

BRIGHT...BUT CAN'T WRITE!

A PRESENTATION FOR TEACHERS WHO:

- Teach grade 3-8
- Are frustrated with the low writing output of capable students, especially boys
- Wonder why some students struggle to write
- Worry about the literacy statistics

Every teacher knows students who are bright, perhaps gifted, and verbally articulate but cannot string more than a couple of sentences together. You also know that many are boys. Why do they struggle? How you can improve their written work against the performance standards?

TEACHERS WILL LEARN:

- The visual-spatial profile of bright learners
- The implications of the latest brain research
- Gender differences related to writing
- Evidence-based tools to overcome the obstacles
- How to improve the attitude/skills of reluctant writers
- New assessment approaches

Presented jointly by Murray Peters (SD 43's Gifted Education Resource) and Julie Ferguson (a professional writer), this two hour workshop brings teachers brain- and evidence-based strategies to improve writing output that will empower even the most reluctant writer to write. With a lively PowerPoint presentation, interactive techniques, and fun exercises, discover essential tools, powerful insights and practical strategies that are immediately applicable and sure to improve the attitude and skills of kids who are bright, but can't write.



*"Loved the guided visualization activity and the info on how male brains work."
"Great visuals and handout." "Excellent, passionate speaker."
"Very well presented, creative, and easily implemented."*

The Literacy Continuum conferences, 2005 & 2006

"...useful strategies to help me integrate students' writing skills with science units."

"Breaks the conventional myths about intelligence and writing. Great ideas to engage children in their writing."

Pro-d conference, SD 42 (Maple Ridge BC) April 06

***Bright...but Can't Write!* is suitable for presentation to elementary and middle school teachers and parents at individual schools or to professional development conferences.**



So far, **Julie H. Ferguson** has changed the way over 2,000 teachers approach creative writing and the way hundreds of students actually write. Her mission: to improve the literacy statistics in Canada, one kid at a time.

A working writer for 35 years, Julie is the author of *Writing with Power: Proven Tools and Tips for Your Classroom* and seven other non-fiction books; her latest is *Sing a New Song* (Dundurn 2006). Not only is Julie a successful author, she is also an accomplished speaker and trainer who earned her professional speaking designation in 2000. During the last nine years, many of western Canada's school districts have invited Julie back time and again to present at their professional development events and to lead lively, fun workshops for their gifted, regular, and special needs students. She also delights in inspiring Aboriginal students and boys-only English classes to improve their writing.

Julie is a proud member of the Federation of BC Writers and formerly of the **Canadian Association of Professional Speakers.**



As Coquitlam's (SD43) school district's Gifted Education Resource, **Murray Peters** serves K-12 gifted students, their teachers, and their parents. Intensely interested in enabling this group to succeed since 1991, he made gifted education the focus of his Master's degree from SFU in 1998. Murray's mission is to equip teachers of all grades to challenge and engage their gifted students in both regular classrooms and pull-out programs. His extensive experience in this field and in presenting workshops ensures teachers receive current knowledge and practical information in every session. Murray is a member of the Lower Mainland Gifted Contacts and the Association of Educators of Gifted, Talented, and Creative Children in BC.

To book *Bright...but Can't Write* for your next Pro-D event, please call or email:

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