



TexTESOL-V Breaking News! October 19, 2008.

Advocacy Report

by Janine Kornegay

TESOL International co-signed a letter, dated August 28th, 2008, with several other education groups, objecting to the US Department of Education decision to place the administration of the Title III grants under No Child Left Behind, combining them with the Title I office as of the fall of 2008. The Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), the only federal office specifically dedicated to addressing the needs of ELLs, had administered Title III after NCLB caused the previous Title VII structure to no longer be used.

The letter sent to the Department of Education is available to TESOL International members who log in on the TESOL.org website: http://www.tesol.org/s_tesol/seccss.asp?CID=239&DID=1711

There is a **direct** link to the letter stating the position of TESOL and other organizations, with responses from readers in Mary Ann Zehr's Education Week Blog: Learning the Language: http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/learning-the-language/2008/10/education_groups_oppose_move_o.html

Early Voting for President in Texas Begins Now!!! October 20th-October 31st

Please do not wait until November 4th to vote. "Life Happens", and any number of obstacles can deter our missions to cast our votes on that one crucial day.

Life is full of choices and we can choose our favorite day in October to cast our votes. Do the research, select your favorite candidate, then vote for the best platform.

The Texas Secretary of State, Hope Andrade, hosts a site with an abundance of election and voter information. <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/pamphlets/earlyvote.shtml>

It has great information on early voting in person, voting by mail, voters' rights and voting timelines for all sorts of voting procedures. There are special links near the top of the page where you can locate your voting day polling places. This is helpful for all those who are unsure where to go to cast that crucial vote. On this Secretary of State website, Nov. 4th voting locations will not be posted until after 5 p.m. on Oct 31st.

Double-check your voting day polling place and early locations as some of the locations may have been changed. I received notification via mail that my early voting location had been changed.

For an assortment of election information, key in the main pages for the links listed below. All of the county pages link to other sites with election information of interest.

Early Voting locations in Dallas County
<http://www.dalcoelections.org/nov42008/EVLocations.htm>

Collin County early voting locations
http://www.co.collin.tx.us/elections/election_information/2008/110408/EV110408.html

Tarrant County early voting locations
http://www.tarrantcounty.com/evote/lib/evote/2008/03042008/SCHD_Prim08.pdf

2008 TexTESOL State Conference Pre-Conference Registration Rates Extended through October 27! TexTESOL Fall Conference November 6-8 in Richardson

WEBSITE <http://www.textesolv.org> If you cannot find what you want on the website, contact Don Weasenforth at 972-881-5970 or dweasenforth@cccd.edu .

Candidates' Advisors' Views on Education

"Education and the Next President," a live debate from Teachers College, Columbia University, with Linda Darling-Hammond, education adviser to Democratic Presidential nominee Barack Obama, and Lisa Graham Keegan, education adviser to Republican nominee John McCain. The event is being exclusively Webcast by edweek.org. October 21, 2008, 7 p.m. EST/4 p.m. PST, Register ahead of time to be sure you have the right software. <http://www.edweek.org/ew/index.html>

Education Policy Statements of Barack Obama and John McCain
<http://pdkintl.org/kappan/kappan.htm>

Blog about Presidential Candidates' Views on Bilingual/ESL Education
<http://campaignstops.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/09/28/the-bilingual-debate-english-immersion/?ref=opinion>

Blog about an attempt to destroy bilingual education and dilute ESL programs in Texas:
http://blogs.chron.com/texaspolitics/archives/2008/09/bilingual_ed_op.html

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