LEARNING

WA students head to UConn writing conference

On Oct. 8, the Writing Center students traveled to the Eighth Annual Conference for Secondary School Writing Centers at the University of Connecticut.

WOODSTOCK — On Oct. 8, the next generation of future teachers at the Woodstock Academy writing center, The Writing Promise, attended the Eighth Annual Conference for Secondary School Writing Centers at the University of Connecticut.

The conference, organized by the UConn writing center, brought together middle and high school writing teachers from across the state to share ideas and best practices. At this event, participants acquired advice about tutoring and about creating a writing center.

At the conference, teachers and their students had the opportunity to be in a theater for presentations and then broke into small groups where students from different schools were interested, providing numerous learning opportunities.

In one workshop session, teachers learned a new organizational method in which the writer thinks about main ideas in a paper as different colors of highlighter. We examined the possibilities of not naming, simply the color, fruit, milk, etc. We also learned about first, second and third place writing, from other teachers who have been working in their respective writing centers for longer periods of time.

The conference also included numerous showcases of our own writing center enjoys, Woodstock Academy offers a full-service training center in which we learn methods of tutoring and improve our own writing as we assist students. Such skills are essential to teachers and the mission of the Woodstock Academy.

"The Writing Center is a model of how to get students to engage with their work. In addition, the writing center provides a safe and non-judgmental space for students to practice their writing skills," said teacher David Smith.

"The Writing Center is a great place for students to practice their writing skills," said teacher David Smith. "We encourage our students to reflect on their writing and provide constructive feedback."

The conference concluded with a panel presentation, where the participants had the opportunity to share their experiences and insights with one another. This panel included representatives from different schools, providing a unique perspective on the challenges and successes of writing centers.

"I think the conference was a great success," said teacher David Smith. "It provided a great opportunity for teachers to come together and share their experiences and ideas."

"This conference was a great opportunity to learn from others and to share our experiences," said teacher David Smith.

"The conference was a fantastic experience," said teacher David Smith. "I really enjoyed being able to learn from other teachers and to share my own experiences."