

Biographical Sketch

Barbara Thomson – Literary Arts Program Director

A 2002 National Board Certified teacher, Barbara Thomson is in her twenty-sixth year at RNHS. Mrs. Thomson holds a Masters degree from Columbia College in the teaching of writing and is a published author. In her 30 years teaching, Mrs. Thomson has laid the groundwork for the teaching of creative writing in Columbia. She began the Creative Writing program at the Tri-District Art Consortium in the early nineties and held the position of Coordinator for the program until 2003. Working with Department of English at USC, Mrs. Thomson has been instrumental in bringing talented poets and fiction writers to the RNHS campus. In addition to teaching her classes, Mrs. Thomson is currently serving as Richland School District Two's Instructional Coach for all induction-year language arts teachers in the middle and high schools. In the summer of 2003, the State Department of Education selected Mrs. Thomson as one of twenty-five instructors for the state's PACE Program, which provides instruction and practical experience for college graduates seeking a non-traditional approach into the classroom. In 2005 she was commissioned by the SDE to create a dictionary of SC's educational terms, entitled Teacher Talk. The document will be published on the department's webpage this spring, and copies will be sent to all 85 school districts in the state. Mrs. Thomson teaches Foundations of Writing I and II, Advanced Nonfiction, and the Senior Project for all PCA Literary Arts Students.