

SECONDARY ELA NEWSLETTER

March 2023

Hello, Secondary ELA Colleagues!

During Friday's Standards & Assessment Committee meeting, the committee decided to hold a special meeting to work through the committee members' amendments of the ELA Standards. I do not yet know the date/time of this special meeting but will do so when I know.

If you will be at the UCET Conference this week, I hope you stop me and say "hello." And whew! It's feeling like springtime and that always gives me a burst of energy!

Naomi

I'M CURRENTLY ENJOYING:

- [*Night Sky with Exit Wounds*](#) by Ocean Vuong
- [*Shrinking*](#) on Apple TV+
- [*The Right to Read*](#) (see opportunity below)



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

- [Utah Women Making History](#)
- [Roundup of women's history resources](#)
- [Resources from PBS Learning Media](#)
- [Women and Leadership Resources from UEN](#)
- [Resources from Discovery Education](#)

THE RIGHT TO READ FILM SCREENING

March 15th | 7:00 PM | Rose Wagner Theater in Salt Lake City
Join Utah Film Center for a film screening of the newly premiered, *The Right to Read*. The film follows Oakland NAACP activist, Kareem Weaver, who believes literacy is our most important civil right. Parents and advocates work to increase literacy rates throughout the country.

Afterwards KUER's Radiowest host, Doug Fabrizio, hosts a lively discussion with film director, Jenny Mackenzie.

[Get tickets HERE!](#)



Celebrating Women Who Share Our Stories

● Mae Timbimboo Parry

Mae Timbimboo Parry's grandson, Darren Parry, will speak about her legacy as a historian, storyteller, and memory keeper for the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation in this Women's History Month event.



WEDNESDAY
12:00 pm
03.15.23

Free Virtual Event

[CLICK HERE](#)



Women's
History
Month MARCH 2023

Celebrating Women Who Share Our Stories



● Katie Nelson



● Brooke Smart

Meet the Author and Illustrator!

South Jordan Library Meeting Room

[CLICK HERE](#)

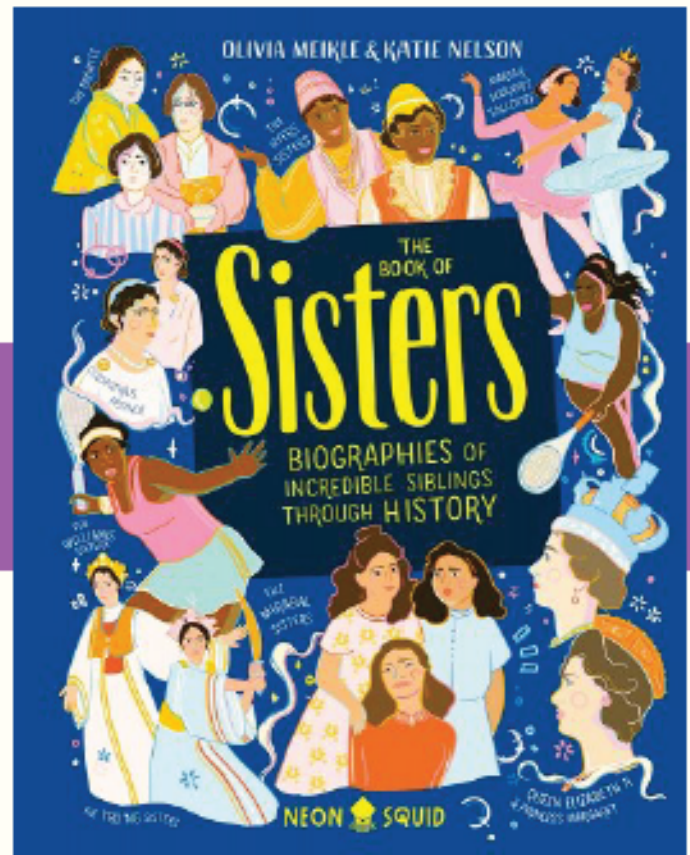
Come hear Katie Nelson and Brooke Smart share stories from *The Book of Sisters: Biographies of Incredible Siblings Throughout History* and discuss their work sharing women's history.

SATURDAY
1:30 pm
03.18.23

Free to all with art activities and snacks!

Women's History Month

MARCH 2023





REPEAT OFFERING
LET'S TALK!
**CREATING CONDITIONS FOR CIVIL
DIALOGUE IN OUR SCHOOLS**

Join colleagues across all academic disciplines in an engaging and outcomes-based professional learning experience. Learn and practice strategies to foster productive civil dialogue in our classrooms and school communities. This learning model will allow you to share and teach these strategies to your colleagues.

SELECT ONE HALF-DAY SESSION

Thursday, June 15
Granite School District
8:00am - 11:30am
OR
12:30 - 4:00pm

REGISTER 

LET'S TALK!

CREATING CONDITIONS FOR CIVIL DIALOGUE IN OUR SCHOOLS

OUR FACILITATOR



MARY ELLEN DANEELS

Mary Ellen Daneels is a National Board Certified teacher who taught at West Chicago Community High School for 27 years. She serves as the Director of the Illinois Civics Hub and Illinois Democracy School Network, leading efforts to support civic learning across disciplines.

She has been recognized as the Law-related Educator of the Year from the Constitutional Rights Foundation of Chicago, Teacher of the Year by the 19th District of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and American Civic Education Teacher from the Center for Civic Education and the Illinois Education Association Teacher of the Year.

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Educator Spotlight

Kareen Patterson
Mueller Park Jr. High
Davis School District



- ✓ 21 years teaching -- currently teaching 7th grade English
- ✓ Favorite Book: *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir
- ✓ Enjoys reading, hiking, playing the piano, playing with grandkids (and chocolate never hurts!)

A RECENT INSPIRING TEACHING MOMENT

My students researched entomology, wrote essays about whether we should eat bugs, and designed products made from bugs (Hoppers Crunchy Pasta, etc.). One of our parents (a director of Utah's Chapter of the United Nations) selected and displayed 15 student entomology essays at a United Nations Convention held in Utah. The students were thrilled to be part of the conversation about making the world a better, healthier place to live.



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SECONDARY LITERACY DIRECTOR MEETINGS

March 21, 1-3pm | virtual -- We'll be discussing writing instruction & Chat GPT

message brenda.mcmurtrey@schools.utah.gov for an invite

EVIDENCE-BASED SECONDARY LITERACY PRACTICES or "THE SCIENCE OF READING FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS"

These 3 reports from the What Works Clearinghouse outline and detail recommendations based on empirical evidence, so yes, we do have a "Science of Reading" in the secondary space:

- [Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom & Intervention Practices](#)
- [Providing Reading Interventions for Students in Grades 4-9](#)
- [Teaching Secondary Students to Write Effectively](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Naomi Watkins
Secondary ELA Specialist
Utah State Board of Education
naomi.watkins@schools.utah.gov



Utah Rural Schools Association

2023 CONFERENCE JULY 12-14 IN PRICE

Registration Will Open March 1, 2023

The conference provides hands on and break-out sessions that will focus on insights and interventions with strategies to close any learning loss associated with the effects of COVID-19. There will be sessions focused on strengthening mental and behavioral health supports, social and emotional supports, grading practices, literacy best practices, strengthened the guaranteed curriculum at each school, and developing a culture of investment.



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ARTSRAGEOUS ONLINE

ARTrageous Online! supports core curriculum learning for 7-12th grade students by introducing students to passionate and accomplished "thought leaders" in our community. They are artists, scientists, authors, activists, mathematicians, engineers, teachers, and creatives who have ideas and experience worth sharing. Vibrant video presentations, activities, and lesson plans support arts integration in English, Science, and Social Studies.



10TH ANNUAL LITERACY CONFERENCE

Free virtual conference on **Saturday, March 25th** hosted by Sacred Heart University -- includes some secondary-focused sessions.

REGISTER



RECENT ARTICLES

- ["It Works!" And Other Myths about the Science of Reading Era](#) by Tim Shanahan
- [Report from Education Week on Student Motivation & Engagement](#)

**Please note: LEAs have the duty to select instructional materials that best correlate to the core standards for Utah public schools and graduation requirements. (UCA 53G-4-402(1(a))). Posting of these resources by USBE staff curriculum content specialists does not imply the resources have received official endorsement of the State Board. Educators are responsible to ensure use of these materials complies with LEA policies and directives.

myShakespeare™
Love to learn it.

myShakespeare provides media-rich, full-text editions of Shakespeare's plays for free. Some key features:

- Interviews with the characters illuminate themes and ignite discussion
- Performances of key scenes bring Shakespeare's language to life
- Animated videos explore the plays and their contexts
- Complete audio recordings emphasize clarity and comprehension.

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THE NEWS LITERACY PROJECT RESOURCES

The [News Literacy Project](#), a nonpartisan national education nonprofit, provides programs and resources to help people of all ages become smart, active information consumers and equal and engaged participants in a democracy. The misinformation crisis requires a bold response, and NLP is meeting the moment by transforming its mission into a national movement to advance news literacy. Founded in 2008, NLP is the leading provider of news literacy education through its signature free e-learning platform [Checkology](#)® virtual classroom and other resources. NLP works with thousands of educators in all 50 states and more than 100 other countries.

[Checkology](#), NLP's industry leading, browser-based platform, includes nearly 20 lessons plus dozens of additional exercises and challenges that help students learn how to navigate today's challenging information landscape. NLP's [Checkology](#) lessons are aligned to Common Core literacy standards, social studies standards, NGSS, ISTE student standards and the C3 Framework. They gain the skills to identify credible information, seek out reliable sources, recognize misinformation and help stop its spread. The middle and high school cross-curricular lessons also provide an understanding of the role of the free press and the first Amendment in our democracy. [Checkology](#) features a directory of vetted journalists in the Newsroom to Classroom program who can speak with students, virtually or in-person. And its Check Center allows students to detect and debunk misinformation as they encounter it.



TUMBLEWEEDS FILM FESTIVAL FOR KIDS FIELD TRIPS & WORKSHOPS

April 22-23 at Viridian Event Center in West Jordan

This two-day festival will include interactive and enriching workshops taught by professionals in the film industry and free hands-on activities, crafts, and experiences for the whole family! This year features 20 films that bring you stories set in space, on land, and in other worlds that peek at the imagination and adventurous minds of viewers of all ages. Includes both in-person and virtual screenings.

- [Information about free field trips to the festival](#)
- [Workshops for kids on podcasting, filmmaking, animation, screenwriting, etc](#)

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The Book Love Foundation seeks teachers who demonstrate a passion for promoting a hunger for books. These teachers recognize the diversity of every class of readers, and they challenge each student to build an independent reading life of increasing depth and joy. Teachers who apply for a Book Love Foundation grant must demonstrate that they are already committed to the support of readers through current classroom practices such as maintaining access to a range of books, conferring regularly and purposefully to understand and support students' changing needs, and sharing their own contagious passion for reading inside and outside of their classroom.

Read about the [requirements](#) for a grant, and then apply for either a classroom library or book clubs.



[NPR's Student Podcast Challenge](#) is back – for a fifth year! Beginning in January and running through April, NPR will once again be hearing from thousands of student podcasters, all competing for their grand prizes and a chance to hear their stories on NPR.

This year's Student Podcast Challenge will **open for entries on January 6, 2023 and close on April 28**. As in past years, the NPR judges will choose winners in two categories: grades five through eight and grades nine through 12. Entries must be submitted by an educator or a student leader who's 18 years old or older.



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GREAT SALT LAKE COLLABORATIVE

The Great Salt Lake is one of the dominant topics of discussion at the 2023 Legislature because the lake has shrunk to the lowest levels ever recorded — which affects our air quality, snowpack and ecosystem.

Here are potential ways you can incorporate what is happening to the lake — and what policy makers are doing about it — in your classrooms.

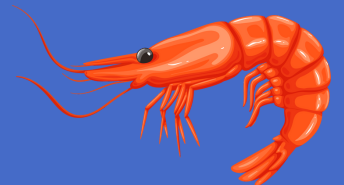
This website —greatsaltlakenews.org— collects all of the latest news about Great Salt Lake. There are no paywalls or advertisements. It is run by the Great Salt Lake Collaborative, which combines the resources and reach of Utah’s top newsrooms that have put aside traditional competition to work together to cover Great Salt Lake.

The site includes 250 and counting articles about the lake, covering topics including agriculture, air quality, bird migration and water conservation. You can find:

- A time lapse of the lake shrinking
- A video library of lake experts talking about what is happening at the lake and potential solutions
- A handy Q/A section
- A project called “Lake Effect” that collects audio stories about the lake.

The Collaborative also has a YouTube channel with recordings of panel discussions with experts and advocates about the lake.

For more information, contact Project Manager Heather May at info@greatsaltlakenews.org



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ABOUT

StoryMaker is a free learning platform powered by PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs. It's your one-stop shop for projects, tutorials, and lesson plans connected to media making, digital journalism, and public broadcasting. Features include:

- a personalized dashboard to save your favorite resources,
- an educator directory to connect to like-minded educators and mentors, and
- a robust library chock full of activities, videos, and worksheets.

Our standards-based curriculum develops communication skills, critical thinking, and teamwork, and provides a strong foundation of storytelling skills to help students discover their place in the world.

BEGIN YOUR STORYTELLING JOURNEY

Youth media empowers students to use their voice, engage with people outside of school walls, discover new ideas and tell important stories. StoryMaker provides not only the resources, but pathways to do through a variety of tracks:

- Teach Media Literacy Skills
- Increase Civic Engagement
- Explore Science Journalism + STEM
- Experiment with Storytelling Formats
- Activate + Amplify Student Voice
- Motivate with Culturally Responsive Projects
- Start a Broadcast Curriculum

For more info visit: <https://story-maker.org/getting-started>

2022-23 PROMPTS, LESSONS, PROJECTS & CHALLENGES

SRL releases new projects, prompts, lessons and rapid responses as current events unfold. Check StoryMaker regularly as additional prompts will be published, including connections to Ken Burns' U.S. + The Holocaust and Making Black America. For more info visit: <https://story-maker.org/library>

