

To: Mike Thomas
From: Kathleen George
RE: Conference funded by TEPS
Date: July 30, 2017

I was very privileged to join three other Clarence teachers at the Strategies for Improving Reading and Writing: What Matters Most conference this summer. The keynote presenters were Kyleen Beers and Bob Probst, authors of several professional books including Notice and Note. They were joined by Linda Rief, Penny Kittle, and author Chris Crutcher. We began each morning in an engaging and inspiring Writer's Workshop with Linda Rief. Her message and methods will surely be carried over into my classroom. Penny Kittle captivated the audience with motivating stories and strategies to move readers in a positive direction. Sharing ways to help students find the right book that sets them on the path to independent reading will be something I can use in my classroom. Kyleen Beers and Bob Probst focused on creating engaged readers with strategies to guide every level of reader to read deeper and reach higher. Their methods and suggestions are easily transferrable to the classroom. I can't speak highly enough about the experiences we had throughout the conference and am grateful that I was able to attend with the support of the TEPS funding.