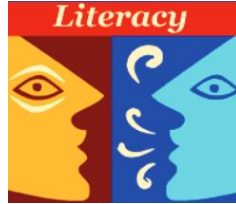


“Newsy” the ESOL Tutor Newsletter

September 14, 2020



## Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bi-Weekly Bulletin!

Hi everyone,

Hope that you are enjoying this taste of fall!

### Upcoming Tutor Meetings

We continue to meet on every other Tuesday afternoon for tutor technology. And on alternate weeks, we meet on Thursday nights for Tutor office hours. See below for ZOOM meeting information.

Week of:	Tuesday	Thursday
September 14	9/15 – Tutor Technology	
September 21		9/24 – Tutor Office Hours
September 28	9/29– Tutor Technology	
October 5		10/8 – Tutor Office Hours

### Weekly Conversation Classes

We re-opened student registration for conversation classes on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and have received 15 more registrations. Most of the classes are now full - we are saving the limited spaces for students who are **new** to the program. Current registration is limited to the following classes which have space: <https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/>

Beginner classes: Thursday 3 - 4:30 pm

Intermediate classes: Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30 am  
Friday 10:30 – 12 noon

Advanced classes: Wednesday 6-7 pm (Focus on idioms);

Special classes: Civics Monday 7 - 8:30 pm

Book Club\* Wednesday 7-8:30pm  
Fun with Pronunciation Friday 1 - 2:30pm

\* The book is Seedfolks available online here:

<http://stsimondicroce.blogspot.com/2013/09/novel-study-seedfolks-complete-text.html>

## Tutor Meetings

**Tutor Technology Meeting – Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM** (*Next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>*)

Do you have problems with using ESL Library? Last week, Liehua spent time with a tutor getting the ESL library functional and will explain how to overcome some of the challenges she encountered. We were also just introduced to a cool reading app, called "Immersive Reader". Check it out (and we will show it tomorrow, too.)

We would like the future topics for these meetings to be determined by our tutors. If you are interested in learning more about a specific technology or digital resource, or if you would be willing to share your experience using a digital resource, let us know. <https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/>

### **To Join the Technology Zoom Meetings:**

<https://zoom.us/j/91577639943?pwd=Ykx4dklrUHdGYi84ZjNmSU41Yk51Zz09>

Meeting ID: 915 7763 9943

Password: 175494

If you wish to dial in to the meeting:

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

**Virtual Office Hours for Tutors – Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** (*Next meeting will be on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>*)

The Agenda is open - all topics are welcome – it is always an interesting discussion. We usually discuss recent happenings at Literacy Unlimited and at the libraries as well as specific tutor challenges and successes. We will also be reviewing the topic from the previous Tutor Technology meeting for those who couldn't attend the Tuesday afternoon meeting.

### **To join the Virtual Office Hours Tutor meetings:**

<https://zoom.us/j/98024429241?pwd=RVlyWXJiVFJrVUV6SlNpQmFiajlyQT09>

Meeting ID: 980 2442 9241

Password: 866990

If you wish to dial in to the meeting:

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

Joining a ZOOM meeting: Click here [Literacy Unlimited/Covid-19 Ideas](#) for ZOOM download instructions for Android and iPhone/iOS devices. If you don't have video capability, you can just call into the meeting. Liehua has helped several tutors, who have called into a meeting, to set up the video at a later date.

## Blended Tutoring, Distance Tutoring or Remote Tutoring

### Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts (LVM) Remote Tutoring video now on YouTube

Eleanor Stafford created a video a while back for ESOL and ABL tutors about remote tutoring. It has now been posted to YouTube here <https://youtu.be/OilluQZy61U> Eleanor Stafford, is a trainer and author of LVM's Basic Literacy Tutor Training curriculum The video is about an hour long and explains how to us technology options from low-tech to high-tech for remote tutoring. If you haven't watched it, you might want to check it out.

## Good to Know

### Beginning September 1 Tutor Hours Reporting Change

Beginning on September 1, time spent in a virtual meeting with a student just to “keep in touch” will no longer be reportable. The request for tutor hours will have two categories: Virtual and Proxy. The chart below explains it - if the chart is not readable, just click on the link at the end of the email.

#### TYPES OF HOURS THAT CAN BE RECORDED TO LVM ON A MONTHLY BASIS

Type	Definition	Comments/Explanation
<b>Instruction – Distance Learning (Virtual Face-to-Face)</b>	<p>Student and tutor are present at the same time and able to see one another in real time but are not present at the same location.</p> <p>Includes direct instruction using ZOOM, SKYPE, cellphone or any other platform which includes video for the tutor and student.</p> <p><b>For LVM, virtual face-to-face hours can include but are not limited to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• instruction provided by telephone or text, with or without video;</li> <li>• instruction provided by mail or email;</li> <li>• student time spent on assignments sent to them by the tutor by mail or email; and</li> </ul>	<p><b>DESE policy change:</b> Please note: hours comprised solely of “check-in” calls, texts or emails will not be counted <u>unless instruction is also occurring.</u></p> <p><b>For your tutoring hours, please collect all hours of virtual tutoring.</b> If you use mail or email for assignments, please estimate the time that the students spend on the work and add it to your virtual hours.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>follow-up between tutor and student by phone, email or text.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Instruction – Distance Learning (Proxy Hours)</b>	<p><b><i>Clock Time/Time on Task:</i></b> The time a student spends working <u>independent of direct instruction</u>, using an online product that tracks actual time on task (e.g., AZTEC, VOXY, KET, USA Learns, Cell-Ed, DuoLingo, Mango Languages, etc).</p>	<p>It is <b><u>optional</u></b> to collect these additional hours. If you know that your students is working on other remote platforms, please estimate the amount of time based on conversations with your student.</p>

### **New Tutor Training**

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts (LVM) continues to work on producing a virtual version of the New Tutor Training. If you know of someone who is interested in becoming an ESOL tutor, please let them know they can register for training on our website here <https://framinghamlibrary.org/literacy/our-program/become-a-tutor/>

### **Student Assessments**

All of our students must be tested yearly and Liehua and Marjie are hard at work contacting students, scheduling test times and administering the tests remotely. Thank-you for your help making this process go as smoothly as possible for our students.

Please assure students that their test results will have no impact on their participation in the program. Testing remotely presents challenges but students should be assured they should just try to do their best.

### **Final Thoughts**

Thank-you to all of you who provided encouraging comments about the Tutor resource list. I have already received several suggestions for additional resources to be included in the next version. Keep those suggestions coming!

I will be off this week on a much needed vacation. Hope you all have a great week!

Stay healthy and safe,

Karen