



# SCIRA

## Suburban Council of the International Reading Association

**SCIRA Board  
2013-14  
Spring Newsletter  
2014**

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Sarah Weisberg

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### *Note from the Presidents*

By Debbie Shefren & Sarah Weisberg  
Co-Presidents of SCIRA

What a wonderful winter conference! We had so many people brave the snow and cold to hear Dr. Tim Shanahan and it was well worth it! A few of the ideas we learned are:

- Close reading is not a teaching technique—it is an outcome.
- The meaning is in the text and the text has to be read closely to give up its meaning.
- Close reading has a long history.
- Synonyms for Close Reading are: deep reading, analytical reading and critical reading.

Dr. Shanahan suggested we read text, or a selection of a text, more than once. Each reading would focus on different ways of thinking about the text, and touch on different common core standards while doing so.

- First Reading should determine what a text says.
  - Standards 1-3 Key ideas & details
- Second Reading should determine how the text works.
  - Standards 4-6 Craft & Structure
- Third Reading should determine the value of the text, evaluate its quality, and be compared to other texts.
  - Standards 7-9 Integration knowledge and Meaning, Synthesize
  - Standard 10 Text Complexity

You do not have to read the entire text over again with each rereading.

If you didn't get to hear Tim Shanahan or you would like to see his power point, we have it on our website: [www.scira.weebly.com](http://www.scira.weebly.com).

We're excited to learn from Ellin Oliver Keene as she talks to us about Comprehension this summer and from Dan Feigelson as he talks to us about Writing and the Common Core. Hope you all can join us at our Summer Renewal Conference!

Happy Learning and Teaching!  
Sarah & Debbie

## *Announcements*

**What is the best way to earn thoughtful course credit while applying knowledge to your own classroom?**

**Sign up for the National-Louis University course accompanying our summer conference.**

Attend the 2-day conference, read a professional article, and reflect on your experience. Then, complete a project that shows how you will apply something you learned to your teaching practice.

*Course participants must attend the Summer Conference as well as complete class assignments in order to earn 1 semester hour of credit.*

For details and registration forms, visit our website at **scira.weebly.com** and follow the link to register with National-Louis University.

**Have a great classroom idea?  
Need some \$ to make it happen?**

- Grants help teachers further the literacy goals they have for their students for up to \$500
- You must be a SCIRA member to apply (individual or group proposals are accepted)
- To see the grant brochure with specific proposal information, please visit the SCIRA website at [www.scira.weebly.com](http://www.scira.weebly.com) and click on SCIRA Grants

**The deadline to apply for a SCIRA Grant is March 15, 2014**

To ask questions or submit your proposal, email Natalie Biancalana, SCIRA Grants Coordinator, at [dreamcatcher\\_15@yahoo.com](mailto:dreamcatcher_15@yahoo.com). Please use SCIRA Grant as the subject line.

**SCIRA/TRS SUMMER CONFERENCE**

Thursday, June 19 and Friday, June 20, 2014

8am-3pm

Holiday Inn North Shore

5300 West Touhy Avenue

Skokie, IL 60077

**Ellin Oliver Keene**

*Talk about Understanding: Rethinking Classroom Talk to Enhance Comprehension*  
(Thursday, June 19)

**Dan Feigelson**

*Writing Workshop and the Common Core Standards: What We Need to Know About Teaching (And Assessing) Qualities of Writing in an Age of New Rigor* (Friday, June 20)

USE ONE FORM FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION. Please print or type. Form may be reproduced.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred E-mail (for confirmation and information) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ School Name \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION:**

	<b>Early Bird Rate</b>	<b>After April 1 Rate</b>	<b>At the Door</b>
SCIRA Member (includes breakfast and lunch and handouts)	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$220</b>	<b>\$230</b>
Non-SCIRA Member (Includes one-year SCIRA membership. You must join SCIRA to attend the conference.)	<b>\$245</b>	<b>\$265</b>	<b>\$275</b>
Student/Para-professional (does not include membership)	<b>\$180</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$210</b>

School districts wishing to send five or more participants should contact Claudia Katz at [ckatz17755@aol.com](mailto:ckatz17755@aol.com) or 1-847-236-1164

**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of CHECK (PAYABLE TO: SCIRA). PO # \_\_\_\_\_ (At this time, we cannot accept POs from Chicago Public Schools.) \_\_\_\_\_ Pay Pal (Go to SCIRA Scholars.com or SCIRA.weebly.com)

Registrants will receive confirmation by e-mail.

MAIL THIS FORM TO: CLAUDIA KATZ 1329 Oxford Rd Deerfield, IL 60015

**Questions? Call Claudia at 847-236-1164 [ckatz17755@aol.com](mailto:ckatz17755@aol.com)**

**SCIRA**  
**P.O. Box 396**  
**Northbrook, IL 60065**

**SCIRA**  
Suburban  
Council of the  
International  
Reading  
Association

**SCIRA/TRS Summer Conference**

(Suburban Council of the International Reading Association)

**Talk About Understanding**

Rethinking Classroom Talk to Enhance Comprehension

**Writing Workshop & the Common Core  
Standards**

What We Need to Know About Writing (& Assessing) Qualities of Writing  
in an Age of New Rigor

*Featuring*

**Ellin Keene & Dan Feigelson**

*June 19 & 20, 2014*

**Holiday Inn**

**5300 W. Touhy Ave., Skokie, IL 60077**

Please visit the *Illinois Reading Council* website for valuable information on upcoming SCIRA conferences. Additional registration forms may be downloaded there as well. Please visit <http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/>