

The background is a watercolor-style illustration of a library. It features several rows of bookshelves filled with books of various colors (blue, green, yellow, orange, brown). A paintbrush with a blue handle and a brown tip is visible on the right side, appearing to have just finished painting the scene. The text is overlaid on a light blue rounded rectangle in the center.

NCTE - NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

Denver Conference 2025

INTRODUCTION

DREAM BOLDLY 
DENVER 2025
ANNUAL CONVENTION
NOVEMBER 20-23



NCTE OVERVIEW

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Conference is a premier annual gathering for English Language Arts educators. It offers research-based workshops, inspiring keynote speakers, and practical strategies to strengthen literacy instruction. Teachers connect with national leaders in education, explore innovative classroom practices, and collaborate with colleagues to enhance student learning.



SESSIONS

- Hathaway's Sessions- DBI, And Then I Woke Up: Strategies for Sustaining a Joyful Writing Community, AI in Language Arts: An Authentic Conversation, So, You Wanna Host an Author Visit?, Author Roundtables,
- Fisher's Sessions- DBI with Boise State Writing Project; Design Thinking; Implementing Holocaust Texts; From Oppression to Liberation- teaching WWII texts; AI Storytelling and Writing; Books Lead the Way; Boldly Disrupting the 5 Paragraph Essay; Storytelling; and, Places of Change.
- Narver's Sessions- BSNWP DBI Workshop, ELA Dept. Chairs Facing Tough Topics Together, Eight Great Classics Boldly Reimagined, Keynote Session with Percival Everett, General Session with Mychael Threets, Why Being Wrong Is Right: Using Discourse-Based Strategies to Let Students Dream, Co-Creating Writer's Notebooks and Levering Sketchnotes to Guide imaginative Thinking, Dreams Are Made of Stories: Children's Book Authors and Ed. Leaders on Why Story Is the Heartbeat of Literacy, But They Won't Talk: Strategies for Building Student Automaticity in Classroom Conversations



SESSIONS

- Scheel's Session highlights- General Sessions: Percival Everett (American Pulitzer Prize-winning writer); Mychal Threets (librarian influencer & PBS Reading Rainbow host); The Democratic Dream: Document-Based Inquiries (DBIs) to Promote Critical Literacies and the Dispositions of Democracy (BSU Writing Project); Not Your Granny's Grammar; Author Roundtable; PBS News Student Reporting Labs; Co-creating Fun Yet Rigorous Assessments with Our Students; AI in the English Classroom: A Skeptic's Approach; "The Librarians" Book Policy Documentary; Fighting Fake News in the Age of AI
- Henggeler's Sessions- Fostering an Affirming and Inspiring Culture of Reading: How to Welcome and Engage Readers in Your Classroom, So, You Wanna Host an Author Visit?, Creating a Culture of Reading through Read Alouds, Author Roundtables GALORE!



LEARNINGS

We are doing “good stuff!” Hearing, and seeing, all the “things” we are already doing builds confidence!

Facilitate learning in a way that fosters joy in the classroom.

AI proof assignments/assessing the process of writing more than the outcome. Students are apprentices not masters.



APPLICATION TO TEACHING

- Workshops on student-centered writing and reading engagement methods.
- Sessions on using diverse texts (graphic novels, YA literature, social justice contexts).
- Ideas for integrating media literacy and digital tools.
- Teachers can discover new, high-interest texts to recommend to students.
- Hearing from authors enhances how teachers frame literature discussions, writing units, and reading communities in their schools.
- These experiences often spark new energy and ideas for the school year ahead.

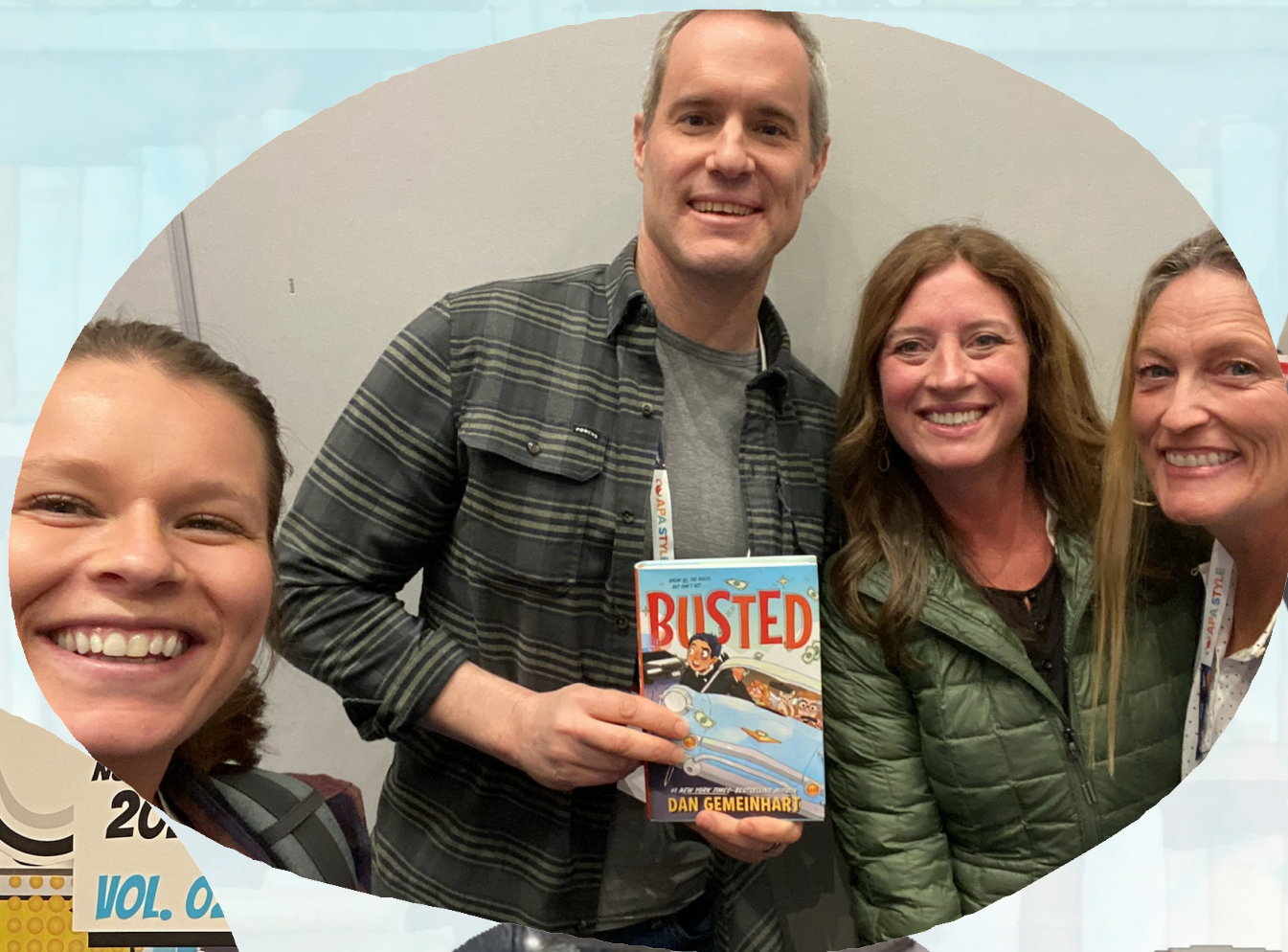


COLLABORATION

- Shared learning creates shared vision: When middle and high school ELA content teams attend NCTE together, they build a common understanding of instructional best practices, literacy trends, and priorities, making it easier to implement changes consistently across classrooms and grade levels.
- Stronger collaboration back at school: Experiencing sessions as a team allows teachers to immediately discuss ideas, reflect together, and plan next steps, increasing the likelihood that new strategies will be adopted and sustained rather than remaining isolated practices.
- Improved alignment and collective impact: Attending training together supports vertical and horizontal alignment within the ELA department, helping content teams coordinate curriculum, expectations, and assessments to better support student growth from middle school through high school.



PHOTOGRAPHIC PROOF



GRATTITUDE FOR THE OPPORTUNITY

Word Vomit: Investing in teachers, passion for content, synergy, team building, networking,

We want to express our sincere gratitude to the school board for supporting our ELA team's attendance at the NCTE Conference in Denver this year. When the district invests in opportunities that nourish teachers' passion for their content, it reminds us that our work is valued and appreciated. The conference energized our team, strengthened our collaboration, and inspired new ideas. We now have real momentum to bring unique and meaningful learning experiences to McCall-Donnelly students.





THANK YOU!

Annie Narver, Heather
Scheel, Mandy Hathaway,
Jacquelyn Henggeler,
& Courtney Fisher