



Dear Principal, World Language Department Chair, and/or Professional Development Chair,

If you wish to support your world language educators with proven professional development, please consider encouraging them attend one of the best opportunities in the Midwest: the 51st Annual Indiana Foreign Language Teacher's Association Fall Conference. More than 500 instructors of Japanese, Latin, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, German, and French who represent all levels of language teaching from K-16 will meet to share and exchange their big ideas from October 31st - November 2nd at the Sheraton Hotel Keystone Crossing in Indianapolis. The keynote speaker this year is Tina Hargaden, a passionate and inspiring advocate of professional development for world language teachers and a big proponent of the Comprehensible Input method.

By giving assistance to educators to attend the conference, your students and school will reap many rewards. With more than 80 sessions available, attendees will be able to explore topics that impact our learners: curriculum development, methods and activities, heritage speakers, assessment, global citizenship, bi-literacy, differentiated learning, and leadership. There will be a session on strategies for incorporating the new Indiana world language standards, and a Department of Education representative will offer a session detailing the continuing growth of immersion programs. Of the 14 workshops being offered, instructors can elect to attend an intensive workshop about research-based implementation of Comprehensible Input methodology as well as experience additional workshops demonstrating supporting strategies. New teachers are invited to a beginning teacher workshop through which they can be connected with a mentor in their language. In light of anticipated materials adoption in 2020 for many districts, attendees can meet with vendors who have resources available for review. With access to language organization meetings, interactive forums, and special language-related events, your staff members will have the chance to recharge, collaborate with colleagues, and come away from the conference with fresh ideas.

IFLTA is one of the best values for world language-related professional development in the region. I encourage you to offer your educators the opportunity to attend and, if possible, assist them with registration and/or hotel expenses. **Early-Bird Registration** (postmarked by Tuesday, October 1st, 2019) is \$95 dollars and **Full Registration** (postmarked after October 1st, 2019 and **on-site**) is \$115 dollars. To make the most of the experience, participants should consider staying on-site at the hotel. The IFLTA rate at the Sheraton Hotel Keystone Crossing is \$149 dollars + taxes (single/double) if booked before Oct 1st at 5pm.

If you have questions or want to know more about the conference, please visit www.iflta.org. For your convenience, I have attached a tentative session and workshop schedule. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in your decision-making.

Best,

Amanda Beck
Chair, 51st Annual IFLTA Conference
1st Vice President