

## Calendar of Events

February 9, 2026  
- February 9, 2026

### **NYS TESOL Executive Board Virtual Meet & Greet**

**Virtual - Zoom link will be sent to you prior to the event.**  
**07:00 PM - 07:30 PM EST**

[pres@nystesol.org](mailto:pres@nystesol.org)

*Connect with the voices behind the vision at the NYS TESOL Executive Board Virtual Meet & Greet!*

*This interactive session is your opportunity to engage directly with the New York State Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (NYS TESOL) leadership team as they discuss their mission to advance professional development and advocate for equitable policies for multilingual learners. Whether you are a seasoned educator, a new member, or interested in future leadership roles, this event offers a platform to:*

*Meet the Board: Get to know the dedicated 2025–2026 Executive Board members and hear about their plans for the upcoming year.*

*Share Your Voice: Ask questions, provide feedback, and learn how you can get involved in the organization's advocacy and outreach efforts.*

*Don't miss this chance to help shape the future of English language teaching in New York!*

## **Supporting Student Success through Community Asset Mapping**

05:30 PM - 06:30 PM EST

*This webinar brings together five interrelated strands of practice and scholarship that center community, humanity, and assets in language and teacher education. Across these proposals runs a shared commitment to moving beyond deficit-based narratives about multilingual learners and communities, toward humanizing, relational, and creative approaches that recognize students', families', and educators' lived experiences as powerful sources of knowledge.*

*Grounded in Community Asset Mapping (CAM), creative storytelling, arts integration, and transborder pedagogies, the session explores how educators can meaningfully engage communities as co-producers and co-designers of learning. Participants will examine strategies for preparing bilingual and ESL teachers to identify learners' "superpowers" as cultural ambassadors, honor diverse repertoires of communicative practice, and cultivate classrooms that are responsive to both local and transnational realities.*

*Drawing from classroom-based examples, teacher education redesign, and community-engaged practices, the webinar highlights how community knowledge, creativity, and connection can transform curriculum, pedagogy, and teacher identity. Participants will leave with practical tools and conceptual frameworks for designing learning experiences that are asset-oriented, culturally sustaining, and deeply humanizing—across diverse educational contexts.*

Name

Role

*Jasmin Cowin*  
presenter

*Joy Scantlebury*  
presenter

*Marina Pisto*  
presenter

*Rachel Toncelli*  
presenter

*Laura E. Mendoza*  
presenter

*Joye Smith*  
presenter

January 29, 2026

**Educators Meet-Up!**

**Wolf & Warrior in White Plains**  
**195 E Post Rd, White Plains**  
**White Plains, NY 10601**

**04:30 PM - 06:00 PM EST**

*The NYS TESOL Advocacy Committee hosts educators to foster a community dedicated to equitable policies for multilingual learners. These sessions serve as a collaborative space for both seasoned and new educators to discuss the shifting landscape of English language instruction and bilingual education.*

*Key highlights of these meet-ups include:*

*Networking and Collaboration: Participants connect with colleagues to share feedback and professional insights.*

*Advocacy Outreach: Attendees learn how to get involved in statewide efforts to promote equitable educational practices for diverse student populations.*

*Strategic Discourse: Sessions often address critical topics such as federal support for public education and the inclusion of educator voices in public discourse.*

February 17, 2026

**Simple Ways to Use AI for Student-Centered Learning**

**Virtual - A zoom link will be sent to your email the day before the event.**

**05:00 PM - 06:00 PM EST**

*Many teachers are cautious about AI and rightly so, but it isn't going away. Indeed, a common refrain today is that AI won't replace us; rather, people who use AI will. This online presentation explores simple ways teachers can use AI thoughtfully and ethically to enhance instruction, streamline grading and assessment—without compromising professional judgment or pedagogical integrity.*

*NYS TESOL is a volunteer organization comprised of dedicated and busy professionals who are committed to providing valuable workshops and events. To ensure the smooth operation and integrity of our certification process, we have established the following policy:*

*Participants will only receive certificates if they complete the attendance/feedback form during the time of the workshop. Please note that NYS TESOL will not be able to honor any email or verbal requests for certificates after the event has concluded.*

*We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in adhering to this policy.*

*1 CTLE credit will be awarded to NYS TESOL members who fill out the attendance form at the end of the webinar.*

February 27, 2026

**NYS TESOL Leadership SIG Meeting**

**12:00 PM - 01:00 PM EST**

**Shawnna Sweet & Faith Tripp - Co-Chairs,**  
**leadership@nystesol.org**

*The purpose of the ENL Leadership Special Interest Group is to create a supportive space for P-12 Multilingual Program leaders in New York State public schools.*

*Participants will have opportunities to network, collaborate, and advocate on topics central to ENL education.*

*To join, email:*  
**leadership@nystesol.org**