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**Webinar*****Enhancing Academic Literacy of ELLs in Science and Social Studies***

***Classrooms.*** David Francis, COI-ELL Strand Director and Director of TIMES at the University of Houston, and Leticia Martinez and Colleen Reutebuch of The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk at The University of Texas at Austin, provided an overview of two experimental studies aimed at boosting the academic achievement of adolescent English learners. The CREATE Project at the University of Houston examined the efficacy of incorporating instructional practices associated with improved outcomes into middle-school social studies instruction as a means of enhancing vocabulary knowledge and comprehension for English language learners. To access the archived WebEx, go to <http://centeroninstruction.org/pdevents.cfm>.

**Virtual Working Meeting on Collaboration**

***Fostering Collaboration between General and Special Educators.*** The Center on Instruction held a virtual (web-based) working meeting January 14, 2010, for Regional Comprehensive Center staff members, representatives from the Regional Resource Centers, and representatives from the eight states (Alaska, California, Idaho, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Texas, Wyoming, and Vermont) that COI-SpEd has been collaborating with for the past two years on the implementation of RTI. During this working meeting, staff presented research and theory on collaboration supported by actual examples of collaboration collected from schools that COI-SpEd has collaborated with in past and ongoing RTI projects. Participants then engaged in a discussion to develop key recommendations aimed at helping SEAs foster effective collaborative relationships between general ed and special ed at the local level. The meeting agenda and the study guide, along with a list of readings recommended to participants prior to the meeting are available for download at <http://centeroninstruction.org/pdevents.cfm>.

**RTI Resources**

***Models of Response to Intervention in the Northwest Region States.*** This document report, developed by the Institute of Education Sciences, provides information on the RTI models supported by state education agencies in the Northwest Region. It identifies states' RTI-related resources, policies, and activities to help the Northwest Regional Comprehensive Center focus its technical assistance for RTI and identify areas for cross-state collaboration, while enabling states to learn from each other's experience. To access this document, go to [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=specialEd&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#261](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=specialEd&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#261).

***Using Student Achievement Data to Support Instructional Decision Making.***

This practice guide, developed by the Institute of Education Sciences, is designed to help K-12 teachers and administrators use student achievement data to make instructional decisions intended to raise student achievement. These decisions include, but are not limited to, how to adapt lessons or assignments in response to students' needs, alter classroom goals or objectives, or modify student grouping arrangements. The guide also provides recommendations for creating the organizational and technological conditions that foster effective data use. To

access this document, go to [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=specialEd&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#262](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=specialEd&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#262).

***Response to Intervention: Select State Programs.*** This policy analysis, developed by NASDSE, describes RTI implementation in six states: Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island. The document describes information found on state websites and subsequently provided by state staff in the areas of RTI structure, administration, implementation, data and outcomes and challenges. To download this document, go to [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=specialEd&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#263](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=specialEd&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#263).

## ARRA Resources

***Handbook on Effective Implementation of School Improvement Grants.*** This Handbook, edited by the Center on Innovation and Improvement, was developed by the five national content centers (Center on Instruction, Assessment and Accountability Comprehensive Center, Center on Innovation and Improvement, National Comprehensive Center for Teacher Quality, and National High School Center). This Handbook is designed to bolster the effective implementation of the intervention models and strategies outlined in the 2009 School Improvement Grant (SIG) program in order to achieve the program's clear goal--rapid improvement of persistently low-achieving schools. In particular, it offers practice explanations of the SIG's required and recommended models and strategies, references to the underlying research, and connections to useful resources. To download the entire 210-page document, each chapter individually, or chapters by topic, go to [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#264](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#264).

***Selected COI Resources Addressing the ARRA Reform Areas.*** As states apply for ARRA funds and implement their plans, COI's resources can help them to understand research-based practices which provide high-quality instruction and effective intervention to reach struggling students, plan initiatives to improve instructional programs for students, inform professional development for teachers and administrators, and improve teacher and principal effectiveness. Our resources can also guide them to make decisions about what reforms work and how to implement them most effectively and include information on the use of data to inform instructional practices and decision making. Quick resource sheets are available for download:

***Standards and Assessments.*** [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#265](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#265).

***Effective Leaders and Teachers.*** [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#266](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#266).

***Turning Around Struggling Schools.*** [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#267](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#267).

***Data Systems to Support Instruction.*** [http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade\\_start=0&grade\\_end=12#268](http://centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=materials&grade_start=0&grade_end=12#268).

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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 [COI-info@rmcres.com](mailto:COI-info@rmcres.com). We would love to hear from you! If you've received this newsletter in error, or if you wish to unsubscribe, please email us at [COI-info@rmcres.com](mailto:COI-info@rmcres.com) and write "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

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