coi today
News from the Center On Instruction

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What's New?

Special Education

The new **National Center on Response to Intervention** held an RTI Summit December 6-7, 2007, as a collaborative effort among the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE), the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), and the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) to assist SEAs with planning for the implementation of RTI. It provided training, information, and planning time for educational teams of key state education leaders and selected state affiliate organizations to learn about components and models of RTI and to scale up comprehensive models of RTI in their schools and districts. It also helped states develop a state plan for implementing RTI and provided information about accessing federal and state resources to assist with that implementation. Of particular interest is the resources section provided on the Summit's website at http://www.rtisummit.org/resources.asp.

The National RTI Center's 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/.

Two other Centers are also good resources for special education materials:

- **The Center for Promoting Research to Practice** at Lehigh University establishes partnerships with schools, parents and families, and community service providers to enhance the use of best practices for individuals with, or at risk for disabilities. It was designed to put empirically supported research into practice by generating new knowledge, demonstrating successful application of this knowledge to real life settings, and disseminating practical information. This website, at http://www.lehigh.edu/~ineduc/cprp/index.htm includes a recently released video on Response to Intervention (RTI).
- **The National Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavior and Intervention**

Supports (PBIS) was established to address the behavioral and discipline systems needed for successful learning and social development of students. The Center provides capacity-building information and technical support about behavioral systems to assist states and districts in the design of effective schools. To visit its website, go to http://www.pbis.org/main.htm.

Other RTI Resources:

Utah's 3-Tier Model of Reading Instruction. This document from the Utah State Office of Education uses Utah's Core Curricula to guide educators K-12 in implementing a 3-tier model of reading instruction. While specific to Utah, it has potential utility for a broader audience of those just beginning implementation of RTI-multi-tiered models for reading instruction. It is available for download from the COI website (http://centeroninstruction.org) under Special Education or at their website http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/SARS/servicesinfo/pdfs/3-tierread.pdf.

The Secondary Literacy Instruction and Intervention Guide. This 2007 guide developed by the Stupski Foundation provides an overview of the Content Literacy Continuum (CLC), a replicable district-level model of instruction to meet the differentiated needs of struggling adolescents. It is available for download from the COI website (http://centeroninstruction.org) under Special Education or at their website http://www.stupski.org/publications/Secondary_Literacy_Instruction_Intervention_Guide.pdf .

Response to Intervention as It Relates to Early Intervening Services. This document is a summary of a two-day OSEP-sponsored symposium held October 30-31, 2006, by the National Association of State Directors of Special Education. It presents an overview of the way in which RTI and EIS intersect and provides legislative background, a description of RTI, and a summary of barriers and recommendations generated by the participants at the symposium. It is available for download from the COI website (http://centeroninstruction.org) under Special Education or at NASDSE's website http://www.projectforum.org/docs/RtIasitRelatestoEIS.pdf .

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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