



Vol. 2 No.2

Thursday, February 28, 2008

**CONTACT US**

Center on Instruction  
Angela Penfold  
Project Director

RMC Research Corporation  
1000 Market St., Bldg. 2,  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

603-422-8888  
1-800-258-0802  
Fax 603-436-9166  
[info@centeroninstruction.org](mailto:info@centeroninstruction.org)  
[www.centeroninstruction.org](http://www.centeroninstruction.org)

**Mathematics**

The Center on Instruction Math Strand hosted a WebEx on February 19, 2008, focused on the realities and benefits of using an RTI system for mathematics. Dr. David Tilly, Director of Innovation for the Heartland School District, and Sharon Kurns, Director of Professional Learning and Leadership for Heartland Area Education Agency, described critical features of the use of RTI in math in the Heartland School District. Skip Fennell, President of NCTM, followed with a discussion of the essential components of mathematics interventions from the perspective of mathematics educators and mathematicians. The PowerPoint presentations are available for download on the COI website at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org/pdevents.cfm>, and the archived WebEx is available at <https://rmcres.webex.com/rmcres/ldr.php?AT=pb&SP=MC&rID=9290207&rKey=CC085FE2B1056FBA>.

**Special Education**

The Center on Instruction Special Education Strand hosted a WebEx on February 20, 2008, focused on writing as a critical aspect of literacy and one in which effective instructional techniques and models for intervention are needed. Presenter Dr. Steve Graham, co-author of *Writing Next: Effective Strategies to Improve Writing of Adolescents in Middle & High Schools*, described the results and the implications for selecting and implementing effective instructional methods for adolescent writing, especially for students who are struggling or have learning disabilities. The PowerPoint presentation and the synopsis of the *Writing Next* document are available for download on the COI website at <http://www.centeroninstruction.org/pdevents.cfm>. The archived WebEx is available at <https://rmcres.webex.com/rmcres/ldr.php?AT=pb&SP=MC&rID=9302927&rKey=97D4B274E08F086F>.

**RTI Summit**

The RTI Summit held December 6-7, 2007, was a collaborative effort that took the hard work, thoughtful planning and considerable resources of many federal and non-federal entities to make it a reality. Rich Barbacane from the National Association of Elementary School Principals chaired the RTI Summit Planning Committee which was composed of representatives from national organizations, technical assistance providers, parent groups, personnel in the Offices of Special Education Programs, Elementary and

Secondary Education, English Language Acquisition, and the Institute of Education Sciences. The planning committee provided recommendations and guidance on the composition of the invited state teams and the content of the Summit agenda. Follow-up with state teams will require a coordinated and collaborative approach across both general and special education technical assistance providers.

Federal resources were provided by the Center on Instruction (co-funded by OESE and OSEP), 6 OSEP-funded Projects, and Reading First.

Non-federal resources were provided by both NEA and AFT. The RTI Summit would not have been possible without the support of these many partners who have a strong commitment to the implementation of RTI.

The National RTI Center specific mission is to provide technical assistance and dissemination about proven and promising models for RTI (Response to Intervention) and EIS (Early Intervening Services) to state and local educators, families, and other stakeholders. The Center, led by Drs. Nancy Safer and Maurice McInerney (AIR), Lynn and Doug Fuchs (Vanderbilt), and Don Deschler and Daryl Mellard (University of Kansas), works in four areas: (a) knowledge production, which involves a Technical Review Committee of experts who will independently evaluate the scientific rigor, conditions for successful implementation, and the cultural and linguistic competence of all identified models (and components); (b) implementation supports, which involve training and follow-up activities to scale-up RTI and EIS on a broad scale; (c) information dissemination, which involves forming communities of practice to improve the likelihood that consumers will adopt RTI models; and (d) formative evaluation, which involves an assessment of the quality, implementation, impact, and cost effectiveness of the services offered. To visit its website, go to <http://www.rti4success.org/>.

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](mailto:info@centeroninstruction.org). We would love to hear from you!

Center on Instruction, Angela Penfold, Project Director  
[RMC Research Corporation](http://www.rmc-research.com), 1000 Market St., Bldg. 2, Portsmouth, NH 03801  
603-422-8888, 1-800-258-0802 Fax 603-436-9166  
Email: [info@centeroninstruction.org](mailto:info@centeroninstruction.org) Website: <http://www.centeroninstruction.org>