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Special Education

The Center on Instruction Special Education strand met with eight states (Alaska, California, Idaho, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Texas, Vermont, and Wyoming) and their Regional Comprehensive Centers representatives in Phoenix March 12-13, 2008, to discuss statewide implementation of RTI. Previously collected information on RTI implementation in these states was reviewed and synthesized. Participants also provided input on future deliverables designed to help other RCCs and states as they implement RTI. Documents from this meeting are available for download at the COI website, Professional Development, (<http://www.centeroninstruction.org/pdevents.cfm>). For more information, please contact christymurray@austin.utexas.edu.

A Synopsis of "The Power of Feedback"

Feedback, defined as information about performance, is an integral aspect of instruction and learning. In their article "The Power of Feedback" published in the Review of Education Research (Review of Education Research, 77, 81-112), Hattie and Timperley synthesized the results of 12 meta-analyses of 196 studies that included feedback as an instructional strategy. The Center on Instruction synopsis of this article highlights the findings from their analysis, reviews the evidence related to its impact on learning, and suggests applications in the context of overall classroom instruction as well as interventions with students who are struggling or who have learning disabilities. The original article is available from Sage Publications for a fee for non-subscribers. The synopsis is available for download at <http://centeroninstruction.org/files/Synopsis%20Power%20of%20Feedback.pdf>.

New RTI Resources

CalSTAT (California Services for Technical Assistance and Training) is a special project of the California Department of Education. Their SpecialEdge podcasts feature recorded conversations with experts from the field on a variety of RTI topics. Currently podcasts are available on (a) RTI Overview; (b) RTI Literacy; and (c) Elk Grove Unified School District Arlene Hein Elementary RTI implementation in audio and PDF or html formats. To access the podcasts, go to <http://www.calstat.org/podcasts/index.html>. Transcripts from these three podcasts are available for download on the Center on Instruction's website at <http://centeroninstruction.org>.

Two new RTI resources have been added at the IRIS Center for Faculty

Enhancement in the continuing series of modules on implementing RTI.

Response to Intervention Online Modules (Part 5): A Closer Look at Tier 3 describes the elements of RTI Tier 3 interventions and how to identify students who need this more intense and individualized intervention. It discusses the need for frequent progress monitoring to guide instruction. It also explores parent involvement and cultural issues related to English language learners. This fifth module can be accessed at http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/rti05_tier3/chalcycle.htm.

The online resource *IRIS Center for Faculty Enhancement: RTI: Considerations for School Leaders* provides information about ways to build support for RTI, factors that should be addressed when implementing RTI, and methods of collecting data and evaluating the effectiveness of the RTI approach. This module in the series can be accessed at http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/rti_leaders/chalcycle.htm.

The Center on Instruction is one of five content centers to support the regional comprehensive centers in providing technical assistance to SEAs and districts/schools in need of improvement. The goal of COI is to supply much of the research-based information, products, guidance, analyses, and knowledge on instruction in reading, mathematics, science, special education, and English language learning that Regional Comprehensive Centers use when working with States. Please send any suggestions or comments regarding our E-Newsletter to apenfold@rmcres.com. We would love to hear from you!

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