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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**What's New?****Mathematics**

The Use of Mathematics Specialists in Elementary School Mathematics Programs. The Math Strand held a WebEx on December 3, 2007, for Regional Comprehensive Center staff to discuss the issue of the use of mathematics specialists in elementary school mathematics programs. The PowerPoint presentation from the WebEx by math experts Dr. Deborah Loewenberg Ball and Dr. Hung-Hsi Wu is available at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org/files/Math%20WebEx%20in%20COI%20Format.ppt>. The archived WebEx is also available at <https://rmcres.webex.com/rmcres/ldr.php?AT=pb&SP=MC&rID=8837812&rKey=9FBF00A4FCCEB4A3>.

Special Education

Snapshots from Five Schools Implementing RTI: Practices and Perspectives. The Center on Instruction Special Education Strand hosted a WebEx on December 4, 2007, to discuss how RTI is being implemented in different content areas in both elementary and middle schools in five RTI implementation sites. The PowerPoint presentation by Kathryn Klingler Tackett is available at http://centeroninstruction.org/files/RTI%20webinar_FINAL_12-17-07%20%5BRead-Only%5D.pdf. An archived file of the WebEx will be available soon. A full report describing these sites will be available in Summer 2008.

Recently Added RTI Resources:

LD Talk Transcript: Reading and RTI: How Students Benefit from Multi-Tiered Instruction and Intervention. In this transcript of an April 2007 question-and-answer session sponsored by the National Center on Learning Disabilities, Drs. Sharon Vaughn and Jeanne Wanzek answer questions about features of evidence-based reading instruction, the delivery of effective supplemental services, the importance of collecting, and using data to inform instruction. They also offer information about the implementation of RTI. The transcript is available at <http://www.nclld.org/content/view/1226/456163/>.

Responsiveness to Intervention and Learning Disabilities. This report developed by the National Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities provides a brief overview of RTI and discusses issues related to implementation including use as an eligibility mechanism, parent participation, structure, and professional roles. It is available at <http://www.ldaamerica.org/pdf/rti2005.pdf>.

ELL

Dr. David Francis, director of the COI-ELL Strand, presented at two sessions at the OELA (Office of English Language Acquisition) Sixth Annual Celebrate Our Rising Stars Summit October 29-31, 2007, in Washington, DC: "Second Generation Accountability for ELLs: Improving the Evaluation of Students' Language and Academic Progress and School Performance" and "How to Choose Language Accommodations for an ELL Student Participating in Content Assessments." For more information on the Summit, visit <http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/oela/Summit2007/index.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 info@centeroninstruction.org. We would love to hear from you!

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