

Event: Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom and Intervention Practices (1.2.90)

Location: Seneca Highlands IU9, 119 Mechanic Street, Smethport, PA 16749

Date: January 14, 2010

Agenda:

8:30AM - 9:00AM: Registration and check in.

9:00AM - 9:30AM: Welcome/Overview of REL Mid-Atlantic and WWC Practice Guides

Dr. Jim Davis, REL Mid-Atlantic Laboratory Extension Specialist & Dr. Vito Forlenza, REL Mid-Atlantic PA State Coordinator

During this introduction/welcome, **Drs. Davis** and **Forlenza** will provide an overview of REL Mid-Atlantic, as well as a short description of the Practice Guides offered through the What Works Clearinghouse. In addition, they will provide participants with a background on the development of WWC Practice Guides, a description of the structure used to organize the guides, as well as a detailed explanation of the levels of evidence used throughout the series.

9:30AM - 10:30AM: Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom and Intervention Practices

Dr. Terry Salinger, managing director and chief scientist for reading research at the American Institutes for Research

10:30AM - 10:45AM: Break

10:45AM - 12:00AM: Panel of Practitioners and Discussion

Facilitated by Dr. Jim Davis, REL Mid-Atlantic Laboratory Extension Specialist

Individual Panel Members to be determined

The panel of pre-selected practitioners will present on the practical implementation of their assigned practice guide recommendations. These presentations will include discussions of the panel members' experiences with implementation of their assigned recommendations, specific obstacles they faced in implementation, and methods used for overcoming their own roadblocks to implementation as well as those identified within the practice guide. After the panelists' presentations, a dialogue, facilitated by **Dr. Jim Davis**, will occur between the panel members, participants, and **Dr. Terry Salinger**.

The panel of educational practitioners will consist of a selection of individuals from regular education, special education, higher education teachers and administrators

recommended by the partnering agency and selected for their experience related to the practices recommended within the practice guide.

The discussion session will immediately follow the Panel presentation and will include the panel members as well as the expert, **Dr. Terry Salinger**. Participants will be invited to direct questions toward any of the individual presenters, or toward the panel and expert as a whole.

12:00Noon - 1:00PM: Working Lunch

*Facilitated by REL Mid-Atlantic Laboratory Extension Specialists, and **Dr. Terry Salinger, AIR***

In small groups, facilitators will engage participants in discussions relative to the recommendations from the Practice Guide and panel discussions, help the participants understand the value of the research-based recommendations, and share their experiences and concerns related to the implementation of the recommendations. This will provide time to think about and share the values and concerns of the recommendations and consider individual strategies to implement the Practice Guide's recommendations in their own practice.

Conversations will be guided to focus on the implications of the Practice Guide's recommendations to individual practice as well as more general reactions and questions related to the Practice Guide. Each group will be instructed to select a single recommendation to discuss. The specific questions posed to each small group include:

1. What forms of evidence exist for the recommendation? How should this affect implementation? *(This question is used in order to better assess participant understanding of the levels of evidence used within the practice guide. As facilitators observe the small working groups, this helps to determine if additional, explicit, explanation or discussion is necessary in order to build participant understanding of research based practice)*
2. How did the panel discussion support the recommendation and offer additional insights for its implementation?
3. What experiences have your table's participants had with implementing this recommendation?
4. What ideas does your table have for supporting the successful implementation of this recommendation?
5. Did any of the Practice Guide's recommendations surprise you? Why or Why Not?

Flip Charts will enable the participants to share information with the group as a method for reporting the results of the round table engagement.

1:00PM - 2:00PM: Large Group Discussion

*Facilitated by **Dr. Jim Davis**, REL Mid-Atlantic Laboratory Extension Specialist & **Dr. Terry Salinger**, AIR*

In a full group session, the small groups from the working lunch will present the salient points of their discussions as LESs record the points on chart paper and facilitate additional discussion between groups.

2:00PM - 2:30PM Summary/Wrap-up

***Dr. Jim Davis**, REL Mid-Atlantic Laboratory Extension Specialist
Ms. Jenny Lent, Intermediate Unit #9*

At the conclusion of the large group discussion, **Jenny Lent** will request that all participants take the time to complete an evaluation form, providing feedback related to the event through a combination of likert scale and open ended questions. Participants will also be asked to complete participation forms necessary to receive Act 48 (Professional Development) credits from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Dr. Davis will then provide summary remarks, recapping the discussions that took place over the course of the event and reminding participants of the resources available from IES, the WWC, and the Regional Educational Lab network.