

**Institute for Reading and Writing Instruction:
Developing Social Media Technologies across the Curriculum
April 16, 2010, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Sheridan County School District #2 Administrative Offices
201 North Connor Street, Sheridan, WY 82801
307-674-7405**

Jumpstarting the Discussion: Questions to Generate Ideas

Thanks for registering for the institute! To prepare for the institute's morning discussion, please jot down some responses to the following questions to share out with other participants. We believe that a quick discussion of these questions will help bring out the common trends, successes, and fears that all of us share--across content areas, schools, and teaching levels.

Pedagogical Approaches to Reading and Writing

- Though recent reports about student reading and writing are not encouraging, we know that teachers are doing many things right. What creative strategies, collaborative opportunities, and project-based learning are you already using to both meet standards and address individual learning styles?
- What do you think is *missing* in your pedagogy that could help you more effectively teach reading and writing? If you had your ideal classroom, what would you do differently to promote student reading and writing?

The Rise of Social Media

- What types of social media are you already familiar with? Which types of social media are your students already using?
- What are the attitudes of those in your content area, building, district, and/or local community about popular forms of social media?

Integrating Social Media with Reading Instruction

- What advantages for classroom learning do you think that social media might offer?
- Which content-area standards/objectives do you think you might be able to meet with a social-media-based project?
- How might assessing social-media learning be different from assessing more traditional activities?

Implementing a Social-Media Project in your Classroom

- What strengths, allies, and resources will help you implement a social-media-based project?
- What problems or resistance do you anticipate?

PTSB Credit and Mini-Grants

We have arranged for .5 PTSB renewal credit for the institute. Opportunities for mini-grants (\$250) also will be available to develop a social-media classroom project following the institute.

See you April 16!