



FOCUS ON THE
COMMON CORE:

VALUING WHAT WE KNOW AND
CLARIFYING WHAT WE CAN DO

OCTOBER 18-20, 2013

asilomar62
THE LANGUAGE ARTS CONFERENCE

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What is really new and different about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)?

How do the CCSS reflect what we know and have learned about how students become effective readers, writers and speakers?

What should we teach students, and how do we teach it, in order to support their literacy development?

How can we support English learners and students with disabilities?

Asilomar 62 will bring together teachers and pivotal figures in the areas of K-12 literacy strategies and assessment to discuss how to translate the Common Core Standards into good classroom practice. Come and join these and other vibrant conversations in the Asilomar tradition of teachers teaching teachers in the surrounding splendor of Asilomar.

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SPEAKERS

Jim Burke

Jim Burke teaches English at Burlingame High School, a public school where he has worked for over twenty years. He is the author of more than twenty books, the most recent of which are an entirely new edition of *The English Teacher's Companion* and *What's the Big Idea?* both published by Heinemann. He is currently writing *A User's Guide to the Common Core State Standards for Corwin* (due out in August 2013). He serves as a senior consultant for the Holt McDougal Literature program. Jim has received several awards, including the 2000 NCTE Exemplary English Leadership Award. In 2009 he created the English Companion Ning, an online community for English teachers, which has been awarded the Best Social Network for Teachers several times. More recently he has served on the AP Literature Course and Exam Review Commission and the PARCC Consortium, which is responsible for developing assessments for the Common Core State Standards.



Barbara Kapinus



Barbara Kapinus is the Director of English Language Arts for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium where she works on multiple aspects of the consortium's assessment design. Before her retirement, Barbara worked on numerous projects related to policy and programs in literacy, standards, assessment and curriculum for National Education Association (NEA). She led the NEA work around the development and implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), and has been involved with the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) consortia on formative assessment and the implementation of the CCSS. As the director of the Curriculum and Instructional Improvement Program at CCSSO, she led projects related to standards implementation, assessment, reading, workplace readiness, early learning, and Title I. Barbara has served in Prince George's County Public Schools as a classroom teacher, reading specialist, and curriculum specialist. She has also taught reading courses at the University of Maryland, The Johns Hopkins University, Western Maryland College, Trinity College, and the Catholic University. Barbara received her undergraduate degree in history from the University of California at Berkeley and her Masters and Ph.D. in reading from the University of Maryland at College Park.



We invite you to bring your school or district team and create your own session for program planning around the Common Core. Please see session #20. Discount offered for groups of 5 or more.

SATURDAY NIGHT AROUND THE HEARTH

Join in discussions of best practices and major issues in education today at Around the Hearth. This Asilomar tradition provides two sessions for spirited discussions in larger groups. Choose from a variety of topics. No sign-ups necessary; follow your interest Saturday night and benefit from the communal exchange.

Session I: 7:15 – 8:30

Session II: 8:45 – 10:00

1. Oral Literacy and the Common Core: Engaged Discussion Through Multicultural Literature

GRADES 6-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS

In this workshop, you will learn how to foster dialogue in seminar and literature circle formats while using classic texts like *Raisin in the Sun*, *The Outsiders*, more. This workshop is the product of three masters theses. Participants will receive access to hard copies and digital resources for immediate use in the classroom.

2. Flash Nonfiction and the Common Core

GRADES 7-COLLEGE TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS

A workshop in flash nonfiction, 20 ways of reading creative nonfiction (Schwartz and Perl), and selected excerpts from *The Rose Metal Field Guide to Writing Flash Nonfiction* (2012). Participants will read, write, and consider the ways creative nonfiction can be used to teach the Common Core.

3. Literacy, Leadership and Identity: Teaching the Standards for Justice

GRADES 9-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

We will explore how to build our students' literacy, particularly in analysis, synthesis and evaluation, through the realm of social issues and justice. We will discuss methodology that supports our students' ability to understand relationships, analyze social dynamics, communicate effectively, discover themselves, take risks and envision opportunities for the future.

4. Connecting Reading and Writing in the Common Core

GRADES K-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

We will explore strategies and techniques for reading and writing in grades K-6 to help all students including English Learners to meet the new Common Core standards. Teachers will leave with many ideas to implement ways to integrate reading and writing.

5. Promoting Adolescents' Comprehension of Text

GRADES 5-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

Participants will learn and apply five interactive instructional practices (with significant research effects that include English language learners and students of poverty)—organizing instruction around a central idea, introducing and reinforcing vocabulary learning, processing text, team-based learning and applying knowledge learned—that can be used in tandem or separately to increase student reading comprehension and learning for all students, including those with learning disabilities and English Language Learners.

6. The Close Reading Classroom

GRADES K-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

Through modeling, guided practice, and various activities participants will have the opportunity to practice the close reading skills that students need for their education beyond the secondary classroom. Participants will examine routines for teaching close reading, how to select texts, and appropriate ways to introduce as well as guide students through and beyond the close reading process.

7. Text Complexity: Actions Teachers Can Take Now

GRADES 6-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
GENERAL ENRICHMENT DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

In this session we will explore how the separate standard for text complexity in the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) can translate into classroom instruction. Explore important actions teachers can take right now to support their students on the staircase of text complexity.

8. Film in the Classroom in an Age of Common Core

GRADES 9-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

Where is film's place in the Common Core? We will consider ways to include film in our curriculum with a focus on selecting the right film, teaching literary analysis through film, finding the clip vs. full-length balance, and applying the Common Core.

9. Digital Literacy and the Common Core: The Power of the Personal Narrative in Digital Storytelling

GRADES K-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

What does it look like when writing classrooms incorporate digital literacy? In this session, participants will learn how to engage English Language Learners through a multimedia, multidisciplinary project aligned to the Common Core. Participants will learn through personal experience. Please bring a personal narrative of 300 words or less and 20-30 corresponding images accessible via Dropbox or Google Drive to the workshop.

10. Becoming Our Selves: Personal Narrative and Persona Poetry

GRADES 9-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS

Students become their authentic selves by discovering their true voices, facilitated by our CCSS instruction in personal narrative. One time-honored way to discover, connect, and reveal these voices is through "persona poetry," as exemplified by the work of Troy Jollimore and others. Come prepared to explore, read, write, and share!

11. What Constitutes "Foundational" American Literature?

GRADES 9-12 GENERAL ENRICHMENT TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED
USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS

The Common Core Standards ask students to be able to "Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth to twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics." What constitutes "foundational" American literature, especially as we strive to include gender and race diversity in our teaching?

12. Teaching Social Justice in Your Classroom

GRADES 7-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

This interactive workshop will explore how to teach socially relevant content confidently. We will peruse films, books and lessons accumulated by the SF Freedom School in collaboration with fellow workshop participants. This personalized workshop is designed to enhance ELA, ELD and SS curriculum in the context of the Common Core Standards.

13. Teaching the Core Using Multi-Genre Responses to Commonly Taught Works of Fiction

GRADES 9-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
GENERAL ENRICHMENT

Students write engagingly when offered multi-genre opportunities to respond to works such as *Romeo and Juliet*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Fever 1793*. This session will demonstrate how a multi-genre approach aligns with the Common Core, preparing students to express, reflect, inform, explore, analyze, interpret, and make a claim.

14. Embracing Change: In Praise of the Common Core

GRADES K-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS

Dive into the CCSS to examine common ground and shared outcomes with History/Social Science and Science. Discuss text complexity with a close look at the reading and writing standards. Explore speaking and listening standards as they invite learning activities focused on performance based assessments. Review models for including expository texts with grade level instruction.

15. How the Implementation of the Common Core State Standards Promise to Improve Education—or Not

GRADES K-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
GENERAL ENRICHMENT DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

The Common Core State Standards' (CCSS) Mission Statement clearly declares: "Teachers and parents [are to help] young people gain knowledge and skills to succeed in college and careers [in order] to compete successfully in the global community." Presently, assessments are being pilot/field tested for 2014/2015 implementation, concentrating upon evidence, universal design, accessibility, sensitivity, and bias elements. Curriculum frameworks, textbooks, instructional materials, professional development, and technology purchases/upgrades must be in place first. How can educators realistically prepare for such implementation?

16. Leveraging the Common Core with Deepened Learning

GRADES 9-12 TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

CCSS expect students to pose questions that examine claims made by challenging texts critically. The theory and practices of curriculum-embedded self-discovery lift students toward CCSS expectations. During the weekend we will explore how deepened learning can raise achievement and enjoyment in our classrooms.

17. River of Words: The Language of Landscape

GRADES 9-COLLEGE TEACHING MATERIAL PROVIDED USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS
ENGLISH LEARNERS DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

This poetry session will offer techniques for helping students create poems that reflect and enhance their understanding of the natural and cultural history of the grounds on which they live. Participants will write a lot and share the poems they write. River of Words' K-12 program was created to promote watershed awareness, literacy and the arts. It is associated with St Mary's College School for Environmental Literacy.

18. Writing on the Road

GRADES 9-COLLEGE GENERAL ENRICHMENT USEFUL FOR NEW TEACHERS

Teachers of writing rarely have time to practice the craft of writing themselves. Participants select a local destination and are given time to write. Group members respond to one another's drafts. Spend a weekend writing in the beautiful environments surrounding Asilomar and brushing up on how to get students to respond to one another's writing.

19. Opera: Smart For You and For All Students

GENERAL ENRICHMENT

Opera is visual storytelling at a higher level, and can open up a new intelligence for students. We will use comparative thinking (opera with literature), symbolic representation, and logical reasoning. We will listen to and study Rossini's opera "The Barber of Seville," which will be performed this fall at San Francisco Operas.

20. Doin Your Own Thing! Team Planning Session

GENERAL ENRICHMENT

School or district teams are invited to use the conference time to plan their own CCSS implementation, or to come as a group to hear a variety of experts on the CCSS and to be inspired by the Asilomar tradition for collaboration. Discounts offered for groups of 5 or more.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, October 18

3:30-9:00 Registration in Fred Farr Forum
4:30-5:30 No Host Reception in Fred Farr Forum
6:00-7:00 Dinner* (Dining room stops serving at 7)
7:15-8:45 GENERAL SESSION in Fred Farr Forum
Keynote Speaker:
9:00-10:00 GROUP SESSION #1

Saturday, October 19

7:30-9:00 Breakfast
8:00-1:30 Bookstore Open
9:00-10:30 GROUP SESSION #2
10:30-10:45 Coffee Break/ Bookstore Open
10:50-12:00 GROUP SESSION #3
12:00-1:00 Lunch
1:30-2:45 GENERAL SESSION B in Fred Farr Forum
2:45-4:00 Asilomar Time (Walk with Ranger, Let's Talk, Book Store, College Credit Meeting)
4:00-5:30 No Host Reception and Book Signing
6:00-7:00 Dinner
7:15-8:30 Around the Hearth Sessions I
8:45-10:00 Around the Hearth Sessions II

Sunday, October 20

7:30-9:00 Breakfast
8:00-9:00 Bookstore Open
9:30-10:15 GROUP SESSION #4
10:15-10:45 Coffee break in Fred Farr Forum
10:45-12:00 GENERAL SESSION C in Fred Farr Forum
12:00-1:00 Lunch

ASILOMAR 62 is brought to you by the Curriculum Study Commission

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