

REL EEP* Events: (*Experts bring Evidence to Practitioners)

UPCOMING EEP EVENTS			
Date	Event	Audience	Location
February 19–20, 2009	REL Northeast will host an EEP event on the <u>IES Practice Guide</u> on <i>Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Learners in Elementary Grades</i> . The key presenter for this event will be Dr. Robin Scarcella, one of the panel members for the IES Practice Guide.	The primary audience will be 60 to 75 administrators from the 15th high priority districts in Connecticut that are actively engaged with the CT SDE's Accountability for Learning Initiative (CALI), the state's system of support for districts and schools in continuous school improvement.	Location that is easily accessible to the Connecticut high priority districts
February 24, 2009	REL Mid-Atlantic will host an EEP event on the <u>IES Practice Guide</u> on <i>Turning Around Chronically Low Performing Schools</i> . The key presenter for this event will be Dr. Rebecca Herman from the American Institutes for Research (AIR). A representative of the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) will join Dr. Herman.	The REL will invite educational leaders and practitioners (i.e. educators in high schools and middle schools, superintendents, school board members, state policymakers, and school administrators) and those interested in educational policy. The planners expect 35-50 participants.	Howard University, Washington, DC
February 26, 2009	REL Mid-Atlantic will do a repeat presentation for this EEP event on the <u>IES Practice Guide</u> on <i>Turning Around Chronically Low Performing Schools</i> . The key presenter for this event will be Dr. Rebecca Herman from the American Institutes for Research (AIR). A representative of the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) will join Dr. Herman.	The REL will invite educational leaders and practitioners (i.e. educators in high schools and middle schools, superintendents, school board members, state policymakers, and school administrators) and those interested in educational policy. The planners expect 35-50 participants.	Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys, Baltimore, MD

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February 27, 2009	<p>REL Mid-Atlantic will host an EEP on the <u>IES Practice Guide <i>Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Learners in the Elementary Grades: A Practice Guide</i></u>. The primary presenter will be Dr. Russell Gersten, chair of the Practice Guide panel. Dr Gerstein’s presentation is being made possible through a video recording that was filmed and produced professionally for REL Mid-Atlantic at the first EEP event on this topic that was held on November 17, 2008 in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. Dr. Gersten will also be available via videoconference technologies for a question and answer session following the video of his presentation.</p>	<p>Education practitioners in Pennsylvania are the primary audience, and will be recruited via collaborating and cosponsoring organizations’ existing communication networks. Some participation is also expected from higher education. About 80 participants are expected.</p>	<p>Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit 19, Archbald, PA</p>
March 11, 2009	<p>REL Appalachia will host an EEP event on the <u>IES Practice Guide: <i>Dropout Prevention</i></u>. Leading the discussion will be Dr. Mark Dynarski, director of the Center for Improving Research at Mathematica Policy Research and current director of the What Works Clearinghouse, along with Marsha Silverberg, Senior Research Scientist from IES who leads the NCEE evaluation division’s work on high schools. The presentation will include a review the recommendations from the Practice Guide in the context of how the panel identified and assessed the research; what considerations are unfinished business, and how the recommendations can be viewed in developing a strategy for dropout prevention for the kindergarten to adult education systems.</p>	<p>There is expected to be 100-125 participants including school board members and school superintendents from Virginia and West Virginia.</p>	<p>Wytheville, VA</p>

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March 12-13, 2009	<p>REL Southeast has organized a large EEP event to be held in Washington, DC, in collaboration with other RELs. The focus is on <i>Using Research to Strengthen Response to Intervention Decision Making and Implementation</i>. IES experts will be reporting on research projects on RtI. Plans for a new NCEE congressional mandated national evaluation of RtI, carried out under IDEA, will be discussed by the PIs leading the study and NCEE staff. Also planned is a presentation on a new WWC Practice Guide on Response to Intervention and multi-tier intervention for reading in the primary grades by Russell Gersten.</p>	<p>Approximately 100 SEA and LEA staff; 20 U.S. Department of Education staff; and 30 staff from national organizations (CCSSO, Council of Great City Schools, Education Trust, etc.) along with other Regional Educational Laboratories, Comprehensive Regional Assistance Centers, and other relevant organizations have been invited to attend.</p>	<p>AED Headquarters in Washington, DC</p>
March 17, 2009	<p>REL West will hold its first EEP event on the IES Practice Guide, <i>Turning Around Chronically Low Performing Schools: Evidence-Based Practices</i> for educators in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah.</p>	<p>50 to 60 participants, including teams of state staff from AZ, NV, UT; administrators from low performing Districts; principals from low-performing schools in Nevada and Arizona; and SWCC and REL West staff.</p>	<p>Tempe Mission Palms Hotel and Conference Center; Tempe, AZ</p>
March 25-27, 2009	<p>REL Northwest plans a series of EEP events on <i>Interpreting Test Score Trends and Gaps</i>, developed in collaboration with REL Midwest--all events featuring Dr. Andrew Dean Ho, U. of Iowa, an IES recipient of a research grant, on the limitations and proper use of proficiency rates and alternative methods for examining achievement trends and gaps. The first EEP event with Dr. Ho will focus on Washington state, as an event at the Washington Educational Research Association (WERA).</p>	<p>Researchers, evaluators and analysts TBD for this EEP for audiences in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon</p>	<p>Seattle, WA</p>

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April 22, 2009	<p>REL Northwest has organized an EEP event focused on the <u>IES Practice Guide</u>, <i>Encouraging Girls in Math and Science</i>. The keynote address will be given by Dr. Diane Halpern, chair of the practice guide panel producing the report. The event includes opportunities to discuss the guide's recommendations to encouraging and supporting students in preparing for STEM occupations. The event will be disseminated also through videotape on the website.</p>	<p>All school districts in Oregon and Washington will be invited to send teams of 4-5 participants, including at least two teachers, a school counselor, and one administrator.</p>	<p>Graduate School Of Ed. & Counseling, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR</p>
April 28 - 29, 2009	<p>REL West is organizing two additional EEP events on the IES Practice Guide, <i>Turning Around Chronically Low- Performing Schools</i>, with discussion of the implications for CA support providers. The featured speaker at these events is Dr. Rebecca Herman, Principal Research Scientist, American Institutes for Research, panel chair for the IES Practice Guide. One EEP will be for Northern California educators and one EEP will be for Southern California educators. Both events will also feature the ED <i>Doing What Works</i> website, designed to bring research-based strategies recommended in the Practice Guide to life through clear examples of practice.</p>	<p>The events will be targeted to California School Assistance and Intervention Team (SAIT) leads; District Assistance and Intervention Team (DAIT) leads, and County Office of Education staff that support state-monitored low-performing districts and schools.</p>	<p>The Northern California event will be held at the WestEd Oakland office on April 28; the location for the Southern California event on April 29 has not been finalized.</p>

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April 30, 2009	<p>REL Northwest is planning a one day research forum for Northwest Region leaders to focus on the <u>IES Practice Guide: <i>Turning Around Chronically Low-Performing Schools</i></u>. The Forum will provide principals with the opportunity to hear the recommendations by the IES panel based on research reviews and interact with the researchers. Participants will share their own challenges and successes and discuss specific ways they can use the research to focus their efforts. Participants will leave with plans to take action steps toward improving their schools. Dr. Rebecca Maynard and Dr. Sam Redding, two authors of this comprehensive review of research evidence, are the confirmed keynote speakers.</p>	<p>Principals in the Northwest Region states from schools in corrective action and restructuring improvement status are invited, as well as their superintendent or other administrators from their school or district. Also invited will be state-level staff responsible for school and district improvement. The total number of participants is expected to be up to 100.</p>	Portland, Oregon
April 2009	<p>REL Midwest will hold an EEP on the <u>IES Practice Guide, <i>Successful Strategies for Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Language Learners in the Elementary Grades</i></u> to ensure findings contained in the Guide reach the most appropriate practitioners and policymakers in Midwest region.</p>	Practitioners and policymakers	Chicago
May 2009	<p>REL Midwest -- Working with State Datasets: A working session on Methods in Data Handling and Report Generation: <i>Calculating the ability of within school teacher supply to meet the demands of new requirements</i>: example of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. The researchers presentation will be on handling state data and the reports that are easily generated from state data systems</p>	SEA Data and Strategic Planning Teams in the Midwest	Chicago, IL

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June 2009	<p>REL Midwest is planning an EEP event, <i>Calculating the ability of with-in school teacher supply to meet the demands of new requirements</i>, in response to an interest expressed by Chief State School Officers in the Midwest region, with speakers. It is particularly important for school districts in the Midwest to plan accurately for FTE needs as school budgets are increasingly limited at the same time that high schools are implementing more rigorous courses that require teachers to have mastered specialized areas of expertise.</p>	Michigan Department of Education	TBD
June 2009	<p>REL Pacific is planning a research forum for leaders in the Pacific Region to focus on <u>the IES Practice Guide: Turning Around Chronically Low-Performing Schools</u>. The Forum will provide SEA School Renewal Specialists, Chiefs of Curriculum and Instruction, School Principals, and other interested school leaders with the opportunity to hear the recommendations by the IES panel based on research reviews. Participants will be gathered in 10 different locations around the Pacific region and will participate in an interactive online meeting to ask questions, discuss, and share how this research applies to their particular regions. Participants will leave with plans toward improving the schools in their region. Dr. Sam Redding, an author of this comprehensive review of research evidence, will be the keynote speaker.</p>	Up to 50 participants are expected and include SEA school renewal specialists, chiefs of curriculum and instruction, research & evaluation cadre members and principals within the 10 territories (Hawaii, American Samoa, RMI, Kosrae, Palua, Chuuk, Guam, CNMI, Pohnpei, and Yap).	Participants will gather in the 10 REL Pacific offices in each territory to take part in the online meeting.

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July 2009	<p>REL Southwest will host an EEP event, <i>Educator Staffing, Quality, and Teacher Retirement Benefit Systems</i>, to be led by Professors Podgursky and Costrell, IES-supported researchers involved in teacher compensation research. The event will focus on the current landscape of teacher retirement systems and facilitate an opportunity for state policymakers, and those who work to inform education policy, to discuss possibilities for using retirement benefit systems to improve teacher quality, specifically recruitment and retention.</p>	<p>REL Southwest has invited 90 regional leaders—including state school chiefs and other state education agency representatives, as well as representatives from each governor’s office, state legislators, retirement system executives, and school administrator and teacher organization directors.</p>	Dallas, Texas
September 2009	<p>REL Midwest -- <i>Calculating the ability of within-school teacher supply to meet the demands of new graduation requirements</i>: The method presented is an important first step in providing timely and targeted help to schools that may find the analysis particularly useful when planning new graduation or course requirements. Method was developed through collaboration between the REL Midwest, researchers at Michigan State University and the Michigan Department of Education.</p>	LEA administrators, Principals and Superintendents	Michigan
TBD	<p>REL Midwest plans an EEP parallel with the REL Northwest EEP planned for March 25-27, 2009, in Seattle, WA on <i>Interpreting Test Score Trends and Gaps</i>, with experts from IES to be identified, to assist SEA and LEA staff and others in better understanding the limitations and proper use of proficiency rates as well as how to construct additional perspectives on the data that support sound inferences and decision-making.</p>	Researchers, evaluators and analysts	Chicago, IL

COMPLETED EEP EVENTS

Date	Event	Audience	Location
November 11-12, 2008	This REL Central EEP event was centered on <u>IES Practice Guide</u> , <i>Turning Around Chronically Low-Performing Schools</i> for the Superintendents' Forum. The speaker was Dr. Sam Redding, Director of the Center on Innovation and Improvement, one of the Practice Guide panel members. The discussion was continued by Dr. Nikola Filby, Director of Innovation Studies at REL West, who used ED <u>Doing What Works</u> website.	Fifty-one superintendents from the REL Central region participated in this Forum. In addition, representatives from state education agencies within the Central region also attended and helped disseminate the information and resources to principals and other superintendents in their states.	Denver, CO
November 12-13, 2008	The focus for this REL Central Rural Principals Forum was on the <i>National Math Panel Report</i> . The speaker was Dr. Francis "Skip" Fennell, a past President of National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Advisory Panel, and Chair of Conceptual Knowledge and Skills Task Group. Recommendations discussed included curricular content, learning processes, teachers and teacher education, instructional practices and materials, assessments, and research policies and mechanisms. Dr. Nikola Filby, Director of Innovation Studies at REL West continued the discussion of the National Math Panel Report using the ED <u>Doing What Works</u> website.	80 principals, primarily from rural areas in the REL Central region, participated in this Forum. Representatives from REL Central's region's state education agencies helped to disseminate the information and resources to their principals and superintendents.	Denver, CO
November 17, 2008	REL Mid-Atlantic organized an EEP on the <u>IES Practice Guide</u> <i>Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Learners in the Elementary Grades: A Practice Guide</i> . The primary presenter was Dr. Russell Gersten, chair of the Practice Guide panel, who was joined by 4 panelists from the Mid-Atlantic region, who discussed the implications of the findings for the PA region.	Education practitioners in PA were the primary audience. The event had some 100 participants.	PA School Boards Assoc (PSBA) Conference Center Mechanicsburg, PA

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January 6-7, 2009	REL Southeast held an EEP event on <i>Examining Research to frame Alabama's dropout prevention</i> , in response to a request from the Alabama State Department of Education. A speaker from the <u>IES Practice Guide</u> panel for the dropout prevention practice guide assisted in the planning and spoke.	60 ALSDE administrators and specialists from various units attended the event.	Montgomery, AL
January 14, 2009	REL Mid-Atlantic organized an EEP on the <u>IES Practice Guide, <i>Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom and Intervention Practices: A Practice Guide</i></u> . Two IES experts who served on the panel that authored the report presented: Dr. Michael Kamil, who chaired the panel, professor of education at Stanford University, and Dr. Janice Dole, associate professor at the University of Utah and director of the Utah Center for Reading and Literacy.	Mid-Atlantic has invited practitioners and others interested in education policy and practice from across a wide spectrum. Announcement of the event by the co-sponsoring organizations helped to reach the target audience of language arts and curriculum supervisors, literacy educators, principals, and superintendents.	Busch Campus Center, Rutgers University, Piscataway, New Jersey
January 15, 2009	REL Mid-Atlantic organized a repeat EEP on the <u>IES Practice Guide, <i>Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom and Intervention Practices: A Practice Guide</i></u> . IES expert who served on the panel that authored the report presented: Dr. Michael Kamil, who chaired the panel, professor of education at Stanford University.	Mid-Atlantic has invited practitioners and others interested in education policy and practice from across a wide spectrum. Announcement of the event by the co-sponsoring organizations helped to reach the target audience of language arts and curriculum supervisors, literacy educators, principals, and superintendents.	Delaware State University, Dover, DE