

**Organizing Instruction and Study to Improve Student Learning  
Cumberland County Community College, Vineland, NJ  
June 2, 2010**

**Agenda**

**8:00 AM - 8:30 AM: Registration/Check In**

**8:30 AM - 9:00 AM: Introduction to the Levels of Evidence**

*Facilitated by **Hilda Rosario**, REL Mid-Atlantic & REL Mid-Atlantic LES*

During this session, participants, in small groups, will review the IES levels of evidence used within the practice guides and describe the research that determines the strong, moderate and low levels of evidence, identifying specific examples. Discussions within the small groups related to the levels of evidence will then be facilitated by an LES. Since the event will be attended by representative groups from New Jersey's schools from Bacon/rural districts, small groups will include one or two schools' representatives as well as any additional participants not affiliated with the Bacon/rural districts.

**9:00 AM – 9:15 AM: Welcome**

***Dean Richard De Lisi**, Rutgers Graduate School of Education  
**Willa Spicer**, Deputy Commissioner, NJ DOE*

**Willa Spicer** will directly address the representatives from New Jersey's schools from Bacon/rural districts, emphasizing the importance of research based practices.

**9:15 AM – 9:30 AM: Overview Rationale of Practice Guide and Doing What Works**

***Hilda Rosario**, REL Mid-Atlantic*

**9:30 AM - 10:00 AM: Checklist for Recommendations: IES Practice Guide - *Organizing Instruction and Study to Improve Student Learning***

*Facilitated by **Hilda Rosario**, REL Mid-Atlantic & REL Mid-Atlantic LES*

Facilitated review of the recommendations in the *Organizing Instruction and Study to Improve Student Learning* practice guide. Within their small groups, and facilitated by Lab staff.

**10:00 AM – 10:15 AM: Break**

**10:15 AM - 12:00 PM: Organizing Instruction and Study to Improve Student Learning**

*Dr. Hal Pashler, University of California, San Diego*

**12:00 PM – 12:45 PM: Small Group Discussion**

*Facilitated by Hilda Rosario, REL Mid-Atlantic, REL Mid-Atlantic LES & Dr. Hal Pashler*

After the participants have heard the presentation, facilitated review of the recommendations in the *Organizing Instruction and Study to Improve Student Learning* practice guide will continue. Within their small groups and facilitated by the LESs, participants will use the first column of the *Checklist for Recommendations: IES Practice Guide*, filled out in an earlier session, in addition to the information presented by **Dr. Pashler** to guide discussion regarding the levels of success and next steps to implement these strategies into their school/district. This step will build upon information from earlier sessions, guiding participants toward a comprehensive understanding of the recommendations and the steps necessary for implementation within practice.

**12:45 PM - 1:00 PM: Break**

**1:00 PM - 2:15 PM: Small Group Discussion**

*Facilitated by Hilda Rosario, REL Mid-Atlantic; REL Mid-Atlantic LES; and representatives from NJDOE*

In small groups, facilitators will engage participants in discussion around the recommendations from the practice guide, help the participants understand the value of the research-based recommendations, and continue planning for implementation of the recommendations.

Conversation will be guided to focus on developing an action plan, challenges and roadblock participants will need to address, and questions they still have about the research and the recommendations. Following are some questions participants will consider as they develop their actions plans:

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. What experiences have your table's participants had with implementing this recommendation?
3. What ideas does your table have for supporting the successful implementation of this recommendation?
4. Did any of the Practice Guide's recommendations surprise you? Why or Why Not?

### **2:15 PM – 3:00 PM: Large Group Presentations/Discussion**

*Facilitated by **Hilda Rosario**, REL Mid-Atlantic*

In a full group session, the small groups from will present the salient points of their discussions. **Hilda Rosario & Dr. Hal Pashler** will serve to reiterate points reflecting the practice guide recommendations and redirect and correct any misinterpretations of the recommendations.

### **3:00 PM – 3:30 PM - Wrap-up and Next Steps**

***Claudia Burzichelli**, REL Mid-Atlantic*

At the conclusion of the large group discussion, **Claudia Burzichelli**, on behalf of the NJDOE 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. She 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.