Tips to Highlight Writing at Your School: Thomas, Ph.D.

- 1. Post students writing in the classroom, in hallways, etc. where students and others can see.
- 2. Invite administration for a sharing session where students share a published piece.
- 3. Invite another class to do a writing workshop session with your class.
- 4. Collaborate and plan writing lessons with another teacher and meet to discuss and support each other.
- 5. Cooperate with another teacher to write together on a project: a primary grade and middle school writing grade is a great idea for a project.
- 6. Cooperate with another middle school teacher of another subject to do a project where you direct the writing, and the teacher directs the other subject.
- 7. Find occasions for your students to send notes to others.
- 8. Establish a yearly Author's Night for your grade level or with another grade at your school:

Use a few mentor texts and have students write like the author: Ex: The Important Book, Inside/Outside, My Mama Had a Dancing Heart, In November, When I was Young in the Mountains, Life Doesn't Frighten me at All, If You're not from the Prairie, Poems, etc.

Buy bare books for students to make their books.

Have students write invitation cards to their parents to come to Author's Night.

Invite a speaker who is a writer to speak for the occasion.

Divide students and parents in small group where each child reads his/her book to the group.

Books should have a dedication page and an "Inspired by" page.