

John Collins

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Workshop

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing is a new offering from Collins Education Associates that requires no background knowledge of the Collins Writing Program. It is a schoolwide approach for grades 3-12.

Careful reading, thoughtful analysis, and clear writing have always been valuable skills in a democracy. As the internet explodes with questionable news stories, conspiracy theories, and disreputable websites, students need to be even more critical when they read and interpret evidence. And when they write, they need to use evidence effectively to make or critique a claim.

To encourage and measure these skills, Pennsylvania has added text-dependent analysis questions (TDAs) to the PSSA. Students who do not receive thoughtful instruction on how to read closely, find and cite quotes, and interpret evidence make little progress toward clear writing. Many resort to randomly inserting quotations with no context or explanation. Others choose quotes that are irrelevant, insubstantial, or incomplete. Students may not know how to truncate a quote or interpret the essential phrases within a quote. And without these skills, students will not be able to write meaningful essays.

This workshop offers guidelines and exercises to help students choose, use, and explain evidence in their essays. During the session, participants will learn:

- ◆ Five guidelines to help prepare students for TDAs, DBQs, and the SAT and promote a wide range of content-based reading
- ◆ Key elements of evidence-based prompts
- ◆ Essential general academic vocabulary that appears most frequently in evidence-based prompts for grades 3–12
- ◆ Writing techniques that help students create clear central idea statements, retain content, and improve word choice
- ◆ Three reading strategies that help students preview, closely read, and engage with complex text
- ◆ Four strategies to cite textual evidence that lead to more sophisticated writing

 **Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit**

DATE: April 26, 2018

TIME: 8:30 - 3:00

COST: \$300 for 5 people

REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://goo.gl/iszDxa>

Marsha Hughes

mbh@bviu.org

724-774-7800 ext. 3014