

**Developing Expertise in Six-Trait Writing Instruction  
A Faculty-Meeting Package**

## **Faculty-Meeting Staff Development Packages**

Research tells us:

- ❑ That the most effective professional development is ongoing, job-embedded professional development.
- ❑ That developing professional learning communities is one of the most effective ways to accomplish this goal.
- ❑ That student achievement is increased when PLC's focus their collective efforts on insuring that every student in the school is learning.
- ❑ That one way to help this happen is to make more productive use of staff meetings and the time set aside for them.

Therefore, the TEP team has created the following professional development packages that do these things.

## Developing Expertise in Six-Trait Writing Instruction A Faculty-Meeting Package

<b>Developing Expertise in Six-Trait Writing Instruction</b>	
<b>Intended Audiences:</b>	Full staffs, PLCs, Grade Level and/or Content Area Teams. This professional development package is designed to work in conjunction with TEP's <i>Effective Writing Instruction Seminar</i> . In addition, it is perfect for any school or district that is focusing on instructional strategies or processes that are intended to raise students' writing proficiency.
<b>Grade Level Focus:</b>	There are specific packages designed for K-3 schools, K-6 schools, middle schools, and high schools. Each package is aligned to state standards, benchmarks, and Grade Level Content Expectations.
<b>Service Overview:</b>	TEP's writing team has put together this professional development package that focuses on developing your school's instructional expertise and writing proficiency through an in-depth exploration and application of the six traits of writing. It involves an ongoing sequence of monthly or twice writing in-services in which teachers actively engage in using the six traits of writing and in designing writers' workshop lessons around the traits. They will have time to reflect on the process and be coached through the application of the six trait writing strategies in their own classrooms during ongoing team-based coaching sessions.
<b>Key Elements:</b>	Monthly or twice monthly full-staff workshops that focus on developing an in-depth instructional expertise around using the six traits of writing in a writers' workshop setting. These workshops are highly interactive and designed around the NSDC's professional development standards and are meant to be delivered during staff meetings. These workshops will be followed by bimonthly team coaching sessions.

## Developing Expertise in Six-Trait Writing Instruction A Faculty-Meeting Package

<b>Workshops:</b>	<p>The workshops are designed around the NSDC’s professional development standards and are meant to be delivered during staff meetings. While the exact number of workshops will vary depending upon the package your school selects, some of the recommended topics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Working with the Writer—Writing Rituals and Student Engagement</li> <li>▣ Creating a Community of Writers</li> <li>▣ An Introduction to the Six Traits of Writing</li> <li>▣ Using the Six Traits of Writing to Assess Your Students Needs</li> <li>▣ Focusing on Ideas—Developing Effective Mini-Lessons Based upon Assessment</li> <li>▣ Focusing on Organization—Developing Effective Mini-Lessons Based upon Assessment</li> <li>▣ Focusing on Voice—Developing Effective Mini-Lessons Based upon Assessment</li> <li>▣ Focusing on Word Choice—Developing Effective Mini-Lessons Based upon Assessment</li> <li>▣ Focusing on Sentence Fluency—Developing Effective Mini-Lessons Based upon Assessment</li> <li>▣ Focusing on Conventions—Developing Effective Mini-Lessons Based upon Assessment</li> <li>▣ Publication, Presentation, and Celebration</li> </ul>
<b>Onsite Coaching:</b>	<p>Given the fact that research “emphasizes that coaching is a prerequisite for the implementation of new skills or strategies” (Showers, Joyce, &amp; Bennett, 1987 in DuFour &amp; Berkey 1995) and “providing teachers with ongoing support after the initial training is critical to the success of any innovation” (DuFour &amp; Berkey 1995), TEP has included two to four days a month of onsite instructional coaching around the writing goals. While it is impossible to list in advance all the things the coaching</p>

## Developing Expertise in Six-Trait Writing Instruction A Faculty-Meeting Package

	<p>sessions may cover, here are a few areas that are recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Facilitating the development of Professional Learning Communities around this goal.</li> <li>❑ Facilitating the development of assessments <i>for</i> learning to support the goal.</li> <li>❑ Coaching teams in how to use data to differentiate instruction.</li> <li>❑ In classroom modeling around the goal.</li> <li>❑ Coaching teams as they implement the 6 trait model.</li> <li>❑ Coaching teams as they conduct and analyze student work sampling using the 6 trait rubric.</li> <li>❑ Conducting classroom observations and engaging in team teaching.</li> <li>❑ Conducting lesson studies.</li> <li>❑ Facilitating peer classroom observations and peer coaching.</li> <li>❑ Facilitating teacher/student self-reflection and evaluation.</li> <li>❑ Facilitating teachers as writers.</li> <li>❑ Portfolio Assessment</li> </ul> <p>For more information on this package or for ways we can modify it to meet your school's specific needs, please contact us. We are here to help you reach your goals.</p>
<b>Principal Coaching:</b>	<p>Because the principal's role as instruction leader is essential to the successful implementation of any strategy, TEP has included two to four days of principal coaching a month around this goal. Our administrative coaches will work with your district and/or building administrators to help them envision what a successful implementation process should look like and help your administrative teams to put the systems in place to make that successful implementation a reality.</p>
<b>Extended Offerings:</b>	<p>Research shows that it takes at least five years for a system to become institutionalized. Therefore, TEP offers multi-year professional development packages. We feel this is the best possible approach for</p>

**Developing Expertise in Six-Trait Writing Instruction  
A Faculty-Meeting Package**

	both of us. Therefore, we provide additional services at no additional cost if you select this option. To learn more about this and other offerings please contact us.
<b>Contact Us:</b>	<b>Phone: 269-369-3117</b> <b>Fax: 248-991-1326</b>  <a href="mailto:info@youeducationalpartners.com"><u>info@youeducationalpartners.com</u></a>