**Working with Reluctant Writers**

How can we support those students who are really, ***really*** hesitant about publishing their writing on a blog?

* Suggest the use of a pen name. Eventually other students may figure out who’s who, but there is a sense of privacy when it comes to the wider world of blog visitors.
* Enable the blog’s password protection feature. Parents and teacher, and perhaps a few trusted friends, will be the only ones with the password.
* Have the student to blog without the blog being linked to the class blog. The student can share their independent URL with readers of his or her choosing.
* Ask the student to “lurk” for a while without posting. The student’s comfort level will grow once blogging becomes the norm in the classroom and he or she determines that there’s a safe community of writers there.
* Show how apps like Dragon Dictation can capture spoken words, giving the student with dysgraphia or other impairment an option for getting thoughts into type. The student then has a beginning text he or she can revise, edit, and publish.
* Open the idea of publishing to creations other than text. Is the student an artist? A musician? A gymnast or motocross rider? Encourage the posting of images or video that share the student’s skill.