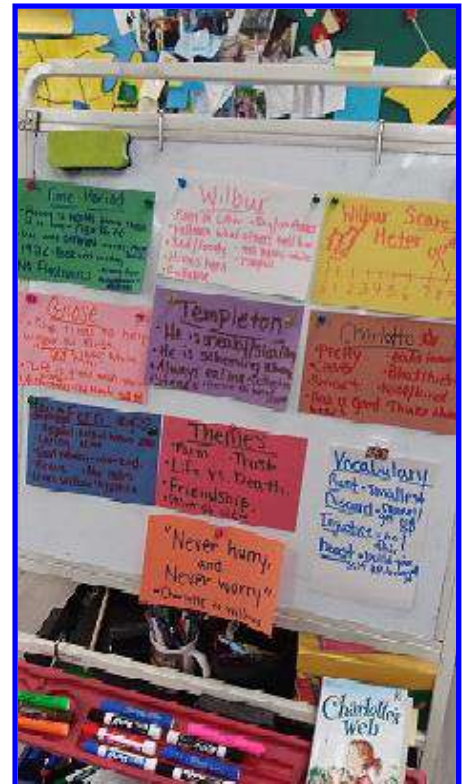




The Paramus Public Schools and the Littotogether
Learning Community proudly presents...

COMMUNITY LEARNING DAYS





OUR OFFERINGS

Come join us for some state-of-the-art professional development in literacy instruction with some of the most reputable names in education today! See our offerings below.

Click [here](#) to register

Session A:

Welcome to the Reading Club! Practical Ideas to Increase Engagement Among Children who are Reluctant, Resistant or Hesitant Readers

Facilitator: Kathy Collins

Intended Audience: Grades K-5

Date: Friday, October 18th

Location: Stony Lane Elementary School, W110 Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus

In every classroom, there are children who just seem to go through the motions with books. They are assignment-driven readers who only read, because it's reading time in class, or because it's a homework expectation. These children don't (yet) see themselves as readers, and they rarely self-initiate their own reading. Whether they are children who struggle or the strongest readers in the room, they just haven't (yet) found a way or a reason to make reading a part of their lives. In this workshop, primary reading expert Kathy Collins will share practical, actionable ideas to support reluctant, resistant or hesitant readers to open their hearts to books and their lives to reading throughout readers' conferences, small group instruction, personalized inquiries and balanced literacy components.

Session B:

How's It Going Now? New Ideas about Conferring with Student Writers

Facilitator: Carl Anderson

Intended Audience: Grades 2-8

Date: Thursday, December 12th

Location: Ridge Ranch Elementary School, 345 Lockwood Drive, Paramus

Pulling up alongside a young writer is one of the most challenging, yet most important acts of a teacher. Understanding the key concepts of conferring will make this very nuanced work more manageable. Join Carl Anderson, author of groundbreaking books on the writing conference to deepen your understanding of the qualities of this most essential of teaching acts. He will help you discover the most important steps teachers take when going down the journey of writing with their students, and you can watch this masterful teacher pull up alongside students throughout the day, finding the way on this journey again and again, while also studying valuable teaching moves that teachers of writing make during these important conversations that can set students up for joyful lives of writing and learning.



OUR OFFERINGS

Session C:

Language is Power: Rethink Assessing and Supporting Learners of English as an Additional Language Across the Day

Facilitator: Emily DeLiddo

Intended Audience: Grades K-5

Date: Wednesday, January 8th

Location: Memorial Elementary School, 203 E. Midland Avenue, Paramus

Language in many forms is how we communicate. Often our youngest learners arrive in our classrooms with English as a second or third language and what can be challenging to educators is monumentally so for a child maneuvering social and academic settings. This day with Emily DeLiddo will celebrate language, multicultural texts and differentiating instruction in meaningful ways. The group will explore ways to assess and then plan to support learners in workshop and across the day. Emily will guide the sessions and support your practice in assessing language, planning small group work as well as quick modifications for interactive read aloud to support literacy along with language. Her work nationally and internationally has focused on language acquisition within opportunities of rich literacy and this day will deepen our conversations to bring back to our school communities.

Session D:

The Gentle Way: Rethinking Middle and High School Literacy through Agency, Curiosity, and Empathy

Facilitator: Matt Morone

Intended Audience: Grades 7-12

Date: Thursday, January 16th

Location: Paramus High School, 99 E. Century Road, Paramus

We hear it all the time: when students enter school as young children, they love to learn, but somewhere along the line, that fire dies. By the time most kids reach middle and high school, the flame is all but extinguished. How can we rekindle the love of learning so inherent in humanity? This interactive, challenging session will push middle and high school educators to teach the students in front of them, to meet them where they are, and to provide them with the resources, assistance, and encouragement they need to reignite that fire.



OUR OFFERINGS

Session E:

The Whole Class Novel and Independent Reading: What Works in Bringing Balance and Choice to the Secondary Classroom

Facilitator: *Kate Roberts*

Intended Audience: *Grades 7-12*

Date: *Wednesday, February 5th*

Location: *East Brook Middle School, 190 Spring Valley Road, Paramus*

One of the great challenges of the secondary English classroom is the need to give each student the chance to read books of high interest, which are accessible to each reader, while trying to forge community that comes from traveling through a beautiful, complex text together! Like many educators, Kate Roberts, author of many great books on secondary literacy instruction including *A Novel Approach: Whole-Class Novels, Student-Centered Teaching, and Choice*, struggled for years with this very paradox in her classroom. In this workshop, Kate will blend big ideas and practical structures in an effort to support both whole class novels and independent practice in our classrooms. Come ready to struggle with the balance of the two, and leave with clear ideas on how to move forward.

Session F:

On Our Shoulders: Supporting Elementary Writers through Scaffolding that Works!

Facilitator: *Leah Mermelstein*

Intended Audience: *Grades K-5*

Date: *Thursday, February 27th*

Location: *Parkway Elementary School, E. 145 Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus*

The ultimate goal of independent writing is for all students to be able to use what they have been taught in a variety of ways, but sometimes even with a strong Writing Workshop, this is not always the case. Leah Mermelstein, literacy consultant and author of several books on the teaching of writing, will suggest that a key way to strengthen the independent writing time is to spend more time writing collaboratively with students. All too often, teachers feel rushed, and this feeling of urgency can cause them to model something quickly and then expect all students to reach the same understanding at the same time. Leah will talk about three different types of collaborative writing sessions, each type strengthening a different writing muscle. She'll show you ways to tailor these composing sessions so that every student can participate in different ways. She will suggest ways to gently lessen the support so that students begin to realize they are capable of doing the same work on their own. Finally, she will share the stories of many students across many different schools that have successfully made the transfer.

You will leave this session with a renewed understanding of how collaborative writing—the 'we phase' of instruction, is a vital missing link to independent, proficient writers.



OUR OFFERINGS

Session G:

Take a Stand! Helping Students Use Nonfiction Text Sets to Compose and Support their Own Claims

Facilitators: Dr. Christine Dawson

Intended Audience: Grades 7-12, particularly teachers of English and Social Studies

Date: Tuesday, March 24th

Location: Paramus High School, 99 E. Century Road, Paramus

When writers are able to express their claims, they learn of a new type of power, but sometimes it can be tricky, even for adolescent writers, to figure out their beliefs or to bring others to believe them. This hands-on workshop with Dr. Christine Dawson will engage participants in ways to use text sets (groups of multimodal texts on a common topic) to help students respond to the essential questions, “How do I know where I stand on an issue?” and “How can I get other people to respect and consider my stance?” The strategies emphasize the use of informal writing to help students compose and revise claim statements, select textual evidence to support their claims, and effectively communicate with a target audience.

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS



Carl Anderson is an internationally recognized expert in writing instruction for Grades K-8, working as a consultant in schools and districts around the world. A long-time staff developer for the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, Carl is the author of numerous books on teaching writing, including the groundbreaking *How's It Going? A Practical Guide to Conferencing with Student Writers* (Heinemann 2000), *Assessing Writers* (Heinemann 2005), and *A Teacher's Guide to Writing Conferences* (Heinemann 2018). Carl speaks regularly nationally and internationally. You can find him on Twitter @ConferringCarl.



Kathy Collins is a former staff developer at the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, where she led the work around the teaching of reading in the early grades. Kathy speaks internationally, and is a member of various committees on the National Council of Teachers of English. She is the author of popular books including *Growing Readers: Units of Study in the Primary Classroom* (Stenhouse 2004), *Reading for Real: Teach Students to Read with Power, Intention, and Joy in K-3 Classrooms* (Stenhouse 2008), and *I AM Reading! Nurturing Young Children's Meaning Making and Joyful Engagement with Any Book* with Matt Glover (Heinemann 2015). She can be found on Twitter @KathyCollins15.



Dr. Christine M. Dawson is on the leadership team for the Empire State Writing Project Network, is the president-elect for the New York State Association of Teacher Educators, and is co-chair of the Commission for Writing Teacher Education for NCTE's English Language Arts Teacher Educators (ELATE). A professor at Siena College, she is the author of *The Teacher-Writer: Creating Writing Groups for Personal and Professional Growth* (National Writing Project 2017) and co-author of *Writing Instruction That Works: Proven Methods for Middle and High School Classrooms* (Teachers College Press 2013) and she has been published in several journals.



Emily DeLiddo is an international literacy consultant with expertise in components of Balanced Literacy, and she specializes in working with English Language Learners and Bilingual students. A former senior staff developer at the Teachers College Reading & Writing Project, she has consulted throughout the United States, in Mexico, Brazil, Jordan, China, and Saudi Arabia. She presents at literacy conferences in the US, and has presented in Dubai, Bangkok, and Athens. Follow her on Twitter @EmilyDeLiddo.

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS



Leah Mermelstein is an internationally recognized literacy consultant who specializes in K-5 reading and writing workshop. She is the President and CEO of Read-Write-Connect, INC and the author of *Reading/Writing Connections in the K-2 Classroom*, (Allyn & Bacon 2006), *Don't Forget to Share: the Crucial Last Step in the Writing Workshop* (Heinemann 2007) and the co-author of *Launching the Writing Workshop* with Lucy Calkins (Heinemann 2017). She is a former staff developer at the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, and you can follow her on Twitter @MermelsteinLeah.



Matthew Morone is an English teacher at Pascack Valley High School. Matt presently has served as Member-at-Large for the Conference on English Leadership (CEL), and has been published in their *English Leadership Quarterly*. He recently led the study group, “Creating Student-Centered Classrooms of Choice in Secondary Grades” for the Littogether Teacher Leader Project, leads sections for returning participants at the Paramus Summer Institutes on the Teaching of Reading and Writing, where his keynotes are always among the most popular! He is a member of the Littogether Think Tank, and you can follow him on Twitter @MrMorone.



Kate Roberts is a national literacy consultant, top-selling author, and popular keynote speaker. She taught reading and writing in Brooklyn, NY and worked as a literacy coach before joining the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project in 2005, where she worked as a lead staff developer for 11 years. She is the co-author of *Falling in Love with Close Reading: Lessons for Analyzing Texts--and Life* with Christopher Lehman (Heinemann 2013), *DIY Literacy: Teaching Tools for Differentiation, Rigor, and Independence* with Maggie Beattie Roberts, (Heinemann 2016), and two books from the *Units of Study* series. Her most recent book is *A Novel Approach: Whole-Class Novels, Student-Centered Teaching, and Choice* (Heinemann 2018). You can follow her on Twitter @TeachKate.