

Proudly co-presented by



British Columbia Association
of Mathematics Teachers



BCSSTA
BRITISH COLUMBIA
SOCIAL STUDIES
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

WHISTLER CONFERENCE

Friday, May 12, 2017 - Whistler Westin Resort

Adrienne Gear

AM: Nonfiction Writing Power

PM: Reading Power:
Review and What's New?

Dr. Peter Liljedahl

AM: Building a Thinking
Mathematics Classroom

PM: Assessment for a
Thinking Classroom

Amy Burvall

AM: Visual Thinking Across
the Curriculum

PM: Intention: Critical Creativity
in the K-12 Classroom



We gratefully
acknowledge the
financial support
of this conference
by the BCTF

Register at **my pita.ca**

Sponsor



The Provincial Intermediate and Middle Years Teachers'

Association of BC (myPITA) helps teachers through:

- Advocacy for intermediate and middle school teachers.
- Annual Fall Lower Mainland conference and workshops offered as part of district/zonal days around the province.
- Newsletters mailed to members multiple times a year full of tips and lesson ideas.
- Password protected web resources at www.mypita.ca:
 - Classroom management with community building games
 - Drama activities and resources
 - Novel study materials with over 300 novel chapter summaries and tests
 - A variety of great resources specifically targeting new and developing teachers, in a range of subject areas



British Columbia Association of Mathematics Teachers

The BCAMT is the mathematics specialists association of BC. We are committed to promoting excellence in mathematics education throughout the province. We believe that mathematics is for each and every student, and that learning mathematics is as much about *doing* the math as it is about *knowing* the math. The BCAMT supports math educators through conferences, outreach, our professional journal *Vector*, teacher awards and grants. For more information, news, and resources, come to our website www.bcamt.ca or follow us on twitter @BCAMT.



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The BC Social Studies Teachers Association (BCSSTA) is a Provincial Specialist Association from within the BCTF. We

promote, support and improve the teaching of social studies, as well as to liaise with the Ministry of Education regarding curriculum development and changes. The benefits of membership include: our annual conference; timely curriculum updates and discussion via the list serve; access to classroom resources, Ministry updates, professional development opportunities via the list serve and website; and, informative and practical classroom tips via our electronic newsletter. Most importantly, the BCSSTA serves as an advocate for its members on pressing issues such as curriculum revisions and updates, new curriculum subjects, electronic and provincial exams in general. We also encourage and support the development of Local Specialist Associations and their role to network and support colleagues within their respective districts. Visit: www.bcssta.wordpress.com or contact us at bcssta@gmail.com.

Speakers

Adrienne Gear

is an internationally-acclaimed speaker, author, and teacher with over 20 years of experience in Vancouver classrooms. Her practical “power” approach to reading and writing instruction is implemented in many school districts across the country. She has presented internationally and her books have been translated into multiple languages. She is the author of numerous books for teachers: *Reading Power* (2006), *Nonfiction Reading Power* (2008), *Writing Power* (2011), *Nonfiction Writing Power* (2014), and coauthored *Powerful Readers for Secondary Teachers* (2016).

Dr. Peter Liljedahl

is an Associate Professor of Mathematics Education in the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada. Peter is a former high school mathematics teacher who has kept his research interest and activities close to the classroom. He consults regularly with teachers, schools, school districts, and ministries of education on issues of teaching and learning, assessment, and numeracy.

Amy Burvall

has been a humanities teacher for over 20 years and is coming from Hawaii to present these workshops for us. She is a leader in educational technology and creativity in the classroom. She has developed creativity and innovation curriculum for schools in South America, India, and the USA. and she will be customizing her workshops to fit our BC curriculum. Amy is well known for her YouTube channel *History for Music Lovers*, which features history-based parody music videos with over 12 million views.

Nonfiction Writing Power

Grades 4–9

BC teacher and author Adrienne Gear will share concepts and lessons from her book *Nonfiction Writing Power*. She will explain the different forms of nonfiction, including description, instruction, persuasion, and the importance of teaching students the intent, language, and structure of each form. She will model several lessons and share many student samples. As always, Adrienne will highlight anchor books which support the lessons. She will also share ways that nonfiction writing can be linked to your content areas in the new curriculum.

Building a Thinking Mathematics Classroom

Grades 4–9

The new curriculum is promoting problem solving as an effective and important way for students to learn to think mathematically, to acquire a deeper knowledge and understanding of the mathematics they are learning, and to develop a number of the curricular competencies. Simply problematizing the mathematics curriculum, however, does not constitute the practice that teachers want or students need. To realize the goals of the new curriculum teachers may need different teaching tools for use in their lessons. In this workshop, Dr. Peter Liljedahl looks at a series of such tools, specifically designed to help realize these goals.

Visual Thinking Across the Curriculum

Grades 4–12

The changing media landscape has exploded with imagery, ushering in a need for visual literacy skills. We are quickly moving from images as decoration and augmentation to images as sole content and communication tool. How can we learn to think more visually and use images to enhance the effectiveness of our communication? In this participatory session, we'll experiment with ways to use visual language for demonstrating knowledge, critical thinking, sharing ideas, social interaction, and other forms of creative and intellectual expression.

Reading Power: Review and What's New?

Grades 4–9

Reading Power is an approach to comprehension instruction developed by BC teacher and literacy consultant Adrienne Gear over ten years ago. While many teachers have been implementing this practical approach into their reading programs, a lot has changed since Adrienne's book was first published, including a 2nd edition and a *Reading Power* book for High School teachers. In this session, Adrienne will review the key concepts of *Reading Power* and explain how the strategies link to the new curriculum. She will share insights into how *Reading Power* has evolved and explain ways you can integrate the language of thinking into all areas of your teaching. Adrienne will demonstrate several model lessons, share student samples, and recommend anchor books to support the lessons.

Assessment for a Thinking Classroom

Grades 4–9

The new landscape of mathematics teaching and learning is vastly different from the way we have become accustomed to thinking about mathematics. There is now a focus on process over product, understanding and self-authored procedures are given prevalence, and even what constitutes mathematical knowledge is changing. In the midst of all of this change one thing is becoming blatantly obvious – our traditional methods of assessing students are no longer adequate. We need to rethink and reorient our assessment practices to better align with the changing curriculum and our evolving teaching practices. In this workshop we will begin this reorientation. Teachers will leave with a greater insight into the need and use of progressive assessment, as well as some of the tools to begin to design and utilize alternate assessment practices in their own teaching.

Intention:

Critical Creativity in the K–12 Classroom

Grades K–12

This workshop is based on the soon-to-be-released book by Amy Burvall and Dan Ryder; published by EdTechTeamPress. *Critical Creativity* is students using creative expression to demonstrate deeper thinking and the nuances of understanding content. When students make connections, transform knowledge, articulate the reason behind their creative choices, learning becomes more sticky, meaningful, and authentic.

Creation reveals comprehension. Our students' increasingly diverse toolbox for expression, both analog and digital, emboldens the creative spirit into a force for authentic understanding, a vehicle for demonstrating proficiency.

This workshop will offer participants an opportunity to practice various activities applicable to any classroom within the following themes: Creating with Words, Sounds, Images, "Stuff", Social Media, the Body, and Others.

WHISTLER CONFERENCE Friday, May 12, 2017 – Whistler Westin Resort

Conference Details & Registration

- Registration includes one PSA membership.
- Coffee/tea to start your day.
- Mid-morning refreshments.
- Lunch is on your own, please take advantage of Whistler's many offerings.

Discount fee available until April 18/higher price applies April 19

- BCTF members \$130/\$150.
- Non-BCTF members, out-of-province, and administrators \$150/\$170.
- TTOCs, student/retired teachers, para-professionals, and SEAs \$70/90.
- Register as a group of three or more and receive 10% off.
- Register in advance online with a credit card; no on-site registration or payment.
- Registration closes May 7, 2017 or when sold out. No wait lists available.
- Refunds are available up to two weeks before the conference – less the cost of a PSA membership. Cancellations within two weeks of the conference will be refunded less membership and \$40 administration fee. Refund requests will be processed by our volunteer registrar as soon as possible following the conference.



We gratefully
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Location & Accommodation

Westin Resort and Spa, Whistler

4090 Whistler Way, Whistler, BC, V0N 1B4

Phone: 604-905-5000 • Hotel Reservations: 866-412-2864

www.westinwhistler.com

reservations@westwhistler.com

Rate code: Provincial Intermediate Teachers Association

Book by April 19, 2017. Room rates are applicable from May 11–13, 2017.

All rooms have kitchenettes and dining areas.

\$149.00 Deluxe Studio Suite

\$199.00 Deluxe Studio Queen Suites

\$229.00 One Bedroom Suite

\$30 for each adult over double occupancy. \$30 per night for parking.

Reservations guaranteed with credit card or advance deposit. Additional taxes apply. Visit www.westinwhistler.com for full details.

Maximize Your Meetings in Whistler

The Westin Resort & Spa, Whistler looks forward to welcoming myPITA in May 2017.

Offering 400 residentially-designed suites, more than 20,000 square feet of flexible meeting space, and revitalizing food and beverage offerings, we ensure meeting attendees can be at their best.

To envision your next meeting or event, email sales@westinwhistler.com or call 604.935.4307.

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