

Back-to-Basics

WRITING BOOT CAMP

with Karen Otto

Two Sessions Available

Dates: July 20-23 and August 4-7

Times: 9:30 am–12 pm

Location: Online

For Fall 2020 Freshmen



\$300

Click [here](#) for registration form.

JUMP START YOUR FRESHMAN'S WRITING SKILLS THIS SUMMER.

Many incoming freshman find the transition from middle school to high school overwhelming. Some students struggle with meeting the demands of writing for high-stakes tests, such as the SAT, ACT, AP, and the different modes of high school writing.

Freshmen English class at Carroll High School builds upon the 8th grade Language Arts curriculum by increasing the rigor and expectations. High school students are expected to read and respond to difficult texts by writing essays and short answer responses. In these written assessments, students must provide insightful commentary, show their stylistic maturity with concise and elevated word choice, and organize their ideas in a logical and sophisticated manner. A strong foundation of writing skills is imperative for success and achievement in high school and beyond. This Writing Boot Camp will enhance and build upon your child's current writing ability.

THIS ISN'T YOUR AVERAGE WRITING 101 COURSE.

It's called a Boot Camp for a reason! This is high intensity strength training in writing basics. And it's the ONLY course like it in Southlake.

Your child will build writing muscle by learning how to:

- ★ Brainstorm and organize ideas in a consistent and proven manner;
- ★ Craft thesis and topic sentences;
- ★ Select and smoothly integrate textual support;
- ★ Move from surface understanding and literal interpretation to insightful, original thinking;
- ★ Use creative writing skills when writing more academic style essays required in high school;
- ★ Write with stylistic maturity using effective command of sentence structures and diction;
- ★ Revise for content and say more with less.

ABOUT KAREN OTTO

As a veteran Carroll ISD teacher, Karen is familiar with the rigors and expectations of English courses in Carroll ISD. Her experience in the classroom (22 years and counting), MA in English, doctoral work, and extensive knowledge of the writing process have taught her that all students can write if they are just given the tools to do so. Karen's presentations at state-level conferences and as a consultant for education service centers and districts across Texas have helped other teachers learn how to successfully improve their students' writing. Karen was recently awarded the Texas Council of English's High School Teacher of the Year (2019) and the Texas Association of the Gifted & Talented's Educator of the Year (2018). Karen is in the home stretch of obtaining her PhD in Rhetoric & Composition from UTA.

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TESTIMONIALS FROM STUDENTS:

“Because of Mrs. Otto’s tips and feedback, I feel more confident as a writer.”

“Mrs. Otto has helped me so much! I am now able to write with more ease and confidence than ever before.”

“You’ve truly had a phenomenal impact on me and my writing. The amount of just... THINGS I learned (I know, things is very general, but words cannot even begin to describe the various lessons I took from your class) that I continue to use and hold onto outmatches that of any other class.”

TESTIMONIALS FROM PARENTS:

“My son has grown more confident in his writing because of Mrs. Otto’s writing camp. Mrs. Otto has been pivotal in my son’s development as a writer.”

“I give Mrs. Otto full credit for taking my son, who avoids reading and writing, and in some magical way made that child into one who tells me that he now actually enjoys writing. I attribute this to her skill at teaching and her ability to transfer some of her love and excitement for reading and writing to her students.”

“After reading the writing that my son wrote during your camp, I was blown away. It is a cut above any work that I’ve ever seen him produce. It is so satisfying to see your children excel! I wanted to thank you for providing this writing camp and the challenge and support he needed to grow as a writer. He’s a great kid and works hard, so he definitely earns the grades, but I am also quite confident in saying that he could not have achieved this level of writing without the environment and guidance that you have provided him.”

“Just wanted to let you know my daughter really enjoyed the camp. She looked forward to going every day and happily told me what she did each day.”

“Thank you! My son feels that he is better prepared for high school English (although it might not have been his idea to sign up for your camp). Thank you for offering this camp and helping my son to feel more confident about writing. He came home after each class and told me about the various writing activities and discussions and how fun they were.”

Questions? Email me at mrskarenotto@gmail.com.

Need registration form? Click [here](#).