

San Joaquin Valley Writing Project: Partnering to Improve the Teaching and Learning of Writing

Co-Directors Dr. Kathleen Godfrey, English, & Dr. Juliet Wahleithner, Literacy, Early, Bilingual, & Special Education

Partnerships with Local Schools & Districts

College, Career, & Community Writers' Program • Desmond Middle School, Madera
45 hours of professional development over the 2018-2019 academic year focused on developing teachers' knowledge of argument writing and students' understanding of how to use evidence to build effective arguments
(funded by a grant from the National Writing Project)

Porterville Summer Writing Academy • Porterville College

48 hours of professional development for Porterville-area secondary teachers, focused on the teaching of argument. In week one, participants will learn together with SJVWP Teacher Leaders. In week two, participants and SJVWP Teacher Leaders will co-lead a writing academy for 100 7th-12th grade Porterville students.
(funded by a grant from the CA Community College Chancellor's Office)

Partnerships with Local Families

Summer Sports-Writing Camp

One-week summer writing academy for students entering grades 5-8. Led by an SJVWP Teacher Leader who is a former sports writer, participants will engage in indoor and outdoor activities to support their descriptive action writing.



Partnerships with Local K-16 Teachers

New Teachers' Writing Collaborative

In a two-week institute designed for beginning teachers and Fresno State credential students, participants explore the idea of writing as research-based inquiry and examine how the Common Core Writing Standards can lead to engaging classroom practice. Together, participants learn how to integrate writing instruction into unit design while also participating in writing and reading groups.

Fostering Your Independent Writers Using Your District-Adopted Curriculum

Responding to the need of elementary teachers to find ways to augment the writing instruction provided by their adopted curriculum, in this three-day (15-hour) workshop, participants will participate in mini-lessons led by SJVWP Teacher Leaders, read relevant research, and collaborate with one another to plan meaningful, engaging writing instruction for the upcoming school year.

Partnerships with State & National Networks

California WP & National WP

Teacher Leaders from SJVWP regularly attend meetings and workshops with the 15 other California Writing Project sites and nearly 200 other National Writing Project sites to advocate for the teaching of writing and share new approaches to better serve local schools, teachers, students, and families.