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NEWS RELEASE

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Miller Elementary ESOL Teacher Elected GATESOL President



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Miller Elementary School English to Speakers of Other Languages teacher Kendra Castelow has been elected President of Georgia Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (GATESOL) for 2017-2018. In addition, she has been selected as a local co-chair of the 2019 TESOL Convention Planning Team by the Conferences Professional Council (CPC) at TESOL International Association.

The duties and responsibilities of local co-chairs include:

- shape the goals and activities of local teams;
- develop leadership and communication procedures within the team;
- attend planning meetings or participate in conference calls;
- give reports at convention planning meetings;
- recruit volunteers as needed;
- submit an evaluation and outline of activities after the convention;
- recruit local area speakers; and
- serve as liaison to local education authorities and establishments.

To prepare for this volunteer role, Castelow is going to Chicago during spring break, March 26-30. She will shadow the 2018 TESOL Convention Team. The [2019 GATESOL Convention](#) will be held in Atlanta at the Georgia World Congress Center in September.

The ESOL program helps students to succeed socially and academically in all four language skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing. ESOL is federally mandated and was established to ensure equal access to instruction for students who have limited English proficiency. Elementary students participate in mainstream classes and receive ESOL instruction based on each student's proficiency level and grade level.

The purpose of GATESOL is to: encourage professional development, participation and leadership within the state; provide opportunity for study and research; work cooperatively toward the improvement of instruction in all programs which seek to provide students with an opportunity to acquire English language skills and proficiency; and promote an understanding of the cultures of non-native speakers of English. A non-profit organization, GATESOL originated in the early 1980s.

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Miller Elementary School is located at 101 Pine Valley Drive in Warner Robins. Elizabeth Johnson serves as principal. For more information, please contact Castelow at 478-929-7814 or Kendra.Castelow@hcbe.net or visit <http://www.gatesol.org/>.

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