ISA/RtI Professional Development

Pilot Project for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 School Years

The Child Research and Study Center will be partnering with a small number of schools/districts to participate in the development of RtI models based on the ISA. Extensive and job-embedded professional development for teacher leaders and primary level teachers (classroom, reading, special education, etc.) will be offered. The Center plans to work closely with individual schools to develop procedures and processes for RtI implementation that might serve as models for other schools in the future. The Center will provide sustained professional development and consultation related to the ISA and RtI for both teacher leaders and teachers for a period of up to two years. Professional development for teachers will involve a multi-step process in which one or more teacher leaders from each participating school will participate in face-to-face professional development related to RtI and the ISA. The teacher leaders will, in turn, support teachers in their schools as they engage in similar professional development that is offered in an on-line environment. Teacher leaders will also be expected to support teachers as they begin to implement ISA-based RtI procedures and to attend follow-up sessions with Center staff to hone their expertise, to explore questions regarding teachers’ implementation, and to provide feedback on the delivery of the content in an on-line context.

Topics

- Research foundations of RTI and the ISA
- Development of an RTI process
- Assessment for:
  - Progress monitoring
  - Instructional planning
- Responsive, comprehensive, and coherent/cohesive instruction for early literacy learners at multiple tiers. Topics include:
  - Motivation
  - Alphabets (including phonemic awareness and phonics)
  - Word Learning
  - Vocabulary and language development
  - Comprehension and knowledge development
Structure of the Professional Development

Professional Development for Building and District Level Teacher Leaders* – (Eight day, face-to-face seminar)

- **Providers:** Donna Scanlon & Kimberly Anderson
- **Location:** to be determined (a U Albany facility)
- **Dates:** Full days scheduled from mid-January through mid-March, 2011; exact dates to be determined once participating districts have been identified.
- **Cost:** $600 per teacher leader, including materials and lunches.

(To learn more about the role of the Teacher Leader, click here.)

Professional Development for Teachers (webinar - approximately 30 hours)

- **Providers:** Donna Scanlon & Kimberly Anderson
- **Location:** School/District facility which allows reliable and fast internet access, a projector and screen, facilities for collaborative group work
- **Dates:** Mid-March through June, following completion of the seminar for Teacher Leaders; specific dates to be determined. Full-day, half-day and after schools options will be offered in consultation with participating districts.
- **Cost:** $250 per teacher to cover materials. Schools should plan to provide appropriate refreshments.

Follow-up Professional Development and Ongoing Support for Building and District Level Teacher Leaders

- **Providers:** Donna Scanlon & Kimberly Anderson
- **Location:** Combination of face-to-face and online
- **Dates:** Full day meeting in Summer 2011 and monthly 2-hour meetings throughout the 2011-12 school year.
- **Cost:** No additional cost for the follow-up year of professional development and ongoing support.

*Costs are low because we are piloting the use of the online approach to content delivery and follow-up support.

To learn more about the Professional Development Project, contact crsc@albany.edu