



## Welcome to the 2021-22 School Year!

Hello WCM coaches and supporters,

After last year's successful online coaching program was established, we are delighted to return to in-person and online coaching this year. We are thrilled to coach in the following schools:

- Missoula County Public Schools (all 8th graders)
- Big Sky High School
- Sentinel High School
- Corvallis High School (all juniors and seniors in English & Social Studies)
- Hamilton High School
- Muldown Elementary School
- Whitefish Middle School
- Whitefish High School
- And we're in talks with Florence-Carlton, Evergreen, Columbia Falls, and Willard High School. Hopefully we commit with them soon.

If you are considering returning as a coach or becoming a coach for the first time, please contact Executive Director Cassie Sheets at [cassie@writingcoachesofmontana.org](mailto:cassie@writingcoachesofmontana.org).

**We need to rebuild our volunteer pool in order to meet the needs of our school partners and support Montana students!**

## New Coach Training--Please help us spread the word!

We are holding a new coach workshop next week. Please register below if you'd like to become a coach, or share with friends who might be interested. As schools increasingly desire to work with us, we need to equally grow our coaching community.

Remember, we don't need writing experts, necessarily. We are looking for supportive community members across diverse backgrounds.

- Online, Wednesday, September 15, 6-8:45pm, [register here](#)

## Welcome to our new Flathead Coordinator!



Flathead Coordinator,  
Jeanne Wdowin

After Rita Braun retired and joined the WCM board in June, we hired Jeanne Wdowin in July. Jeanne retired from public education after spending 39 years as a classroom teacher. She started at the intermediate elementary level and moved to middle school science, math, and teacher of students in English as Second Language (ESL) classes. She holds a Masters plus a Certificate of Advanced Study in Education from NYS, and Arizona endorsements in ESL and middle school ELA. After leaving the classroom, she worked for 6 years as the district assessment specialist in Tempe, Arizona, K-8 District #3, in the Research, Evaluation & Assessment Department. She knows it's important to facilitate students' learning, in order for them to reach their full potential. Currently, and for the past 40 years, she has managed her wood turning artist husband's business, Natural Nook Wooden Vases. She is passionate about all things natural and can be found selling home grown rhubarb and eggs at the local markets; as well as around the county selling waterproof wooden vases at local art festivals.

Read a recent *Whitefish Pilot* article about Jeanne [here](#).

## We have a new website!

We invite you to take a look at our new and very-much improved website, unveiled in August. (We still have the same address: [www.writingcoachesofmontana.org](http://www.writingcoachesofmontana.org)). Here are some of the updated features we're excited to highlight:

- Increased accessibility: an important variable to consider as an educational organization;
- **Public Calendar**: lists new coach training workshops, community educational meet-ups, fundraising events, etc. Visitors can sign up for events directly on the site;
- Coaching Calendar: all trained coaches will be given login information to sign up for coaching sessions directly in this calendar;
- A more streamlined **donation system**: donors can make payments directly on our website, which is more secure and charges fewer administrative costs than our previous service, PayPal;
- **News Articles** page: includes blog posts about our outstanding WCM community members and local press coverage on our services.

## Corporate Sponsorship

After a successful trial run during Missoula and Bitterroot Gives, we are excited to begin an official corporate sponsorship program. We will be reaching out to businesses in Missoula, Ravalli, and Flathead counties to establish relationships, and businesses are welcome to get in touch with us directly instead. In return for financial donations, which supplement the cost of coaching sessions for schools, businesses will be provided with **marketing opportunities on our social media accounts, website, and in our newsletters**. Our top sponsors will also be **interviewed for a profile which highlights how they use literacy skills in their professional lives**.

If you are interested in learning more about how to highlight your business and connect with WCM's mission, please contact Executive Director, Cassie Sheets at ([cassie@writingcoachesofmontana.org](mailto:cassie@writingcoachesofmontana.org)).

In gratitude,  
The WCM Team

[www.writingcoachesofmontana.org](http://www.writingcoachesofmontana.org)

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