July 28, 2022

Dr. Sheri Spaine Long
2100 First Avenue North, Suite 320
Birmingham, AL 35203

Dear Dr. Long:


The Alabama State Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) in recognition of graduating students who have demonstrated an intermediate level of proficiency in English and at least one other world language, including American Sign Language. On April 6, 2022, the State of Alabama signed into law HB46 which is the Alabama State Seal of Biliteracy to recognize graduates who have demonstrated an indicated level of proficiency in English and at least one other world language, including American Sign Language. Research has shown the immense benefits of bilingualism. The Seal of Biliteracy is a step in the right direction towards recognizing bilingualism and promoting educational equity for English Learners. Here is a great opportunity to join professional learning communities of World Language and English Language educators to focus on mutual support and collaboration. Join other professionals and start your journey to improve teaching and learning of languages.

**The New Alabama Seal of Biliteracy: Language Study Rising Workshop**
Saturday, September 10, 2022
8:00am-4:00pm
Birmingham-Southern College Campus, Birmingham, AL

**Audience: K-12 teachers of all languages**

Sponsored by the Alabama Humanities Alliance, Department of Modern Foreign Languages Birmingham-Southern College and the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese

Cost: Only $10 to register for the entire day that includes a light breakfast, box lunch, and free parking!

Please consider funding support for gas to and from Birmingham and possibly one night’s lodging if your school is far from Birmingham.

Workshop hosts have forms for six hours of for professional development credit available on site.

Sincerely,

Maria Franco, M.Ed
English Learner Education Administrator
Alabama State Department of Education