



Coaching update

We are still in the thick of coaching in all three counties this spring!

Please check our [coaching calendar](#) to see all of the opportunities currently available. Coordinator Kat also sent out an email last week detailing all of the sessions we are still trying to fill. If your availability allows, this would be a wonderful opportunity to help us fulfill these needs. We appreciate you!

We were delighted to offer coaching sessions at Washington Middle School last week, where 8th grade students were constructing essays around the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Moving forward this month, we will be at Whitefish Middle School, Hamilton High School, Target Range Middle School, Big Sky High School, and Columbia Falls High School. We have a plethora of diverse locations (online and in-person), so we hope to see all of you soon!

As Emily Dickinson writes:

"March is the Month of Expectation.

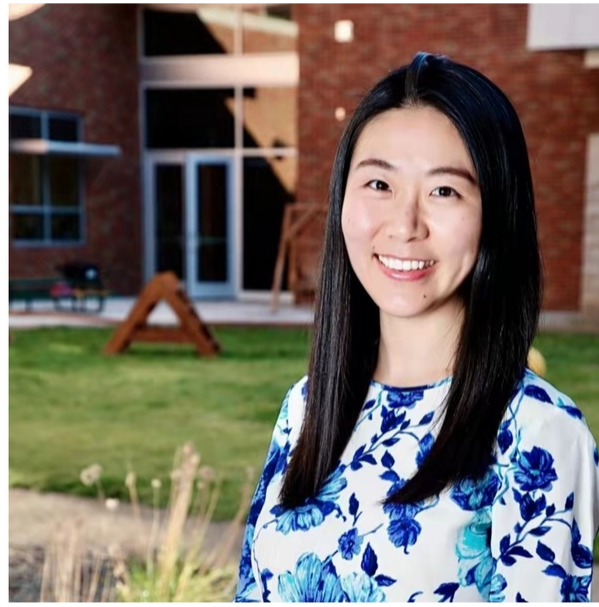
The things we do not know -

The Persons of prognostication

Are coming now."

Let us welcome this new month with fervent joy and volunteerism!

Pictured below: Coaches worked with all 8th graders on a To Kill a Mockingbird assignment at Washington Middle School earlier this month.



Professor Sun: elementary to high school developmental stages volunteer meet-up

On **March 31st from 4-5pm** we are thrilled to announce that our volunteer meet-up will be led by Dr. Jingjing Sun, Associate Professor of Educational

Psychology at the University of Montana. This discussion will expose coaches to the different developmental stages of learning, and how that affects the way we approach coaching. Our goal is to have coaches walk away with a newfound understanding and excitement for the work we do.

We had such incredible engagement at our meet-up last month, and we look forward to seeing you all again this month. Dr. Sun is taking time out of her day to join us – as are you – and we want to show our appreciation for that time with participation. So, please come ready to learn!

Remember: All of our volunteer meet-ups are also places to ask questions about coaching or other aspects of WCM.

If you're interested in attending, please **email Shasta at shasta@writingcoachesofmontana.org to receive an article** which Dr. Sun has provided for coaches to read in advance. (It's not required, but what a great learning opportunity!) Folks can also **send Shasta questions in advance which she will share with Dr. Sun.**

Click [here](#) to learn more about Dr. Jingjing Sun's research interests!

WCM pilot study

Big things are on the horizon for WCM! Our goal is to provide evidence-based resources to improve literacy for all students in Montana, and we are pleased to announce a new research collaboration designed to measure the impact of what we do and improve our approach moving forward. Alongside Missoula County Public Schools, we are partnering with Dr. Stephanie Reid (*below right*) of the UM College of Education and Dr. Beverly Chin (*below left*), English Teaching Director at the UM English Department, to conduct an initial study this spring. This pilot study will inform a full-year study of all MCPS 8th graders during 2022-2023, collecting data on how effective coaching is for student literacy development.



Strategic planning goals--thank you for your input!

We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who participated in our strategic planning surveys. Your input helped an organization-wide strategic planning workshop in late February, and is being incorporated into our ongoing efforts to improve our practices, and provide needed services to the Montanans with whom we partner. Thank you!

Thank you for the coffee donations!

And finally, a big shout-out to Big Creek Coffee Roasters and Montana Coffee Traders! Both Montana-based companies donated gift certificates to coaches and teachers. We could not be more grateful for their support.

We encourage you to patronize these generous small businesses. Head down and grab yourself a hot cup of coffee this week!



Big Creek
COFFEE ROASTERS



EST. 1981

With gratitude,
The WCM Team

www.writingcoachesofmontana.org

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove®

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

PO Box 7592

Misoula, MT | 59807 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.