



Writing Coaches of montana

“Community Mentors Coaching Young Writers”

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT



www.writingcoachesofmontana.org

Mission: To help Montana students grow as confident, competent writers, WCM mentors students and supports teachers through trained community volunteers.

Vision: We envision all Montana students think critically and communicate effectively through writing.

Values: Collaboration, Community, Lifelong Learning, & Respect

2022-2023 IMPACT

- **3,788 coaching sessions** took place with **3,248 students**, including every 8th grader in Missoula County Public Schools and every 4th grader in Whitefish Public Schools!
- We coached students in grades 4-12.
- We coached in language arts, U.S. government, social studies, media arts, college & career prep, AP, and honors courses.
- We partnered with **16 schools** across three counties. We had **48 teacher partners** with 17 of those being new!
- **200 volunteers gave 1,153 hours of service.** Our coaches engage in lifelong education through volunteer meetups facilitated by expert guest speakers and staff.



Looking Forward

- Coaching for the first time in Helena in fall 2023!
- Conducting research with Missoula County Public Schools
- Helping Missoula County Public Schools develop writing-centered curriculum across content areas
- Partnering with Whitefish Education Foundation to coach scholarship essays

WORDS OF IMPACT



"The writing coach program manages to get volunteers of all ages and from all walks of life; I think that is my favorite part. Watching students share thoughts and words is a visual bridge of a generational gap that isn't really as wide as we may feel. The days we have writing coaches assisting our student writers are some of my favorites of the year."

–Whitefish Middle School teacher (Flathead)

"When working with my writing coach, I recognized the true impact words carry. After sharing my poem, I was told how meaningful my writing was to my coach. This experience contributed to my ability to utilize emotions to enhance the quality of my work. I'm so grateful for the experience of sharing my poetry with a writing coach!"

–Big Sky High School student (Missoula)

"A couple of the students I worked with were struggling to add detail to their writing. It was almost like they were shy about putting colorful language and emotion in writing. When I asked them to just verbally tell me their story, they did so with enthusiasm and tons of description. It was fun for them to see they had the words in their head if they didn't think too hard about 'having' to write."

–Stevensville writing coach (Ravalli)

"I wish you could coach me on every assignment!" – Corvallis High School student (Ravalli)



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COMMUNITY-DRIVEN LITERACY A
REALITY!**