

## Vicksburg Community Schools K-5 Writing Proposal

### Proposal Background & Overview:

The elementary staff continually works to insure our curriculum is up to date and aligned to the Common Core State Standards. We strive to use the most effective, research based teaching practices.

The District Writing Committee formed in 2011. Our goal was to insure that Vicksburg Community Schools' writing curriculum aligned in grades K-12, and common instructional practices were set in place. A first step in the curriculum planning process was identifying our needs, based on MEAP data. MEAP data continues to indicate that writing is an area of need at the elementary level. The district was lacking a consistent structure for teaching writing, and most importantly scaffolding the writing process across grade levels.

The committee reviewed several writing programs, and concluded that Being a Writer aligned with our current ELA programs for reading and vocabulary which were also developed by the Developmental Studies Center. This year long program combines two decades of research-based practices in the areas of writing and social development. Being a Writer is currently used in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Vicksburg Middle School, and adopting this program would provide the consistency that is currently lacking in our district writing curriculum.

A semester piloting process was developed using Being a Writer in grades K-5. Each elementary building had six teachers, one at each grade level, represented for this piloting process. Each piloting teacher was given an opportunity to share their instructional experiences during a half day meeting. Teachers indicated that the Being a Writer program was well-organized, teacher friendly and easy to follow. The program provides teachers with many instructional strategies and opportunities to develop the writing skills of students who are at various ability levels.

### **Complete Description of Proposed Change(s):**

All teachers in grades K-5 will use Being a Writer Units during their Writing Block. Teachers in grades 3-5 will additionally integrate a designated component which aligns with their grade level. Being a Writer will be taught 4 days a week, and day 5 will focus on the current writing genre. There are also several writing components to support grades 3-5 throughout the year, as indicated below.

Purchase Being a Writer for K-5 teachers:

- Kindergarten: 6 kits
- First Grade: 8 kits
- Second Grade: 9 kits
- Third Grade: 7 kits/Letter Writing and Test Taking Genre Components
- Fourth Grade: 7 kits/Expository Writing and Test Taking Genre Components
- Fifth Grade: 7 kits/Expository Writing Functional Writing Components

Professional Development

- Fall 2012—1 day

**Anticipated/Expected Impact:**

The expectations and impact on student learning include the following:

- Consistent core writing instruction in grades K-5 at all elementary buildings
- Improved MEAP scores in the area of Writing
- Clear expectations for teachers with teaching practices outlined in the district ELA Pacing Guide

**Proposal Evaluation Plan and Student Achievement:**

- Winter and Spring 2013 District Writing Assessment
- 2013 Fourth Grade MEAP Writing Assessment
- Unit Assessments administered by teachers
- Student Writing samples included as part of elementary bi-weekly data meetings
- Academic Coach walk- throughs and data collection
- Building administrator walk-throughs and data collection

<b>Grade K-5 Pkg.</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11,550.00</b>
<b>Grade K Pkg. w/whiteboards</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,590.00</b>
<b>Grade 1 Pkg. w/white boards</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3,175.00</b>
<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3,960.00</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2,800.00</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,020.00</b>
<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,020.00</b>
<b>Grade 3 Genre Unit Pkg.</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>665.00</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>665.00</b>
<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>665.00</b>
<b>Preparing for a Test Unit</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>700.00</b>
<b>Kindergarten Dry-erase</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>270.00</b>
<b>Grade K-5 CD Rom for Rep.</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>160.00</b>
<b>Consulting Being a Writer (Complimentary)</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>K-5 Teachers</b>	<b>0</b>
			<b>32,240.00</b>
	<b>Shipping</b>		<b>1,225.20</b>
			<b>33,465.20</b>

**Implementation Plan:**

Being a Writer will be fully implemented during the 2012-2013.

- K-12 Writing Committee formed Spring of 2011
- Alignment of K-12 writing in VCS, Spring of 2011
- Program review based on VCS Balanced Literacy Philosophy and Common Core State Standards, Summer of 2011
- Pilot of Being a Writer, Fall of 2011
- Decision making meeting and protocol, February of 2012
- Being a Writer pacing guide development, Spring and Fall of 2012
- *Purchase Being a Writer*, Summer of 2012
- Professional Development in Being a Writer, Fall of 2012
- List of non-negotiables during the implementation of Being a Writer, Fall of 2012
- Academic Coach monitoring of each buildings implementation based on unit assessments, along with data collection and sharing with building principals and Instructional Consultants, 2012-2013.

**Developmental Studies Center**

2000 Embarcadero, Suite 305, Oakland, CA 94606-5300 • 510-533-0213

**Quote**

28467

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Quote #	Quote Date	Tax Code	Account Manager	Your PO	Requested By
28467	03/29/12		arlene Malkin & Susan Whitn		

Part Number / Memo	Product Name	um	Quantity	Sell	Extended	Tx
BW-CPK5-REV * Pilot materials already shipped	BW Gr. K-5 Class Pkg, rev. ed.	Each	3.00	3,850.00	\$11,550.00	X
BW-DEPKG	Dry-Erase Boards/Marker Pkg	Each	3.00	90.00	\$270.00	X

Special Instructions  
 \*\*\*Please note this quote will be honored within 90 days of quote issue date towards one purchase order shipping to one site. Please refer to Quote ID# on purchase order to expedite processing and avoid duplication. A minimum handling fee of 4% will apply if we use your shipping account #.

Total Before Tax	Sales Tax	S&H	Quotation Total
<b>\$11,820.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$11,820.00</b>
			<i>Balance Due: 00/00/06</i>

VICK00

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28468	03/29/12		arlene Malkin & Susan Whitn		

Part Number / Memo	Product Name	um	Quantity	Sell	Extended	Tx
BW-CPK-REV	BW Gr. K Class Pkg, rev. ed., w/Boards	Each	3.00	530.00	\$1,590.00	X
BW-CP1-REV	BW Gr. 1 Class Pkg, rev. ed., w/Boards	Each	5.00	635.00	\$3,175.00	X
BW-CP2	BW Gr. 2 Class Pkg	Each	6.00	660.00	\$3,960.00	X
BW-CP3	BW Gr. 3 Class Pkg	Each	4.00	700.00	\$2,800.00	X
BW-CP4	BW Gr. 4 Class Pkg	Each	4.00	755.00	\$3,020.00	X
BW-CP5	BW Gr. 5 Class Pkg	Each	4.00	755.00	\$3,020.00	X
BWA-GUP3-1	BWA Gr. 3 Genre Unit Pkg	Each	7.00	95.00	\$665.00	X
BWA-GUP4-1	BWA Gr. 4 Genre Unit Pkg	Each	7.00	95.00	\$665.00	X
BWA-GUP5-1	BWA Gr. 5 Genre Unit Pkg	Each	7.00	95.00	\$665.00	X
BWA-PWT35	BWA Preparing for Test Unit	Each	14.00	50.00	\$700.00	X
BW-CDR2	BW Gr. 2 CD-ROM	Each	1.00	40.00	\$40.00	X
BW-CDR3	BW Gr. 3 CD-ROM	Each	1.00	40.00	\$40.00	X
BW-CDR4	BW Gr. 4 CD-ROM	Each	1.00	40.00	\$40.00	X
BW-CDR5	BW Gr. 5 CD-ROM	Each	1.00	40.00	\$40.00	X

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\*\*\*Purchases over \$25,000 in DSC core programs (before shipping, not including libraries) qualify for one free day of Professional Development. Staff development sessions may also be purchased for daily rate (40 people max.) of \$2,600 per day for one trainer.

Total Before Tax	Sales Tax	S&H	Quotation Total
\$20,420.00	0.00	\$1,225.20	\$21,645.20
			Balance Due: 00/00/00

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Part Number / Memo	Product Name	um	Quantity	Sell	Extended	Tx
CONSULT-BW	Consult Being a Writer	Each	1.00			
*Please note: This training is complimentary. the value of Professional Development is \$2600/day						

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