Elementary (grades 1-8) Professional Learning Opportunities

Facilitators: Kim Junk & Trish Maxwell

December 2018  Hosted at Horizon School Division South Office, 10366 8th Avenue, Humboldt SK
Registration limited to 30 participants

1. Beyond the Spelling List (← click to register) - December 11, 2018  (Registration Deadline – November 30, 2018) In this workshop, teachers will learn about Words Their Way - the only research-based spelling program. Participants will explore how to assess and group students, establish routines and expectations as the program becomes an integral part of the ELA program, and utilize various engaging activities to teach students at varying levels. During this hands-on training, teachers will be supported in analyzing and organizing their students into ability based groups for the implementation of the program.

2. Developing Engaged Readers (← click to register) - December 13, 2018  (Registration Deadline – November 30, 2018) Participants will delve into the big picture of reading instruction by exploring structures and settings, which support building engaged readers. Topics include establishing an effective independent reading period through an accessible classroom library and explicit procedures and routines. Learn to support students while discovering their reading identity through interest inventories and teacher guided activities which connect them with materials they enjoy. Teachers will gain a greater understanding of the reading conference and its impact on nudging reader’s forward.

January 2019  Hosted at New Division Office, Humboldt SK

1. Mining Mentor Text to Teach Writing Traits (← click to register) - January 17, 2019  (Registration Deadline – January 7, 2019) In this workshop, participants will discover the power of mentor text for teaching writing craft/trait and how reading plays an important role in helping students develop as writers. Teachers will examine components of quality writing, as well as how to read like a writer in order to extract bits and pieces from great texts that serve as models.

2. Enhancing Reading Comprehension (← click to register) - January 30, 2019  (Registration Deadline – January 18, 2019) This workshop is designed for teachers to experience a variety of elements and resources which increase student understanding of text. Participants will explore explicit teaching strategies and assessment tools designed to deepen student understanding of the three levels of reading comprehension: Level 1 – Surface level understanding (what does the text say), Level 2 – Deeper understanding (what does the text not say, and what does it imply or infer), and Level 3 – Thinking about the text (how does it say this through analyzing and critiquing).

May-June 2019  Hosted at New Division Office, Humboldt SK

1. Inspiring Writers (← click to register) - May 28, 2019  (Registration Deadline – May 17, 2019) Writer’s notebook will be introduced and participants will learn how to create a culture of writing and respond in ways in which students view themselves as writers. Teachers will learn to provide students with time and strategies for generating writing ideas such as Quick Writes and Seed Ideas, and how to establish a meaningful approach to writing, which gives students choice and ownership.

2. Developing Engaged Readers (← click to register) - May 30, 2019 - This is a repeat session from December 13, 2018  (Registration Deadline – May 17, 2019) Participants will delve into the big picture of reading instruction by exploring structures and settings, which support building engaged readers. Topics include establishing an effective independent reading period through an accessible classroom library and explicit procedures and routines. Learn to support students while discovering their reading identity through interest inventories and teacher-guided activities, which connect them with materials they enjoy. Teachers will gain a greater understanding of the reading conference and its impact on nudging reader’s forward.

3. Differentiate Instruction (← click to register) - June 6, 2019  (Registration Deadline – May 24, 2019) This workshop will explore ways in which teachers can use the four elements of differentiation – content, process, product and environment – to help all students experience success in meeting learning outcomes. Components of planning involve deciding what to teach, how to teach, and how well the students should know the content after the lesson.

4. Read Aloud, Shared Reading, and Guided Reading (← click to register) - June 11, 2019  (Registration Deadline – May 31, 2019) Teachers will learn how to explicitly model reading instruction through these practices. Participants will learn to support students in a small group (guided reading) with their reading, with various strategies and resources shared. Teachers are required to bring current class data to receive authentic support on how to analyze, group, and plan for instruction.

5. The Writing Block (← click to register) - June 13, 2019  (Registration Deadline – May 31, 2019) Teachers will explore key elements of the writing block’s structure as well as the writing process to develop successful and confident writers. This workshop will guide teachers through planning a Unit of Study for a mode of writing, authentic writing and publishing ideas, how to meet the needs of student writers through conferring, using a variety of techniques for response and providing feedback throughout the process.