# *Keys to Content Writing & Argument Writing*

## *Keys to Content Writing* **(2 days)**

***Description***: The ***Keys to Content Writing*** two-day professional development focuses on teaching students how to write in all subject areas, grades 4-12. Participants learn best practices to address the writing requirements of Common Core standards, including frequent writing in all content areas that includes short and longer writing tasks. The training presents an overview of the three types of writing (argument, informational, narrative) and then focuses on informational and argument content writing. Participants receive sample writing templates, graphic organizers, and checklists. They have an opportunity to develop a writing assignment for their students during day 2 of the training. Day 1 and Day 2 do not have to be scheduled on consecutive days.

### *Topic Details:*

#### *Day 1*
- Expectations of the Common Core writing standards
- Student process writing routine *(THINK, PLAN, WRITE, REVISE)*
- Ideas for using quick writes to learn content
- Differences among the 3 types of writing
- Basic text structures: introductions, conclusions, transitions, body development
- Writing from sources, including gathering and taking notes

#### *Day 2*
- Completing a *Writing Assignment Guide (WAG)* for a classroom writing assignment that includes:
    - Setting specific goals for audience, purpose, length and format
    - Requirements for content, text structure and use of sources
- How to use mentor models of good writing
- Developing scaffolds for planning and writing
- Differentiating writing assignments to meet the needs of individual students
- Feedback and revision checklists and rubrics

### *Target Audience***:** Grades 4-12
- Elementary target audience: all grades 4-6 teachers and administrators.
- Secondary target audience: science, social studies/history, and other content teachers who incorporate informational writing into classroom instruction, ELA/English teachers, literacy/special education teachers, and administrators for these teachers. The program is not designed for mathematics teachers or secondary teachers of advanced writing courses.

## *Keys to Argument Writing* **(1 day)**

***Description***: The ***Keys to Argument Writing*** one-day professional development focuses on how to teach students in grade 4-12 to write opinion/argument pieces in all content areas. Aligned to the Common Core Argument Writing Standards, this session emphasizes students' ability to write sound arguments using text evidence to support a position in a reasoned, logical way.

*Topic Details:*
- Expectations of the Common Core argument writing standards
- What is argument writing; differences between argument and persuasive writing
- Argument components: claim, counterclaim, reasons, evidence, rebuttal
- Argument text structure
- Comprehension and critical thinking required
- Using text evidence
- Analyzing models of argument writing
- Planning an argument writing assignment

*Target Audience***:** Grades 4-12
- <u>Elementary target audience:</u> all grades 4-6 teachers and administrators.
- <u>Secondary target audience:</u> science, social studies/history, and other content teachers who incorporate informational writing into classroom instruction, ELA/English teachers, literacy/special education teachers, and administrators for these teachers. The program is not designed for mathematics teachers or secondary teachers of advanced writing courses.

**Follow up consult days and advanced training for coaches are available.**

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*For more information, please contact:*
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