



World Languages Welcomes New Teachers

The Office of World Languages is pleased to welcome a record number of new teachers to Pinellas County Schools. We are **thrilled** to have such dedicated and well qualified professionals join our team.

Susan Alamillo—Spanish, John Hopkins MS, was formerly a Spanish teacher at Northside Christian School.

Pam Benton—Spanish, Boca Ciega HS, returns to us after teaching for three years in Leon County.

Marie Bidegain—French, Palm Harbor UHS, joins us as a part-time teacher in the IB Program.

Danny Boulrieris—Spanish, Safety Harbor MS, is a recent graduate of USF who interned at East Lake and also graduated from Countryside HS.

Jeanette Chavez, Spanish, Gibbs HS, was previously a very successful substitute teacher in several schools in our district.

Ivette Calderon—Spanish, Seminole HS, is transitioning into teaching from the business world.

Dacia Cannon—Spanish, Gibbs HS, is a recent graduate from Western Michigan University; she completed an internship last semester teaching English and Spanish to 7th graders.

Cathy Capek—Spanish, Largo HS, returns to Spanish after teaching ESOL last year.

Victor D'Andrea—Spanish, Clearwater HS, was formerly a teacher in Pasco County.

Rosario de la Viña—Spanish, Seminole HS, taught Spanish in her native Cuba and, more recently, worked as a bilingual assistant at Alonso HS in Tampa.

Martha Estrada—Spanish, Tarpon Springs MS, was formerly a teacher of middle and high school in Hawaii; she also taught in an elementary Spanish immersion program in Indiana.

Laura Ferrer—Spanish, Maximo Elementary, worked as a substitute in many elementary schools, including a long term appointment in the FLES Program at Bay Point Elementary.

Hugues Gingras—Spanish, Northeast HS, taught French and Spanish in New York high schools and at Hillsborough Community College.

Orietha Gnecco—Spanish, Bay Point MS, is teaching Spanish for the first time after having worked at BPMS as a teacher's assistant.

Monica Hernandez—Spanish, East Lake HS, recently moved here from San Diego, California, where she taught math, Spanish and Spanish for heritage speakers.

Jackie Herres—Spanish, Countryside HS, is a graduate of Florida A&M University; she taught previously at Bradford HS in Starke, Florida.

Valerie Kline—ASL, Pinellas Park HS, a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University, has been a free lance American Sign Language interpreter for 10 years. This is her first year teaching.

Elvira Largo—Spanish and French, Clearwater HS, recently received her MA in Latin American and Caribbean studies from USF, where she also taught Spanish.

Joanna Latorre—Spanish, St. Petersburg HS, was formerly an elementary classroom teacher; she is referred to by her department chair as a "fantastic, very positive" teacher.

Carmen Maldonado—Spanish, Northeast HS, a graduate of the University of North Florida, has served in the U.S. army and taught high school Spanish in Jacksonville.

Dan Perazzo—Spanish, Dunedin HS, interned in New York and graduated with BA in Spanish Education and a MS in Education from the University of Albany.

Clara Ramirez—Spanish, Azalea MS, holds a BA in Spanish and a BS in Foreign Language Education from USF and has worked previously in Hillsborough County.

Rene Ramirez—Spanish, Dixie Hollins HS, is a graduate of USF and holds a masters in TESOL from Nova University.

César Robalino—Spanish, PHUHS, attended college in New York and joins us after teaching Spanish in Polk County.

Joseph Rockelmann—German, Clearwater HS, holds several masters degrees and worked most recently at the University of Florida.

Crystal Rockne—ASL, Dixie Hollins, is a graduate of Flagler College who is also qualified to teach language arts.

Mia Rossenwasser—Spanish, Osceola HS, taught Spanish in Georgia until moving recently to Pinellas County.

Celia Rubí—Spanish, Boca Ciega, is a beginning teacher after having subbed in Hillsborough County.

Miriam Ruperto—Spanish, Lakewood HS, originally from Venezuela, previously worked both as a substitute teacher and an ESOL teacher in Hillsborough County. She has a BA in Business Management from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA, and a masters of teaching from USF.

Charles Sisson—Spanish and art, Coachman Fundamental, has extensive experience teaching English as a Foreign Language in France as well as experience as a bilingual teacher (Spanish) in Denver, Colorado.

Katrin Scheuble—German, East Lake HS, is a recent graduate of the University of Florida where she received her BA in Germanic Studies.

Bernidine Valentine—Spanish, Tarpon Springs HS, is a graduate of the University of St. Francis in Joliet, IL. She also received masters degrees from Northern Illinois University (Spanish) and Clark Atlanta University (Special Education). She has taught previously in Illinois (in the high school from which she graduated) and in Georgia. She and her family recently moved to Florida.

Laurent Vanneste—French, Seminole HS, is a French native raised in Belgium who earned his BA from Metropolitan State College of Denver. He has served in many schools as a sub in recent years; this is his first fulltime teaching position.

SPHS Language Students to Present Multicultural Show

contributed by **Aixa Ruch**

St. Petersburg High School is presenting a multicultural assembly in mid October. Students of world languages will enjoy presentations of dance as well as acting performances presented entirely by other students. Presenters have been busy planning and rehearsing their performances.

Gibbs HS Works With Wireless Labs

Now that they have had time to settle into life on their new campus, **Jean Ziesmer** and **Laura Sosa** are working together to integrate the use of their wireless language labs with classroom instruction. The move to smaller class sizes means that more and more teachers will be "floating", making portable labs an option for language teachers wishing to provide students with monitored interactive listening and speaking practice. Their work with the portable labs will be useful to the committee making decisions about furniture and equipment needed in "model world language classrooms".

Wanna Get Away?

Students of advanced Spanish at Kennedy MS are busy planning a trip to a Spanish-speaking country as part of a "vacaciones" project planned by their teacher, **Rosemary Scalzo**. Students are discovering important information from air fares, hotel and restaurant prices, historical sites, currency exchange and gasoline prices and the lack of easy access to certain destinations. While sharing student reactions to the assignment, Rosemary shared, "It's a reality-based project focusing on culture that has been awesome. The students love it!".

Meadowlawn Ready for Field Day

contributed by **Regina Bringas**

Spanish and ESOL students at Meadowlawn MS are gearing up to welcome world language students from throughout the county for the 2007 World Languages Field Day which will take place there March 17. Osceola HS, the traditional site of the event, is unavailable this year due to construction. This year's Field Day will feature a "parade of nations", with students sharing costumes from the cultures from throughout the world.

News from Boca Ciega HS

contributed by **Pam Benton**

Spanish Honor Society has gotten off to a good start with plans to hold monthly social meetings to which we'll invite all Spanish students in the school. Members will take responsibility for planning one meeting a year. Field trips to Ybor City, St. Augustine, SPIFFS, Foreign Language Field Day and the State Spanish Conferencia are planned. Service projects will include cooking at Ronald McDonald House, gathering supplies for a shelter, collecting toiletry items for the homeless and reading to children at a shelter for abused women.

Hispanic Heritage Month is being celebrated in a variety of ways. Spanish 1 and 2 students made Power-Point presentations or posters with information about Spanish-speaking countries. Level 3 students each created a PowerPoint slide about a Spanish-speaking country and they are being shown on the morning announcements and on the scrolling slideshow throughout the day. We've gotten a lot of positive comments

about them! Spanish Honor Society will begin their tutoring program on Monday, October 2. We already have a lot of students signed up to receive tutoring and our tutors will learn how to be effective in the workshop this week held during classes.

Congratulations to...

Michelle and Larry Browett (Seminole HS), the proud parents of Alexis Danielle.

Laura Sosa (Gibbs HS), for successfully completing the Transition to Teaching Program.

Meg Keller (Seminole MS) and Debra Farr (East Lake HS), who, after many hours of hard work, both completed masters degrees in Latin American and Caribbean History from at USF.

Nilsa Gomez (Bay Point Ele), who has been participating in a letter exchange with students from a school in Nicaragua after a Bay Point student visited the country. The pairing of students has resulted in beautiful expressions of friendship, plans for future face-to-face visits and meaningful use of language.

Upcoming Events

September 15-October 15

Hispanic Heritage Month

September 28

World Languages Content Training

Administration Building, room 203 ABC, 5:00-8:00

October 5

Motivation and Learning/Assessment (PEAK) Follow-up

Osceola HS, 5:00-7:00

October 13

Introduction to Motivation and Learning/Assessment

Clearwater HS Media Center, 8:30-3:30

October 13-14

FFLA Conference /Sarasota Hyatt

October 16

Model WLC Classroom Committee Meeting

Administration Building, room D-202, 5:00-7:00

Language Lab Training (**MS**), PPMS, rm. 4-2, 5:00-7:00

October 17

Language Lab Training (**HS**)

Largo High School, room C15, 3:00-5:00

October 26

HS Department Chair, MS PLC

Administration Building, room E-111

October 27, 30

Familia Cicatriz, FLES Program

October 27

Assessment Writing Team

Osceola HS, room 225, 8:30-3:30

November 2

Technology Training: Power Point

STAMP Tests and Illuminate

Osceola HS, room 225, 5:00-8:00

November 2-8

National French Week

November 8

FLES Team Meeting

Campbell Park Ele, 9:00-3:00

November 9

Content Training

Administration Building, room D-134,135, 5:00-8:00

November 16-19

ACTFL Conference/Nashville, Tennessee

November 29

Textbook Adoption Committee Meeting

Administration Building, room B-213, 8:30-3:30