



## It Starts with Text:

# Helping Students Gain 21st Century Literacy Skills

Literacy skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century call for a significant “raising of the bar” in expectations for success in reading for all students. Major shifts to this level of facility with reading focus literacy development on analytical use and understanding of complex text and in gathering evidence from text, as well as a focus on academic vocabulary and the use of informational text to build knowledge.

### *Presented by Sue Beers*

*Sue Beers* has been a teacher, administrator, professional development director, and consultant. *Sue* currently serves as joint services coordinator for the 15 Iowa-area education agencies and the director of the Mid-Iowa School Improvement Consortium. Her areas of focus are professional development, school improvement planning, effective instructional strategies including differentiated instruction, assessment planning and development, and literacy across the content areas.

*Sue Beers* is the coauthor of the ASCD action tools Reading Strategies for the Content Areas, Volume 1; Reading Strategies for the Content Areas, Volume 2; and Using Writing to Learn Across the Content Areas. *Beers* is also the author of the ASCD action tool Strategies for Designing, Implementing, and Evaluating Professional Development.

Target Audience: Teachers in Grades 4-12

Date: November 20, 2013

Time: 8:30-3:30

Location: ESU #3

Registration Fee: ESU \$49.00  
Non-ESU 3 \$59.00

*Breakfast & Lunch included.*

### **Expected Outcomes:** Participants will...

- Understand the need to have students read texts at increasingly rigorous levels and provide scaffolding to support all students.
- Learn how to help students increase their comprehension of text in order to build knowledge.
- Learn how to create text-based questions that support student understanding of the text.
- Understand the significant shifts in instruction and learning that are foundational to 21<sup>st</sup> century literacy skills and helping students become college and career ready.
- Reflect on how current classroom practice reflects the key shifts in literacy instruction and identify areas of focus for change.
- Discuss and identify instructional tools and strategies to use in making the change to a text-based curriculum.

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