 virtual conference and proved to be a true leader in this area. Many thanks, Zachary.

During my term as President, I was assisted by an excellent team of board members. I would like to express my gratitude to each of them. I was also fortunate to work with a group of extremely capable executive officers. They truly are visionary leaders.

- Amy Chastain, in her role as past president and chair of the nominating committee, was always available to offer me with great advice and reminders to help me fulfill my responsibilities.
- Kelly McClendon, the vice president, was willing to take on a new initiative to start a Coffee Hours series with MIDTESOLers to engage members during a trying time.
- Janet Hiatt took some of the best minutes I have seen. She also had great ideas and plans to archive historical materials of MIDTESOL.
- Lynn Tiemann was a prudent and reliable member of the executive officers. She made sure the MIDTESOL budget was in order.
- Shaeley Santiago was extremely knowledgeable about MIDTESOL practices. In addition to carrying out her
 responsibilities as chair of the Communication Committee, she assisted all executive board members in ensuring
 consistent organizational practices.

I am confident that MIDTESOL is in the right direction to promoting excellence in English language learning. I am proud of the organization I have served and its members. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. Farewell.

Thu Tran
Past MIDTESOL President
tranthu@mst.edu

#MIDTESOL20 Highlights A New Experience!

Molly M. Kelley 2020 Conference Chair lowa

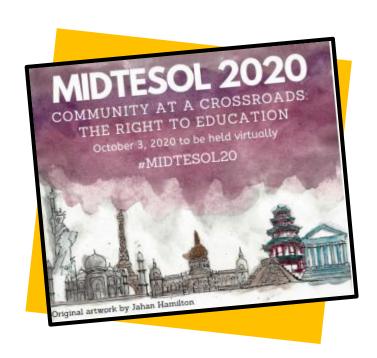


MIDTESOL pioneered its first virtual conference on October 3, 2020. It was a success as participants were able to engage in professional development in an online format. Going forward, we will use webinar features to better control the chat.

322 people registered for #MIDTESOL20 plus there were 12 sponsors. Over 50 sessions were given on a wide variety of topics by 70+ presenters including 3 keynote presentations. Dr. Christl Broady, Director of ESL Teacher Education Program at Georgetown College, presented a morning keynote and a breakout session. She was sponsored by TESOL International. Erica Johnson, Director of the American Friends Service Committee, Iowa, presented an afternoon keynote sponsored by Imagine Learning. Kory Stamper, Senior Editor of American English at Cambridge ELL Dictionaries, was the final keynote speaker. She was sponsored by the U.S. Department of State English Language Programs. The keynote speakers were well received by conference attendees as noted by the following comment, "The best part of the entire conference. Loved all three!!!!!"

Overall feedback about the conference was very positive based on survey data. Participants noted the convenience and lower cost of an online conference. Several commented on the relevance and usefulness of ideas presented in sessions. "I think this will be very helpful to my current, higher-level students, and to future, lower-level, students." "I have already used the information in a lesson for my students!" In spite of the different format, attendees appreciated the opportunity to hear new ideas and engage online with colleagues.

Submitted by #MIDTESOL20 Conference Committee



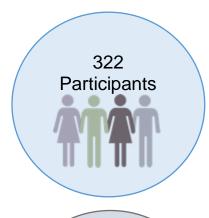
MIDTESOL 2020 Des Moines, Iowa Conference Highlights!

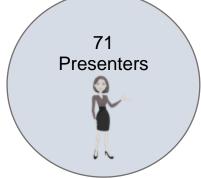


A Snapshot of Kory Stamper's Keynote!



Conference Stats!













Conference Shout-Outs!

Thank you to our Keynote Speakers



Kory Stamper Senior Editor of American English, Cambridge ELL Dictionaries Sponsor: U.S. Department of State



Dr. Christel Broady
Director of ESL Teacher Education
Program, Georgetown College
Sponsor: TESOL International



Erica Johnson
Director of American Friends Service
Committee Iowa
Sponsor: Imagine Learning

Conference Comments!

"Building Community in Online ESL Classrooms"

"I can't wait to get going with my students!" Anne King "Thank you! I will try this for sure!" Miryan Andaku

"Cultivating Academic Writers Through Creative Sourcework" "How Hip Hop Culture can Transform" "This is excellent I really love this approach

"That is so neat! I love that! What a great idea!" Meaghan McDowell "This was awesome! Thank you so much for sharing!" Brittany Balde "I love it, Zach!" Molly Kelley

Our ELL Classrooms"

Accessible Test Items" "Thank you! Wonderful session!" Meredith "Thank you for a great

"Creating Linguistically

session!" Meredith
"Thank you for a great
session!" Michelle Schulze
"Thank you. Great session!"
Gloria Wenman

"This is excellent! I really love this approach as well!" Kelly McClendon

"I love the specific approach and how it is broken down. I plan to share this with my high school teachers." Michelle Dickey

"This is great. Great step-by-step guidance for students. Excellent!" Christie L. Conaway

"Awesome ideas, thank you!" Deany Goode



Conference Comments!

"Helping Newcomers Become Resilient"

"I think this is such an important topic."
Tammy Krause
"Thank you very much for this session." Ritz Rivera

"Empowering Listeners through Active Listening"

"Love the structure of this!"
Emily Clark
"This was great!"
Maureen Burke

"Updates to American English Sounds"

"Nice, thank you so much. Looks like a great tool!"

Ana Loza

"Thank you so much. I think this will be very helpful to my current, higher-level students, and to future, lower-level, students." Gloria Wenman "You have done a huge amount of work on this. Thank you so much." Gail Koch

"Grammar Hymnal Grammar You Can't Forget"

"This is so GREAT." Dianne Siasoco
"It is so great! Thanks!" Janice Arnold
"Thank you!! This is great!!" Janet Long
"Thanks, great presentation, very creative."
Renee VanZandt-Priolo
"I've taught Head, Shoulders, Knees, and
Toes to my adult students a couple times,
and they LOVED it!" Angie Miller

"Learner Anxiety Strategies for Overcoming Affective Barriers"

"This sounds so fun!!!" Angie
"Thanks! I'm really excited. Great
presentation!"
Renee VanZandt-Priolo
"Great presentation. Super
ideas!" Roberta

"Reaching Advising Navigating Educating Families of ELs"

"This is great and I've been thinking about creating something like this for our district!" Karalee Smith "This is amazing!" Melissa Kanost



MIDTESOL 2021

Shift in English Language Teaching: Forging an Educational Framework for a Post-Pandemic World

English Language Teaching (ELT) in our region has been profoundly impacted by the pandemic. In the midst of the uncertainty, it is clear that some aspects will never return to their pre-pandemic states. Online ELT, the educational lifeline between students and teachers during lockdowns, is certainly here to stay in some fashion even when face-to-face classes are running again.

Instructional and assessment methods and objectives are changing in light of new challenges during online, hiflex, and other modes of connection with students. Job losses in various sectors of ELT will continue to have an impact on the economy and demographics of our region in the years to come.

Diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism have become "must address" topics for all of our ELT classes. Even MIDTESOL's means of providing professional development for its membership will continue to change in the era of virtual meetings and webinars on demand. All of this will require a change not only in methods, but in vision, and MIDTESOL 2021 strives to provide a platform from which this paradigm shift can begin to happen in interaction with fellow ELT professionals from a variety of areas in the field.

Vicki Anderson #MIDTESOL21 Conference Chair

Save the Date! #MIDTESOL21

September 17-18, 2020 Intercontinental Plaza Hotel Kansas City, MO Format TBD



Members-At-Large State News

State Update: Nebraska Kaylene Powell



NEBRASKA

Hello, everyone! Before I update you more on a few points from my perspective and in connection with the state of Nebraska, I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to represent this state over the past two years in this position. I now look forward to representing our larger membership as your new Vice President and am happy to introduce our recently-elected new member-at-large, Patrick Randolph. I hope our Nebraska participants will feel free to reach out to Patrick with any concerns or questions for the board. Be watching for more state reports from Patrick in the months ahead!

It was good to have a number of Nebraska educators and administrators participate in our 2020 online conference. Thanks to all who attended, presented, moderated, and encouraged others through helpful sessions and conversations. Personally, I enjoyed hosting a networking session for attendees who wanted to voice concerns and questions about maintaining ongoing, helpful professional growth in our field. In the end, we did not have time to discuss most topics in depth, but it was great to meet lots of folks from across the Midwest who are dealing with a wide variety of challenges.

As we entered the new school year or fall semester in schools across the Omaha metro area and in other places around the state, I have heard reports of all types of situations for Nebraska learners, across the board. As each school district and learning institution makes ongoing decisions for how to support their learners and teachers in the COVID era, some have continued remote learning options from the spring, some have introduced a staggered attendance approach, some have introduced very heavy screening processes, and some have gone back to classes in a fairly normal fashion. The contrast has been seen most starkly in locations where schools taking opposing approaches are located directly next to each other.

During this whole time, of course, many of our instructors and administrators have faced unique frustrations and challenges in serving English Language Learners, especially in online instruction. Finally, as we look to the future, it will certainly be interesting to see if we maintain online-only conferences in future years. But, if we go back to having at least a partial in-person hosting option, it would be great to see you all back in Nebraska to meet together in one of the upcoming meetings. Stay tuned...

Take care during these interesting times, dear friends!

Kaylene



Learning to Prioritize

By Adrienne Johnson Sociopolitical Concerns & Professional Standards Chair



In our current divisive climate, it is easy to lose focus or become overwhelmed by the constant changes happening around us. When it comes to politics and advocacy, trying to stay informed can feel like aiming to satisfy your thirst by sipping from a fire hydrant.

Teachers everywhere feel like it is 9 months into the school year when, in reality, we only started a mere 9 weeks ago (give or take a few delays or early starts to the year). Yet, students who are learning English or who come from marginalized communities need advocates to amplify their voices now, more than ever. Thus, our goal as advocates is dogged persistence.

We must monitor our own health carefully to avoid burning out (this does not help our students either), but we also cannot avoid current politics and hope conflict 'just goes away' – politics will not simply disappear any more than COVID-19 will. What we *can* do is to decide what level of advocacy we are able to support in our current state of being, and then choose to focus on the goals that we feel most passionate about and that affect our students and their communities the most.

Connect with MIDTESOL on social media









As you decide which issues to focus on, here are a few suggestions:

- (Re-)Watch some of the great advocacy presentations from MIDTESOL's first virtual conference.
- Follow the great advocacy work being distributed by other TESOL affiliates around the country such as CATESOL and VATESOL
- Visit the TESOL Advocacy Action Center and review TESOL International's - <u>list of advocacy priorities</u>, or contact your elected officials via the Advocacy Action Center.
- Connect with local refugee and immigration agencies to follow policies they are monitoring (including recent proposals to slash refugee admittance rates)
- 5. Connect with <u>NAFSA</u> to follow their legislative priorities.
- Above all, build your network of support systems to improve educational opportunities for English learners. Here are a few organizations that have been pushing out resources related to distance learning for English learners: <u>NCELA</u>, <u>Missouri</u> <u>DESE</u>, <u>WIDA</u>, <u>AACTE</u>

What are some of your advocacy priorities? What is your plan for staying balanced and updated on current issues, without becoming overwhelmed? What are some simple action steps that you can take inside the classroom, your school, your community, or your state to help mitigate the harm that English learners are facing in our current period of health, economic, and social disruptions?

Make a plan, tell a friend, and, above all, don't forget to vote (this year and every year)!

Program Administrators Interest Section (PAIS)



The PAIS group met during the MIDTESOL Conference on October 3, 2020. We held a lunch session entitled, "Surviving and Succeeding During Covid-19," and this gave us a chance to share tips for teaching face-to-face and online learning, as well as ideas of how to deal with teaching during a pandemic.

We are in the process of electing new officers. Anne Dugger, is the Chair-Elect, and she will become the Chair in 2020-2021. We need to fill the following positions:

- Secretary (1-year term)
- Interest Areas
 - o K-12 (1-year term)
 - Adult Basic Education (1-year term)
 - Higher Education (1-year term)
 - Intensive English/English for Academic Purposes/College-Credit (1year term)



If you still want to be involved, please fill out the nomination form and either volunteer yourself or nominate someone for the open positions.

Nomination Form Link

Finally, thank you for your involvement and kindness over the 2019-2020 school year. I have enjoyed being Chair of this dedicated group. Be sure to sign into our contact list and update your contact information. <u>Update your Contact</u> <u>Information Here</u>

Thank you!

Michelle Schulze, Outgoing Chair

Janet Hiatt MIDTESOL Secretary

A Message from the Secretary

I have had the honor of serving as Secretary of MIDTESOL since October of 2019. During this time, I have been able to document many highlights from monthly Officer and quarterly Board Meetings. These highlights have included, but are not limited to documentation of:

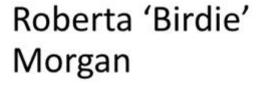
- Ongoing collaboration with the 2020 Conference Committee to ensure the smooth transition from an in-person to virtual conference. Topics have included hotel cancellation processes, registration fees, the CVENT account, best timing of the conference, exhibits, representation across all interest sections, keynote speakers, etc.
- New collaboration with 2021 Conference leaders to jumpstart planning and consider possible changes due to the pandemic
- Continued monitoring of the budget to ensure the good financial standing of MIDTESOL including discussion of profits, losses, and expenditures
- Updates on collaboration with TESOL Affiliates
- Approval of nominations for MIDTESOL elections
- Discussion of how to maximize benefits of MIDTESOL Membership
- Communication updates on membership, social media stats, MIDTESOL Journal and MIDTESOL Matters
- Reports of activities and needs from each MIDTESOL state (Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska)
- Reports from Interest Sections (EdTech, Community College/Adult Ed, K-12, Program Administrators, Intensive English Programs, and Higher Ed)
- Sociopolitical reports on activities, key advocacy issues, MIDTESOL statements, and attendance at the 2020 Virtual TESOL Advocacy & Policy Summit
- Finalizing details for the MIDTESOL social event at TESOL
- Discussion of racial equity, decentring whiteness, and social justice in MIDTESOL
- Updates on new activities such as Coffee Chats
- Requests to attend TESOL events
- Discussion of logistics for MIDTESOL awards

It has been an honor to serve as Secretary to both document and provide a voice of advocacy for English Learners and families, as well as their educators and communities in MIDTESOL states. I will continue the role of MIDTESOL Secretary in 2020-21.

Janet Hiatt MIDTESOL Secretary



Distinguished Service Award winner 2020



Distinguished Service Award MIDTESOL 2020



ATTENTION MIDTESOL MEMBERS!

ESLlibrary ESL library ESL Library is offering all MIDTESOL members a FREE 2month Plus plan subscription. If you're not familiar with ESL Library, check out their Quick Intro Video.

> To learn more about how to get your subscription, log in to our membership website. Then click on "MIDTESOL Members Only" in the left column and follow the steps.

MIDTESOL 2020

Resources for Educational Technology

At the virtual *MIDTESOL 2020 Conference – Community at a Crossroads: The Right to Education*, the Educational Technology Interest Section hosted a networking session on **Ed Tech Tips & Tricks**. We had 29 attendees participate in sharing their favorite software and websites for the classroom and online use.

Thanks to MIDTESOL Board members Terry Barakat for helping to moderate and Emily Clark for writing down many of the websites! Thanks also to everyone who contributed or asked questions that kept the tech resources coming at a furious pace!

Some examples are: American English Sounds for pronunciation practice made by one of our MIDTESOL members, **Clideo** a fast and (mostly) free video editor, **EdPuzzle** to make educational puzzles, **Lyrics Training** a fun way to practice speaking and listening through popular song lyrics, and **Slides Carnival** a free site for PowerPoint and Google Slides themes that really pop!

For a full list of EdTech Resources click the following link to explore more! Resources for Educational Technology Part 1

Click on these links below to check out some of these amazing TechEd Resources!



edpuzzle

https://clideo.com/

https://edpuzzle.com/





https://lyricstraining.com/

https://www.slidescarnival.com/

Just Released! Check out the THIRD edition of the MIDTESOL Journal

Feature Articles

We've Got Our Noses in a Book: Implementing Extensive Reading in the ESL Composition Classroom

Sarah Osborn & Melanie Seitzer & Kathy Radosta

<u>Developing Teacher Candidates' Competencies for Addressing Diverse</u> Needs of English Language Learners

Heegyoung Song & Yuankun Yao & Dawna Lisa (Buchanan) Butterfield

A Brain-Based Approach for Teaching and Learning Vocabulary: Using Embodied Semantics and Mirror Neurons with Mindfulness, Movement, and Music

Patrick T. Randolph

<u>English Outside the Classroom: Equipping Learners for Real-Life</u> Interactions

Bethany Anderson

<u>Intercultural Communication: Engaging International and Domestic Students in Small Group Interactions</u>

Rosa Brefeld & Sarah A. Coppersmith

<u>Greater Effectiveness of Peer Review: Applying Min's 4-Step Processes</u> *Anna-Maria P. Cornell*

Knees to Knees, Eyes to Eyes: Using "Turn and Talk" to Improve Early Language Skills

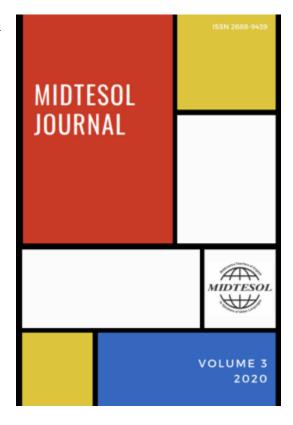
Sara Fedorchik & Michelle Avilla

Before During After Reading: Strategies for English Learners

Andrea Karpf

Creative Vocabulary Teaching for ELLs/ELs

Michelle Schulze



Click on this link to get to the full MIDTESOL Journal material MIDTESOL JOURNAL VOLUME 3

Call for Submissions to MIDTESOL Journal

Submissions for Volume 4 Due March 1, 2021

MIDTESOL Journal is an annual blind peer-reviewed academic publication dedicated to the dissemination of research and ideas of interest to English language teaching professionals in Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and world-wide. Articles in the MIDTESOL Journal are grounded in research, theory, pedagogy, and best practices in language learning and teaching.

You're Invited

To submit to the MIDTESOL Journal

MIDTESOL accepts the following types of submissions:

- Language teaching professionals' interests (no more than 3000 words)
- Effective activities and tips for teachers (no more than 2000 words)
- Reviews of instructional materials (no more than 1000 words)
- Feature articles related to all aspects of English language learning and teaching (no more than 4000 words)

Submission Guidelines

Please follow these guidelines carefully.

- There must be an abstract of no more than 150 words in your manuscript
- All submissions should be in English
- Submissions should use correct American Psychological Association (APA) 6th Edition format
- All words should be 12-point Times New Roman font, including the header
- The article title should be 16-point Times New Roman font in bold. If the title runs over to a second line, single space the title
- Authors' names must NOT be included anywhere in the manuscript

Submissions should be sent by email as a .doc or .docx file to the Editor at shelley.fairbairn@drake.edu with the subject line: MIDTESOL Journal LastName and Three First Words Of Title

In the text of your email, include your contact information, a short bio, and institutional affiliation.

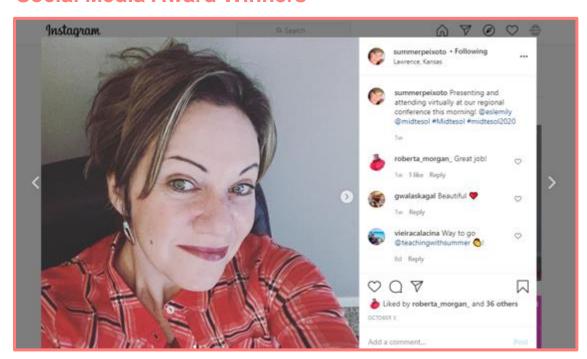
Review Process

- All submissions will be made to the Editor.
- The Editor will review submissions first for compliance with submission standards.
- All accepted submissions will be blind reviewed.
- Manuscripts are accepted for publication based on the peer reviews and the final judgement of the MIDTESOL Journal editor.

Top Social Media Picks!

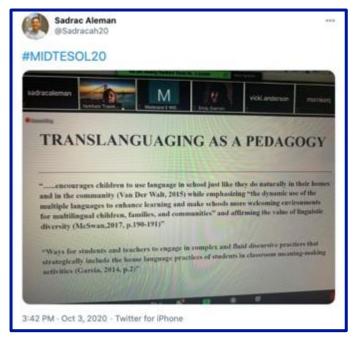


Instagram - #MIDTESOL20 Social Media Award Winners





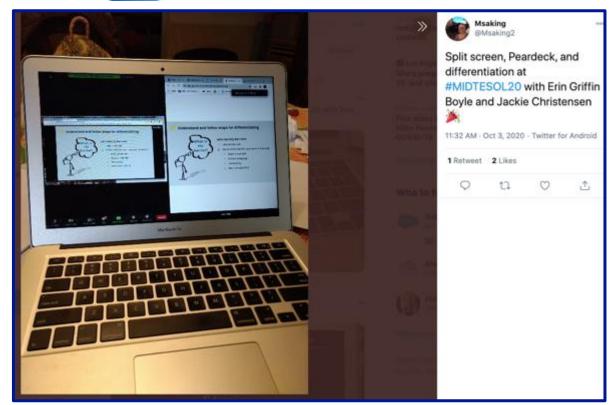




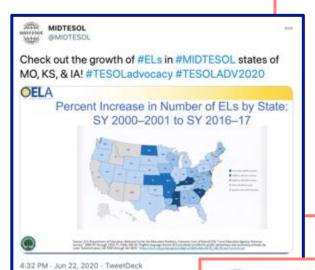
Twitter - #MIDTESOL20 Social Media Award Winners







#MIDTESOL20More TOP Posts!











Published by Terry Miller Barakat July 14 · C

...for students to receive an anti-racist education, teachers need better training and students need more diverse teachers.

https://www.npr.org/.../what-it-would-take-to-get-an...

DEM.WO
JUSTICE

NPR.ORG

Effective Anti-Racist Education Requires More Diverse Teachers, More Training

MIDTESOL



MIDTESOL is a professional organization, an affiliate of TESOL International Association, whose goal is to support teachers and enhance the teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages.

MIDTESOL Matters is a quarterly publication and is distributed to subscribers and dues-paying members of MIDTESOL. Articles, Teaching Tips, and Reviews are welcome from all members. The editor reserves the right to edit for space, clarity, or editorial balance. Materials published in MIDTESOL Matters become the property of MIDTESOL and could be shared with other TESOL affiliate organizations.

Expressed opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of MIDTESOL, TESOL, or the MIDTESOL Executive Board.

Our Mission

The mission of Mid-America Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages is to foster excellence in English language learning in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska to people whose native language is a language other than English while respective of their individual language rights.

As a regional affiliate of TESOL and a professional organization, MIDTESOL:

- supports those involved with English language teaching, teacher education, administration and management, curriculum and materials design, and research
- provides leadership and direction through the dissemination and exchange of information and resources
- encourages access to the standards for English language instruction, professional preparation, and employment