

English Notes

2013 Conference Edition

Volume 11, Issue 1

September 2013

Special Points of Interest:

- From the President
- Conference Schedule
- Conference Speakers



Inside this issue:

From the President	1
Conference Info	1
Conference Preview	2
Sessions	3
Conference Speakers	4
Call for Nominations	4

From the President

Another academic year has begun, fall is making an appearance, and my reign as SDCTE president is quickly coming to an end. I write this after cleaning out my email inbox which is always a learning experience. Every day, I receive dozens of emails about the common core standards, 21st century skills, the flipped and blended classrooms, higher order thinking skills, and technology developments and their use in the classroom. The overwhelming amount of information available about what and how to teach today's students on the internet, in webinars and at conferences is staggering. How do teachers keep up with it all? It seems that the flipped classroom is not the fad some thought it would be. The number of books, blogs and articles users have written about flipping demand the attention of instructors in all fields. English/language arts teachers have been flipping classrooms for decades. We assign reading and writing assignments for homework and then spend class time working with students and answering their questions—the basic idea behind the idea of flipping. Blended classrooms are appearing in schools all across the state. The use of learning management systems, such as Desire2Learn, Blackboard and Moodle, in high schools had led to incorporation of online learning and student control of learning paired with face-to-face instruction. Increasing numbers of students are now taking AP, advanced and college courses online and via videoconferencing. This new way of learning helps instructors differentiate and personalize learning. The advancement and availability of technology is growing faster that schools can keep up. It

is a rare teacher who does not know what an app is, and even rarer is the student without an I-phone, Android or Windows phone, I-pad or e-reader with Wi-Fi capabilities. Students use technology for hours a day and they expect to be able to use that technology in school. As teachers, we are expected to stay up-to-date and trained in all of these areas and stay current in our content and pedagogical; knowledge. Add to this the stress of being in contact with students (and their parents) every day and the stress of dealing with all the other "duties as assigned." No wonder teachers burn out in November. To help you put your school in perspective, I will leave you with a quote from Nebla Marquez-Greenhad, the mother a child killed in the Sandy Hook shooting, to the teachers of America, "Walk with courage, with faith, and with love. And don't let them suck your fun circuits dry." To read her letter in its entirety, see "A Sandy Hook Parent's Letter to Teachers" by Nelba Marquez-Greene on the Education Week website. Have a great school year and see you in October. Stephanie Hansen SDCTE Out-going President

Conference Agenda

Friday, October 11

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 9:00-9:30 | Registration |
| 9:30-9:45 | Welcome |
| 9:50-11:30 | Roundtables |
| 11:30-12:00 | Vendor Visits |
| 12:00-1:30 | Lunch with Dr. Rick Melmer |
| 1:30-1:50 | Vendor Visits |
| 2:00-5:20 | Sessions |
| 5:30-6:00 | Meet, Greet, Relax |
| 6:30 | Awards Banquet with Dr. Charles Woodard |

Saturday, October 12

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|------------|-----------------------|
| | Continental Breakfast |
| 8:30-11:50 | Sessions |
| 11:50 | Wrap up |

SDCTE Conference
October 11-12
Cedar Shore

**-Dream-Connect-
 Ignite!**

Registrations
 accepted through
 Oct. 1st

2013 SDCTE Conference

Friday October 11, 2013

- 9:00-9:30** Registration
- 9:30-9:45** Welcome and Overview
- 9:50-11:30** Roundtable Topics 9:50-10:20, 10:25-10:55, 11:00-11:30
- What's Happening in Alternative Settings? – Deana Brodtkorb**
 - Writing Workshop: Space for Drafting, Conferencing, and Revising in the Classroom – Amber Jensen and Lynette Coker**
 - Intro to Poetry Out Loud National Program – Kristine Hayes**
 - Text Complexity – Marta Stirling**
 - 11th grade Writing Contest-Mary Moeller**

The 11th grade Achievement in Writing award sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English has not garnered interest from South Dakota English teachers in recent years. We want to know -- what type of contest would fit your needs? Plan to share your ideas with me at the Roundtable. Our goal will be to have a draft of writing contest plan ready for adoption at the 2014 conference.
- 11:30-12:00** Vendor Visits
- 12:00-1:30** Lunch with Dr. Rick Melmer
SDCTE Business Meeting
- 1:30-1:50** Vendor Visits
- 2:00-3:00** **“Dakota Writing Project” (Glass and Howe)**
- 3:10-4:10** **“Implementing the Reading-Writing Connection” (Glass)**
Presenter: Dr. Nicholle Schuelke, Associate Professor of English, University of Sioux Falls
Integrated reading-writing instruction acknowledges that the roles of the reader and writer are inter-related. This session explores how to implement reading-writing practices in current curricula to simultaneously promote development of both reading and writing. Writing and reading workshop for middle school and high school students will also be discussed.
- “Common Core Connections with Library Resources: A Dream Come True” (Howe)**
Presenter: Jane Healy, Electronic Resources Coordinator and South Dakota State Library
Turn your Common Core nightmares into a dream come true! See how State Library resources connect to Common Core demands to help you plan and teach lessons to ignite student achievement.
- 4:20-5:20** **“Teachin’ Writing Ain’t What It Yoozta Be!” (Glass)**
Presenter: Sharon Olbertson, Literature Teacher for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Standards and goals for writing skills continue to evolve, presenting fresh challenges for the writing teacher. However, *strategies* for teaching writing skills have also evolved, thanks to research. We invite teachers who wish to simplify their teaching load, as well as exchange some of their own successful writing strategies.
- “Experiencing National Conventions – A review 2012, 2010, 2008 and 2005” (Howe)**
Presenter: Jason Kurtz, Dell Rapids Public School, University of Sioux Falls, and Colorado Technical University
Often, we attend national conventions and don't get the opportunity to share our “igniting” experiences with others in our field. This session will give perspectives gained from the national conventions over the last few years, and invite participants to share their experiences and encourage teachers to attend conventions.
- 5:30-6:00** Meet, Greet, and Relax

2013 SDCTE Conference

Saturday October 12, 2013

Breakfast on your own/Continental Breakfast

8:30-9:30

“My OER.org: How to find decent lessons ready to go for Common Core” (Glass)

Presenter: Lesa Krajewski, Belle Fourche High School

A team of SD teachers has spent the last year working on lessons for you to use in your classroom. These can be supplements to your current curriculum or these lessons can build a whole new curriculum. All of them are aligned to the Common Core Standards and have been chosen by teachers in SD schools. Come see what the state and many hard working teachers have in store for you.

“Co-Teaching Strategies and Success Stories” (Howe)

Presenters: Becky Ekeland, Jennifer Starace-Lacher, and Michelle VandeWeerd SDSU/Brookings

Two veteran high school English teachers describe their experience co-teaching an English Methods class at SDSU. They will explain the implications of these strategies in light of adopting co-teaching as an approach to the year-long residency model for student teaching. Joining them is a classroom teacher who says that co-teaching with an SDSU student teacher resulted in “my best-ever year in the classroom.”

9:40-10:40

“Am I Doing More Harm Than Good? The Challenges of Teaching Multicultural and Humanistic Literatures” (Glass)

Presenter: Carrie Oorlog, Chester Area School

How do we monitor the impact that we are having on students when teaching about concepts such as the Holocaust, racism, or multi-cultural existence? Participants in this workshop will explore a creed project that allows students to understand their own beliefs and histories while studying the experiences of historical and literary figures.

“Student-Created Questions” (Howe)

Presenter: Kirsten Rohla, Belle Fourche High School

Having a discussion with less-than-enthusiastic students is always a challenge, and just as frustrating as knowing students take their study guides and copy them as soon as they leave class. Let students create questions and find relevance to discover how far they can carry a discussion on their own.

10:50-11:50

“Multigenre Writing” (Glass)

Presenter: Sami Peil, Deubrook High School and DWP teacher consultant

Presentation includes a writing activity and discussion to help teachers envision how multigenre writing can work for various situations from responding to literature to research projects. The presenter will share example student papers, a unit framework, technology connections, and how multigenre writing can align with the CCSS.

TBA

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Dr. Rick Melmer to Speak at Luncheon

Dean of the School of Education

Prior to arriving at USD in June of 2008 Dean Melmer served as Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Education. Melmer was superintendent of schools in the Watertown, S.D., School District for eight years where his responsibilities included serving as administrator of Lake Area Technical Institute. From 1991 to 1995, Melmer was superintendent of the Sioux Center Community School District in Sioux Center, Iowa.

A native of South Dakota, Melmer received an Ed.D. in elementary administration from the University of Wyoming. He also holds a master's degree in elementary administration from South Dakota State University and a bachelor's degree in elementary education and psychology from Dakota Wesleyan University. Melmer and his wife, Valerie, have three children, Tara, Megan and Sean.

Dr. Charles Woodard, SDCTE Author of the Year to Speak at Banquet

Dr. Woodard has developed a state, regional, and national reputation as an author, editor, and literary mentor with a specialty in Native American literature. He has been recognized for his major work comprising interviews with N. Scott Momaday. Ancestral Voice which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Recently he edited a book of essays Peril & Promise published by the SD Agricultural Heritage Museum.

His literary insight and patient questioning style have made Dr. Woodard an esteemed and popular professor. He has been a member of SDCTE.

Dr. Woodard was instrumental in establishing several important literary events. The Consider the Century conference annually brings Native American leaders and writers together to speak on important tribal issues. He is also a leader in writing conference and weekend retreats to promote and develop South Dakota and regional authors, help them gain confidence and provide them with supportive cohorts who can serve as peer advisors.

Teacher of the Year and Young Leader Awards

Submission Deadline October 1st

We are in need of new nominations for the teacher of the year and the author of the year. Because of the conference rescheduling we already awarded these at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. We need new nominations for these awards to honor people at the October conference so get your nominations in today!

The Teacher of the Year Award is given to an outstanding English teacher who inspires learning in the ELA classroom.

The Young Leader Award is given to an outstanding English teacher in their first 5 years of teaching. This award comes with a \$500 stipend to help offset the cost of attending NCTE in November of 2014.

(Recipients of both awards must be current members of SDCTE)