

*From the Editors-in-Chief*

## **Curriculum and Standards in NYS TESOL**

**Welcome** to Volume 12, Issue 2 of NYS TESOL Journal! The past few years have seen changes to the journal, and this issue is no exception. In November 2025, we launched early access to accepted articles under the Online First heading. Publishing Online First supports our goal of reducing time to publication by making relevant research accessible to the NYS TESOL community in a timely manner, and we hope that authors and readers benefit from expedited publication timelines and access to research.

This issue includes two papers that focus on curriculum and standards in New York State. These articles center the importance of ensuring that multilingual learners receive access to challenging academic instruction and language development, both essential aspects of equitable schooling.

The feature article, "Practical Approaches to Developing Stand-alone Curriculum" by Gretchen Oliver and Karen Gregory, focuses on the development of robust stand-alone ENL curriculum. They report on results from a survey on stand-alone ENL in New York State and recount their experience supporting NYS teachers through the curricular development process. Oliver and Gregory also provide resources and curricular templates for school- and district-level leadership and ENL teachers to develop local curricula that provide access to meaningful and thematically organized language learning for multilingual learners. Supporting robust, standards-aligned stand-alone ENL curriculum is an essential aspect of meeting the legal obligations for teaching multilingual learners, and this article provides schools and teachers with some resources to help them meet these mandates.

In the readers comment entitled "Continuing the Conversation: Clarifying Information Around the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework, 2020 Edition," Lynn Shafer Willner provides further clarification on the conversation about the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework started with Okhee Lee et al. (2025). Shafer Willner draws on her expertise as a one of the primary developers of the WIDA framework to provide context and resources that are beneficial to ENL teachers and leaders seeking more information following NYSED's adoption of the WIDA ACCESS.

As we look to 2026, *NYS TESOL Journal* will continue to provide a supportive and collegial forum for scholarship that supports the work of TESOL educators in New York State and beyond. Thank you for your readership!

*Mark R. Emerick & Erik Voss  
Editors-in-Chief*

