

# Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 3-6)



A Unique One-Day Live Online Seminar Presented by

**Kathryn Starke**

Outstanding Literacy Coach, Presenter and Author

**Specifically Designed for Educators Serving Grades 3-6:  
English/Language Arts Teachers, Classroom Teachers, Literacy  
Coaches, Special Education Staff and Administrators**

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**Practical, ready-to-use strategies and techniques** for planning, assigning and evaluating student writing that maximize student success

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**Specific, step-by-step methods** to ensure a greater amount of quality writing in multiple genres while decreasing your assessment time

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**Fitting it all in ...** How to teach your numerous ELA requirements, achieve high-quality writing results from all your students and reduce your take-home workload

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New and innovative strategies to **dramatically reduce time spent grading** while giving meaningful, specific feedback

## LIVE ONLINE SEMINARS

**March 20**

**9 AM Eastern**, 8 AM Central,  
7 AM Mountain, 6 AM Pacific

**March 25**

**9 AM Central**, 8 AM Mountain,  
7 AM Pacific, 10 AM Eastern

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CEUs and Graduate Credit Available  
See page 6 for details

## CAN'T ATTEND?

Order the recorded version  
and take the seminar online at  
your convenience (see page 6)

*"I feel refreshed and  
inspired with some good  
ideas to take back and  
start using right away."*

— **CHERIE GREELEY,**  
3RD GRADE TEACHER

# Ten Key Benefits of Attending

*'I am so thankful for the ideas that can be taken straight to my classroom and used. You did an amazing job presenting. Thank you also for the opportunity to try some of the ideas.'*

– ASHLEY KRUSE,  
4TH GRADE TEACHER



## 1. Strengthen Your Students' Writing Skills

Proven approaches for strengthening your students' writing ... Practical strategies to get powerful results while creating a productive learning environment

## 2. Differentiate Your Writing Instruction

Learn ways to create a cycle of student ownership and proficiency-based writing to better meet the diverse levels of students' writing skills

## 3. Reduce the Time You Spend Grading Student Writing

Learn proven strategies to significantly reduce the time you spend grading while still increasing your students' writing skills

## 4. Learn Creative Approaches to Improve Student Engagement and Success With Writing

Move "outside the box" to re-engage students with writing, and to find exhilarating and challenging ways to improve their writing

## 5. Provide More Effective Feedback to Improve Students' Writing

Move beyond that time-consuming essay grading with minimal learning-curve ... Techniques for giving more meaningful, more practical feedback without increasing your grading time

## 6. Utilize New Resources to Strengthen Writing Lessons, Collaboration and Accountability

Explore how to easily implement online resources and collaborative exercises to increase student engagement and stamina in writing

## 7. Utilize Timesaving Ways to Assess all Genres of Writing

Discover new, more time-efficient ways to teach students how to produce and edit writing across genres

## 8. The Keys to Practically and Successfully Teaching Complete Lessons

Develop standards-based, flexible assessments to clarify learning and simplify your planning

## 9. Organize Your Writing Lessons to Increase Student Success

Develop strategies for flexible prepping and planning to help your students become more confident and competent writers ... Discover practical ways writing supports your reading instruction as well

## 10. Substantially Increase the Time You Spend Actually Teaching Writing

Receive extensive ideas that will allow you to immediately spend less time grading and more time focused on creative instruction, conferencing, and innovative ways to engage students in much higher levels of writing proficiency

### Who Should Attend

Educators Serving Grades  
3-6: English/Language  
Arts Teachers, Classroom  
Teachers, Literacy Coaches,  
Special Education Staff  
and Administrators

# Outstanding Strategies You Can Use Immediately

## What You Will Learn ...

- **Innovative ways to help your students** increase the quality of their writing and enable you to fit in all the ELA standards you are required to teach
- **Practical, proven strategies** to implement writing assessments in multiple writing genres
- Outstanding, ready-to-use ideas for **integrating multimodal writing assignments** with your current writing program
- How to **get students more deeply engaged in the process** of writing, leading to stronger finished products
- How to **give targeted feedback that reduces grading time** and increases student progress
- **Proven tips for working more efficiently and effectively** spending more time collaborating and creating, and less time grading
- How to **increase students' confidence in writing** and focus more on achieving substantive personal goals
- **Proven ways to teach students to read and revise their writing** using interactive rubrics that are much more than checklists
- **Model lesson plans you can use or adapt** to successfully integrate all the writing skills students need



*"I received so many great ideas for improving my classroom writing! I especially appreciated all the rubric samples. They will be so helpful."*

– MIRIAM KLEIN, 4TH GRADE TEACHER

## Practical Ideas and Strategies

Looking to transform your students' writing skills while reducing your workload? If you're spending more time grading papers than your students spent writing them, or struggling to fit all the required skills into your lesson plans, **KATHRYN STARKE's** seminar is here to help! As an acclaimed national presenter and experienced elementary teacher, Kathryn will show you how to drastically reduce your grading time and implement effective feedback strategies. Plus, discover new and innovative daily techniques to take your students' writing to the next level. Designed for Grades 3-6, this seminar covers everything from peer feedback to student conferences, ensuring that every student receives the feedback they need to succeed. Don't miss this opportunity to revolutionize your writing instruction with practical, doable strategies that work for all levels of writers!

**Kathryn will share dozens of new and innovative ways to reduce your workload while increasing your students' writing skills. From your struggling students to your more advanced writers, these tools work! Join Kathryn for a day filled with dozens of practical and doable strategies to strengthen your writing instruction and see powerful results!**



# A Message From Seminar Leader, Kathryn Starke



## Uniquely Qualified Instructor

**KATHRYN STARKE** is a highly experienced educator specializing in teaching effective writing strategies to Grades 3-6. With a rich background as an elementary classroom teacher, reading specialist, and district literacy coach, Kathryn brings a wealth of knowledge to her engaging presentations. As a sought-after presenter, Kathryn travels nationwide, inspiring schools to achieve greater literacy success. Her extensive expertise and practical approach motivate and support students, teachers, and educational leaders alike. Participants at her seminar will receive the invaluable digital resource handbook, *Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 3-6)*, authored by Kathryn herself specifically for this seminar. With additional notable works like *Tackle Reading* (Creative Minds Publications, 2017), Kathryn's innovative strategies empower educators to immediately enhance their students' abilities. Attend this seminar and equip yourself with a plethora of new tools to guide your students towards becoming successful and independent readers.

Dear Colleague:

As a teacher, author and publisher, writing is a large part of my daily life. I have always loved teaching writing. Unfortunately, it is the first part of the language arts block to be cut from the day. In addition, teaching writing is often perceived as a daunting task. That's exactly why we created this seminar for teachers in Grades 3-6.

After almost two decades of teaching writing as a classroom teacher, reading specialist, and literacy consultant, I want every teacher to feel confident and competent in teaching writing. This not only includes simple ways to plan and implement engaging and effective daily writing lessons, but also time-saving tips on assigning and grading student writing. Research shows that students become great readers when daily writing experiences take place in the classroom.

My hope is that you will return to your classroom with a wealth of practical strategies, tips, and tools for teaching, assigning, and assessing writing that will immediately improve both your students' writing and reading success.

I look forward to meeting you at the seminar. The day will be packed with exciting new practices, strategies and perspectives that will enable you to teach and assess writing in creative new time-saving ways.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Starke

P.S. You will also receive **an extensive digital resource handbook** filled with practical, proven strategies, and time-saving tools you can use immediately.

*"My hope is that you will return to your classroom with a wealth of practical strategies, tips, and tools for teaching, assigning, and assessing writing."*

# What Your Colleagues Say About Kathryn Starke

***"Very knowledgeable!"** Thank you for providing resources and tools that can be implemented immediately."*

– Kristen Kowalski, 3rd Grade Teacher

*"Of all the professional development seminars I have attended in the past four years, this was the most informative and helpful. Kathryn was a wonderful presenter and had **many great tips to help improve our writing instruction**. Thank you!"*

– Michelle Everett, 4th Grade Teacher

***"I really got a lot out of it!"** It was enjoyable and steady. Pacing/breaks/breakout groups were all well-timed."*

– Elizabeth Carroll, Teacher

***"Excellent resource handbook!"** Thank you for not reading it to us, but allowing us to actually practice some of the things you talked about."*

– Lisa Gross, 4th Grade Teacher



## About BER Seminars

### Outstanding Instructors

All programs are led by outstanding, top-rated BER national trainers.

### Extensive Digital Resource Handbook

You'll receive an extensive digital Resource Handbook full of practical strategies and resources.

### Highly Interactive

You'll be able to ask questions, consult with the instructor, and share ideas with other participants.

### Program Guarantee

As we have for 48 years, we guarantee the high quality of our programs. If you are not satisfied, we'll give you a 100% refund.



# Special Benefits of Attending



*"Practical, helpful,  
engaging and  
wonderful all  
around!!"*

– STEPHANIE HUFF,  
4TH GRADE TEACHER

## On-Site Training

Most BER seminars can be brought to your school or district in-person or online. See the options at [www.ber.org/onsite](http://www.ber.org/onsite) or call 877-857-8964 to speak to one of our On-Site Training Consultants.

## Extensive Digital Resource Handbook

Each participant will receive an extensive digital resource handbook giving you access to countless strategies. The handbook includes:

- Practical, ready-to-use strategies and techniques to strengthen student writing
- Motivational engagement strategies to increase participation and stamina in writing
- Effective, accessible resources for helping your students meet your state's standards for writing
- Powerful time-saving tools and strategies to increase your students' writing skills while reducing your grading time
- Sample lesson plans that will help you "fit it all in"

## Share Ideas with Other Educators

This seminar provides a wonderful opportunity for participants to share ideas with other educators interested in enhancing their students' writing skills program.

## Consultation Available

Kathryn Starke will be available for consultation regarding your questions and the unique needs of your own program.

## Meet Inservice Requirements / Earn State CEUs

Participants of Live Online Seminars and those completing the Recorded Version online can receive a certificate of participation that may be used to verify five continuing education hours. For details about state CEUs available, visit [www.ber.org/ceus](http://www.ber.org/ceus)

## Earn One to Four Graduate Semester Credits



Up to four graduate-level professional development credits are available with an additional fee and completion of follow up practicum activities. Details may be found at [www.ber.org/credit](http://www.ber.org/credit)

## Can't Attend?

### Other Professional Development Options:



#### Recorded Version of the Seminar

Order the recorded version of this seminar to take online at your convenience. You'll have 90-day access to the entire course and to the extensive digital resource handbook. To enroll, see registration form on page 7, and for optional CEUs and graduate credit, please visit [www.ber.org/credit](http://www.ber.org/credit)



#### Related On-Demand Online Courses

Related On-Demand Video-Based Online Learning courses, *Using Six-Trait Mini-Lessons to Strengthen Students' Writing*, for Grades 3-6, *Catching Up Students Who've Fallen Behind in Reading or Writing*, for Grades 3-5, and other literacy-related courses, are available for immediate registration. To enroll, visit [www.ber.org/online](http://www.ber.org/online)

# Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 3-6)

## Registration (WGX6S1)

- ☐ **1. March 20, 2026** (Start time: 9 AM Eastern)  
☐ **2. March 25, 2026** (Start time: 9 AM Central)  
— or —  
☐ **3. I'd like to order the recorded version of this seminar**

FIRST NAME M.I. LAST NAME

POSITION, SUBJECT TAUGHT GRADE LEVEL

SEMINAR NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please see list above)

### List additional registrants on a copy of this form

SCHOOL NAME

SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS

CITY & STATE ZIP CODE

SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER HOME PHONE NUMBER

( ) ( )

### Registration confirmations and login details are sent via e-mail

E-MAIL ADDRESS (REQUIRED FOR EACH REGISTRANT)

HOME MAILING ADDRESS

CITY & STATE ZIP CODE

## IMPORTANT – PRIORITY ID CODE: EWGX6S1

### METHOD OF PAYMENT – Team Discount Available

**The registration fee is \$295 per person;**  
for teams of three or more registering at the same time, the fee is \$275  
per person. **Payment is due prior to the program.** No cash, please.

- ☐ A check (payable to **Bureau of Education & Research**) is attached  
☐ A purchase order is attached, P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please print name as it appears on card


## FIVE EASY WAYS TO REGISTER:


 **SCAN QR code or visit:**  
**at.ber.org/regWGX**



 **EMAIL this form to: register@ber.org**

 **PHONE toll-free: 1-800-735-3503**  
(Weekdays 5:30 am - 5:00 pm Pacific Time)

 **FAX this form to: 1-425-453-1134**

 **MAIL this form to: Bureau of Education & Research**  
915 118th Avenue SE • PO Box 96068  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9668

## Program Hours

All **Live Online Seminars** are scheduled 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM in the time zone indicated. Check in 15 minutes prior. Registrants will be sent login information by email four days before their Live Online Seminar.

## Fee

The registration fee is \$295 per person; \$275 per person for groups of three or more registering at the same time. Call us at 1-800-735-3503 for groups of ten or more. **Payment is due prior to the program.**

Fee includes seminar registration, a certificate of participation and an extensive digital resource handbook. The fee is the same for Live Online Seminars or Recorded Seminars.

**WA residents:** visit [www.dor.wa.gov/TaxRateLookup](http://www.dor.wa.gov/TaxRateLookup) to find your required WA sales tax rate.

## Cancellation/Substitutions

100% of your paid registration fee will be refunded if you can't attend and notify us at least 10 days before the seminar. Late cancellations made prior to the event date will be refunded less a \$15 service fee. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge.

## Program Guarantee

We stand behind the high quality of our programs by providing the following unconditional guarantee: If you are not satisfied with this program, we'll give you a 100% refund of your registration fee.

## Further Questions

Call the Bureau of Education & Research (800) 735-3503 or visit us online at **www.ber.org**



WGX6S1

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An outstanding one-day Live Online Seminar

Includes an extensive digital Resource Handbook

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## Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 3-6)

WGX651



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## Strengthening Students' Writing Skills While Significantly Decreasing Grading Time (Grades 3-6)

Live Online Seminar or  
Recorded Version



A Unique One-Day Live Online Seminar  
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Presented by

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Outstanding Literacy Coach, Presenter and Author

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