



ELA News:

Welcome!

I hope your summer break is treating you well. I wanted to start by introducing myself and welcoming you all to enjoy our first ELA Newsletter. My name is Sarah Perryman, and I am pleased to be the new English Language Arts Program Consultant for KSDE. I graduated from KU in 2012 with a Bachelors in Secondary English Education and a Service Learning Certificate. I then completed my student teaching through KU's Professional Development School and graduated again in 2013 with a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction with an endorsement in ESOL. Since then, I spent five years teaching Sheltered Language Arts for grades 9, 10, and 11 in Topeka. Meaning, I taught the regular curriculum, but I only worked with English Language Learners, so I had to differentiate and scaffold to make the grade-level curriculum accessible to my population. This meant I really had to know the proficiency level of my students, and I also had to know my standards and what proficiency of the standards could look like for culturally and linguistically diverse students.

It is my goal to help teachers across the state better understand the standards and how those skills and concepts can be applied to every classroom activity and achieved by every student regardless of their current proficiency and ability level.

Through this newsletter, I hope to inform teachers across the state of opportunities for training; provide general information as it relates to the standards, resources, and testing; and to share good things happening around our state as it relates to English Language Arts.

If you would like to be more involved in the decision-making process at the state level, please feel free to contact me so we can add you to our team.

Enjoy your summer vacation!

-Sarah Perryman

Upcoming Training Opportunities & Requesting PD

July 17-18, 2018: Fort Hays State University- KSDE Impact Institute

About: In order to attend a KSDE Impact Institute, you must register online at <https://events.ksde.org>. The cost is \$25 and includes professional learning, continental breakfast, lunch, and snacks each day. You can follow the event on twitter at #KSImpact.

October 15-17, 2018: Hyatt Regency in Wichita, KS- KSDE Annual Conference

About: In order to attend, you must register by October 8 on the <https://events.ksde.org> website. The conference extends over three days: Monday being a Pre-Conference and Tuesday and Wednesday being the Main Conference. The cost is \$105 for the Pre-Conference, \$150 for the Main Conference, and \$250 for the Full Conference.

October 26-27, 2018: Wichita Marriott- KATE Conference

About: In order to attend, you must register at www.kansasenglish.org. The theme for this year's conference is "Heartfelt Writing to Engage the World".

**If you think your district needs more direct training assistance, please contact me at sperryman@ksde.org

Assessment & Agency News

The 2019 State ELA Assessment will reuse the content from the 2018 Assessment. It will continue to be an adaptive test with some minor revisions to the 6th grade exam to better ensure students who tested “low” on section 1 still have an opportunity to score proficient by the time they complete the assessment. To help you and your students prepare for the exam, additional interim items will be loaded and an interactive demo of the ELA exam will also be provided.

As we prepare to redesign the 2020 assessment, teachers will notice that the assessment resource documents have changed. While the resources needed to reflect the standard revisions made in 2017, revisions were only going to be made to the documents in regards to the standards while maintaining the previous claim and target language. Thus, you will still find the targets, standard connections, and performance rubrics, but they will be grouped together as grade-level documents

instead of as separate resources with a slight change to format.

Please review these documents on www.ksassessments.org when they become available, and feel free to contact me for any questions or concerns.

In addition to the new assessment documents, we are also working on reviewing and revising the Literacy Guide that has been available on the ELA-KSDE webpage. In order to make this document more user friendly for educators, we are revising the document by breaking it into grade-level sections and by creating a more linear document. The Literacy Guide was created to serve as Kansas’ Literacy Plan. It will now align to our most recent standards and will walk teachers through the considerations that must be made when preparing authentic learning opportunities for students through literacy instruction. Again, if you have questions, or would like targeted PD, please reach out to me via email.

Good Things

On June 12, I attended the KATE (Kansas Association for Teachers of English) Education Camp in Lawrence, KS. It was great having the opportunity to meet so many motivated and dedicated teachers who not only want to share their ideas to improve the classrooms of others, but who also want to be on the receiving end of peer-driven collaborative conversation.

This school year, I would like to host online learning opportunities for teachers across our state who not only want some continued ELA-specific Professional Development, but who also would like an opportunity to communicate with dedicated practitioners across the state without having to leave your school. Stay tuned for topics and dates! If you would like to be a teacher leader for any of these online learning sessions, please email me at sperryman@ksde.org.

Finally, I would like this section to feature ELA teachers and the great things happening in classrooms across our state. If you have a good thing to share, please email me, and I will put you in next month’s newsletter!

For more information, contact:



Sarah Perryman Education Program Consultant-ELA
sperryman@ksde.org
 785-296-1074

Career, Standards, and Assessment Services
 Kansas State Department of Education
 900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 653

www.ksde.org

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