Reading, Writing, and Communicating eUpdate

April 2019



"Standardized tests are one part of a diverse puzzle that allows everyone in the classroom to focus more on learning."

Just A Little Inspiration!

As a former classroom teacher and school administrator, I know all too well the angst, stress, and pressure permeating the atmosphere of individual classrooms and the hallways of school buildings during this time of year—state assessments!

With the state testing window opening this month and the uncertainty that surrounds our students' performance, I wanted to take this opportunity to both inspire and thank you for the work you do.

Dear Educators:

"You are the bows from which your students as living arrows are sent forth" -Kahlil Gibran

"Anyone who does anything to help a child in his or her life is a hero to me." -Fred Rogers

"A teacher affects eternity; he or she can never tell where his or her influence stops." –Henry Adams

"The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts." –C.S. Lewis

"Believe you can and you're halfway there."
-President Teddy Roosevelt

Sincerely,

Olivia Gillespie, RWC Content Specialist

A Message from the Colorado Language Arts Society (CLAS):

The Colorado Language Arts Society (CLAS) is a state affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), a professional association of educators in English Studies, Literacy, and Language Arts.

This November during the NCTE Annual Convention, the Secondary Section of NCTE will recognize one Colorado high school teacher in Baltimore. *CLAS* is seeking nominations for the "High School Teacher of Excellence" award. Nominees must be CLAS members; however, if he or she has attended the CLAS conference in the



last two years, then this requirement has been met. **Please send names to me by April 25**th, so I can forward them to the CLAS Board President.

The CLAS fall Regional Conference will be on October 5, 2019 with keynotes by <u>Cornelius Minor</u>, <u>Helen Thorpe</u>, and <u>Tanaya Winder</u> at the Tivoli Student Union in Denver. The conference is cosponsored by the <u>NCTE Student Affiliate at</u> Metropolitan State University of Denver.

If you are interested in presenting a 75-minute session at the conference, CLAS is accepting session proposals through June 30, 2019: 2019 Conference Session Proposal form

For additional information and resources:

https://sites.google.com/site/cololangarts/home?
authuser=0

https://sites.google.com/site/cololangarts/foreducators/teacher-resources?authuser=0

Honoring Colorado English Language Arts/Literacy Teachers!

In addition to the "High School Teacher of Excellence Award" previously mentioned, I am inviting you to nominate a English language arts/literacy teacher, para, or specialist in your building who works tirelessly to ensure our students are working towards mastery of the Reading, Writing, and Communicating Colorado Academic Standards. I want to dedicate the May eUpdate to honoring "Educators in the Trenches."

Please send me their names and a brief explanation stating why you're honoring them by April 28^{th} .

NCTE, CLAS, and CCIRA

CLAS: October 5, 2019 at the Tivoli Union, Auraria Campus, Denver, Colorado. \$68 for pre-service & first year teachers \$100 for all other attendees

NCTE: November 21-24, 2019 in Baltimore, MD.

Registration rates prior to November 11th

Member: \$275 Non-Member: \$360

Contact Info

Please feel free to contact me at gillespie_o@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6583.