

California Private School Advisory Committee, K-12

is pleased to present:

Integrating Critical & Creative Thinking Skills Into Your Primary Curriculum

A Three-Day Workshop for private school teachers and instructional staff, grades K-3

Presented by:

Dodie Merrit, M.A.

March 19 & 20 and April 23, 2013

Stockdale Christian School

4901 California Ave

Bakersfield, CA 93309

About the Workshop:

Looking for activities that inspire critical and creative thinking in your primary K-3 classroom? *Primary Education Thinking Skills* is a flexible, fun, and stimulating approach for teaching these higher level thinking skills. This interactive workshop will include hands-on activities and lots of discussion. Come brainstorm, solve mysteries, and make criterion-based choices today – and spark higher level thinking in your classroom tomorrow!

On Days 1 and 2, you will work with a cadre of six “thinking specialists” to explore divergent, convergent, evaluative, and visual problem solving strategies appropriate for primary students through a series of whole class and small group activities. Working in grade level groups, you will align these strategies with elements of your curriculum to make metacognition engagingly student-friendly. On Day 3, we will discuss your experiences field-testing these activities, sharing successes and ideas. Then you will focus on integrating a variety of higher level thinking and questioning strategies into class lessons of your choice that support a firm foundation for successful reading, writing, and learning in your students.

Each participant will receive a workshop packet along with the *Primary Education Thinking Skills* book which include/s complete lesson plans and reproducible student materials on CD's.

(IMPORTANT- *be sure to indicate grade level on registration form.*)

Workshop topics include:

- The importance of teaching critical & creative thinking skills in 21st century classrooms
- Aligning critical & creative thinking skills with the Common Core State Standards
- An overview of the *Primary Education Thinking Skills (PETS™)* program for K-3 students
- Using divergent, convergent, evaluative, and visual thinking skills to solve problems
- Aligning elements of your curriculum with these problem-solving strategies
- Discussing and analyzing classroom experiences field-testing *PETS™* activities
- Reviewing Bloom's Taxonomy as a framework for integrating differentiated levels of questioning and activities into your curriculum
- Exploring different types of questioning, what is meant by questioning etiquette, and the significance of questioning time zones
- Developing implementation plans for infusing higher level activities and questioning strategies into class lesson plans of your choice

About the Presenter:

Dodie Merritt has been working in the field of education for over 35 years, teaching at the primary, secondary, and university levels with a focus on gifted education. She is renowned for her development of the *Primary Education Thinking Skills* series, used in classrooms across the country. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Mount Holyoke College, her teacher certification from Northern Illinois University, and her Masters Degree in Teaching and Leadership from St. Xavier University.

As an educational consultant, Dodie has presented at the national, state, and local levels throughout the United States on a wide range of topics, including curriculum differentiation, assessment, higher level thinking and questioning strategies, and gifted education. She has led the development and implementation of elementary enrichment programs for students. She also authored of *Independent Study: Where Creative Minds Expand* for older primary students as well as co-authoring of other educational materials published by Pieces of Learning. Dodie is an energetic, popular presenter who connects with teachers and communicates effectively with her audience.

REGISTRATION FORM FOR 3-DAY "INTEGRATING CRITICAL & CREATIVE THINKING" – Bakersfield

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE AND COMPLETE ALL ITEMS,

Please register the people below, add a separate list if necessary. To qualify as a participant, you must commit to all days, be an educator in a nonprofit, private school, and submit a completed registration form with payment.

Name _____ Grade _____ Email _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Email _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Email _____

School _____ Phone(_____) _____

School Address _____

School City _____ Zip _____

ENCLOSED CHECK OR PO # _____ IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____
payable to: SCOE PRIVATE SCHOOLS

EARLY BIRD Discount: \$45.00 per person postmarked or faxed on or before March 5, 2013
\$65.00 per person postmarked or faxed thereafter.

Registration fee includes three-day workshop, materials, continental breakfast, and lunch.

Arrival: 8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. Workshop Sessions: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Mail check or PO payable to "SCOE Private Schools" and mail to:

Sacramento County Office of Education – Private Schools

P. O. Box 269003, Sacramento, CA 95826-9003

Space is limited! Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis!

Sorry, no refunds for cancellations or no-shows.

Please contact Don Cole for registration information.

Phone: 916.228.2218 E-Mail: dcole@scoe.net Fax: 916.228.2665

Funded in part by ESEA Title IIA, in cooperation with the California Department of Education