



Monthly Newsletter

Issue 25: August 2015

News Updates

August 29th Saturday Seminar is from 9:00-noon. The topic is “Writing in Response to Text throughout the Year: Part 2.” This follow-up session will continue to build on the strategies and ideas in part 1 by continuing writing instruction from winter to spring while also addressing prompt writing and writing assessment. You did not have to attend the first seminar in order to benefit from the second one, and it’s not too late to register! This seminar is for teachers grades 3-8 and only costs \$15 for those still interested. Register at www.middletnwritingproject.org/professional-development. Send purchase orders to PO Box 213 MTSU 1301 E. Main St. M’boro, TN 37132.

Our Annual Fall Conference is September 12 from 8:00-2:00. Remaining consistent with our statement of “Teachers Teaching Teachers” and focusing on writing, MTWP has asked area teachers to share strategies that align with best practices and support student learning. The opening Panel Discussion will address ways to score well on the TEAM Evaluation. The cost is \$33 per person for 3 or more teachers from one school; \$45 for individuals; and \$55 for late individual registrants. Late registration begins at 1:00 a.m. on September 8. Register at www.middletnwritingproject.org/professional-development.

What an Honor! The Tennessee Council of Teachers of English (TCTE) has asked our own Heather Adkins to give *THE* keynote address at their annual conference on September 19!

Saturday Seminars this Fall will be on campus at MTSU and in Warren County! We will send out more information for both locations soon!

Teacher Feature

Tracy Hall (ISI 2014) teaches 6th and 8th grade at Forrest Middle School in Chapel Hill. Her favorite thing to teach is the novel *The Outsiders*, followed by creative writing and writer’s workshop. Unsurprisingly, her favorite aspect of teaching is interacting with her students and watching them build a love for reading and writing. Last school year, she implemented writer’s workshop in her classroom for the first time. She began with creative writing with the goal of boosting her students’ confidence in their abilities so they would then improve their academic writing. She encouraged her students to clearly express their thoughts, ideas, and opinions through their writing. Tracy married her high school sweetheart Kevin, and they have two girls Lily (born in 2013) and Lizy (born last month!!!).

