LASCD

Power Strategies to Boost Reading & Writing Achievement on Standardized Tests with Kristina Smekens

Wednesday February 5, 2020 NIU Naperville Campus 8:30am-3:00pm

Registration includes: Breakfast, handouts,

parking, Six PD Hours

In this era of high-stakes testing, it's never been more important for students to enter into standardized assessments with essential skills and personal confidence. Throughout this workshop teachers will learn explicit literacy strategies students need in order to be successful on state and national assessments. (Specific references will be made to the new SAT, ACT, and AP exams, PARCC, & Smarter Balanced assessments.)

High-stakes testing affects everyone. How students perform on standardized reading and writing tests has far-reaching implications for students, teachers, and schools. Insights into the requirements for test success are needed now more than ever before.

Success on standardized tests is only part of the goal. With mastery of academic standards as the ultimate goal, targeted and intentional preparation for the state assessment helps students improve as readers and writers for the test and beyond.

Success on the test requires explicit instruction. Kristina will share strategies to embed rigorous reading and writing instruction into your yearlong curriculum so that students are equipped with the most essential literacy skills.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY ABOUT KRISTINA: "The content was incredibly helpful! Many strategies were simple and easy but precise with a clear target in mind. I will be a better educator because of this training!" Meagan Joyner • Teacher at Henderson County High School, Henderson, KY

"The workshop was amazing! Kristina provides no-prep activities to take into the classroom and start providing engaging reading/writing instruction immediately." **Kathy Ernst** • Teacher at Peotone Elementary School, Peotone, IL



Kristina Smekens is a full-time literacy consultant who has built a reputation for using enthusiasm, humor, and common sense to equip K-12 educators with practical, demystifying strategies for teaching reading and writing. Kristina earned her BA in English and education at Michigan State University. Prior to her fulltime consulting career, she was an accomplished high school English and journalism teacher in Michigan and Indiana. A leader in state and national scholastic iournalism endeavors. Kristina authored a journalism textbook and teachers' guide. Over the past 12 years, she has been blessed to work and learn with hundreds of schools and thousands of teachers throughout the Midwest.

> Registration includes: Six PD hours, Continental Breakfast, Parking Lunch is on your own











14 Power Strategies featuring Kristina Smekens February 5, 2020 NIU Naperville-1120 E Diehl Rd, Naperville, IL 60563



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