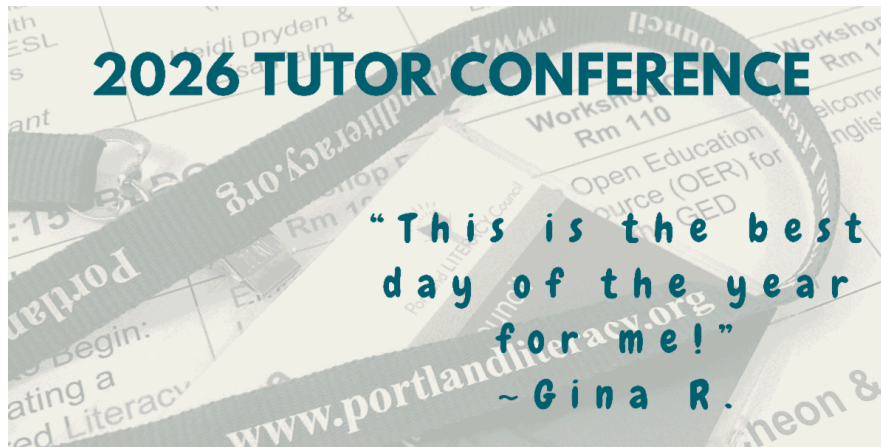


LiteracyLinks

SPECIAL EDITION - April 2026



Portland LITERACY Council



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Recap 2026 Volunteer Tutor Conference

Thank you to all who attended the [2026 Tutor Conference - Equity Through Literacy](#) - held on April 11, 2026, at the PCC Rock Creek Campus. With an overall rating of **86.9%** positive evaluations, this year's event was a great success.

- 101 Attendees
- 12 Workshops and Panel Discussions
- 6 Community Resource Tables
- 4 Lunchtime Student Speakers
- Multiple Networking Opportunities



[Click for more photos from the event](#)

Storytellers: Student Speakers



Thanks to the inspiring students from Beaverton Literacy Council who shared their stories as immigrants from Japan, Turkey, Brazil, and the Dominican Republic during the lunch presentation. With a **98.3%** rating from the audience, this is always a favorite activity at the conference.

[Click to read their inspiring stories](#)

Participant Feedback

*"As always, wonderful to hear from these brave students."
"What a delight! Great! Great speakers with interesting stories."
"So powerful! Brought me to tears...in a wonderful way."*

Workshop Highlights

Thanks to all the presenters for their time and dedication across a wide range of adult literacy topics. Based on participant evaluations, the following are the most loved workshops at this year's conference:



Cultural Awareness Panel

Moderated by Edit McDonald

ESOL students at PCC Rock Creek shared their experiences with American culture as compared to their home countries – good, bad and charming. Discussion covers the students' experiences both in the regular ESOL class and about their experiences in the volunteer tutoring program.
(100% satisfaction)



Where to Begin: Creating a Structured Literacy Lesson Plan

Presented by Julie Hielfield

Members of the Language and Literacy Fund discuss:
-What are best practices in writing and delivering a structured literacy lesson plan?
-How to determine a student's strengths and areas that need to be supported?
(92.9% satisfaction)



Foundational Literacy with Beginning ESL Learners

Presented by Amy Grant

Workshop explored ways to adapt research-based foundational literacy methods (such as the methods taught in the PLC Foundational Literacy workshops) when working with beginning-level ESL learners.
(87% satisfaction)

If you missed this workshop, sign up for the ATW session on May 26.

Thanks to Our Partners

We'd like to express our most sincere appreciation to our community partners. The conference wouldn't have been possible without you!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CLASSROOM SUPPORT 1-ON-1 TUTORING SMALL GROUP WORK



Contact a Volunteer Tutor Coordinator at: www.pcc.edu/tutoring/volunteer/sites/


Follow PLC on Social Media for News and Free Resources

Resource of the Week
Portland Literacy Council
Portland Literacy

Getting to Know You - *Goodie!*

An Oldie, but a Goodie: Printable PDF

Level 1 ESL Tutor Packets for Volunteer Literacy Tutors



TORUS

Our main needs: volunteer teachers
adult English learners • all levels

Online: Observe classes, then match with a learner. Classes are 1:1 over Zoom. Work with your learner for at least 5 weeks.

In-Person: Observe classes, then join our training program. All-level, high-energy group classes.

www.torustransforms.org

<https://pnwrsa.org>

Pacific Refugee Support Group



Our Main Needs:

- Adult English Language tutors
- K-12th grade ELD and academic tutors

Commitment:

- Once or twice a week - schedule is flexible and will depend on availability of the family/student and tutor
- Options for tutoring virtually or in-person at family's home are available

Portland ESL Network
Sharing Resources For English Language Learners

Have a student who needs additional help?

Search for ESL classes by zip code, proficiency, age, and more.


PortlandESL.com

Find a list of volunteer opportunities

Visit and Connect with us

portlandesl.com

one-minute tip videos




Main Needs: Lead Teachers. Online or in-person

Commitment: Once or twice per week, minimum 3 months.

Zoom - or - In-person classes:

AM- T/Th or MW 9:30-11:30 am

PM T/Th 7-8:30pm



Thanks to Our 2026 Sponsors



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Thank you for being a part of the Portland Literacy Council network. We will return next quarter with another update.





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