

High School English Language Arts: Professional Learning Cohort

Facilitator(s):	Tannis Niziol, Morgan Coates
Date(s):	<p><i>This is a multi-day event.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 1: Sep 14, 2023 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm) • Day 2: Oct 12, 2023 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm) • Day 3: Nov 09, 2023 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm) • Day 4: Dec 07, 2023 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm) • Day 5: Jan 11, 2024 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm) • Day 6: Feb 08, 2024 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm) • Day 7: Apr 11, 2024 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm) • Day 8: May 09, 2024 (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm)
Cost:	
Location:	Virtual
Session Code:	24-LI-014

Target Audience

Language Arts Teachers 10 - 12

About this Learning Opportunity

Does your assignment for 2023-24 include teaching High School English Language Arts courses? Whether you're a first-year or a seasoned teacher this collaborative online community is for you! Join us as we explore the classroom practices that help to build confident, capable readers and writers. Our monthly conversations will be teacher-driven and responsive to needs and interests as they arise. Here are some of the questions we will be thinking about:

- What are the kinds of text-based questions that push, stretch and support student thinking?
- What formative tasks make visible rigorous thinking and learning?
- How do we address reading stamina and fluency, as well as vocabulary and background knowledge as they impact success on both reading and writing measures?
- How might a student-centred approach to extended text study (i.e. book clubs, writing workshop mode) shift more of the cognitive load to our students?
- How might teachers create routines incorporating personal writing, mentor texts, and mini-lessons to build writers with a more authentic voice who can adapt to various contexts, including the
- Diploma Examinations?
- How do we teach form without teaching formula?
- How might the best practices in feedback and assessment be better understood/applied so as to

About the Facilitator(s)

Tannis Niziol

Tannis is currently supporting Alberta teachers as a Professional Learning Facilitator with the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium. She recently served as a curriculum consultant for the Edmonton Catholic School Division. Throughout her 30-year career as an educator, in both Edmonton and Winnipeg, Tannis remains passionate about teaching and learning, and the need for explicit literacy apprenticeship at all levels in all subject areas. Tannis is a voracious reader who believes all students deserve access to rich, diverse reading experiences and to a safe equitable space to talk about what they see, hear, think and feel. She is on a journey to disrupt and bring clarity to the conversations that drive our planning and assessment practice.

Morgan Coates

Morgan is currently supporting teachers in his role as a Secondary Literacy Consultant with Elk Island Public Schools. Prior to that, he worked in a variety of rural and urban school divisions across Alberta as a high school English teacher and department head. Morgan has always been on the lookout for new and engaging texts that help

push writers toward the standard of excellence?

foster critical thinking and writing opportunities for students. Whether it's film, multimodal texts, concept albums, or podcasts – the ever-changing landscape of what defines a literary text is changing, and he feels very strongly that we should provide our students to a variety of readings that help spark their creativity and help foster empathy.

Aside from that, Morgan lives his best life in Sherwood Park with his wife, Becca, and their three elementary aged children.