

RTAC Communications May 11, 2007

District Professional Development for Years 2-3-4...

Dear Reading First Coordinators,

Please read the bulleted points to guide your RF district team should you wish to develop you own Year 2-3-4+ professional development curriculum for RF Schools.

As districts develop their own professional development, it's necessary to keep in mind that it should be:

- Comparable to the AB 466/SB 472 professional development training offered by state-approved providers (40 hours of training and 80 of follow up)
- Based on the district-adopted curriculum program (Houghton Mifflin or Open Court)- all components included, and specific to teachers by grade level
- Covering further and deeper knowledge on the phases of Direct Instruction (recommended approach): Orientation, Presentation, Highly Structure Practice, Guided Practice, and Independent Practice
- Focusing on training and refinement of the literacy components in the program: Phonics, Phonemic Awareness, Vocabulary, Fluency, Comprehension, Grammar, and Writing (deeper study of the writing component in the program)
- Focusing on student engagement, teacher-student interactions, and effective feedback to students
- In alignment with the RF Assurances (to include teacher collaboration for cognitive preparation of lessons)
- Including use and study of data to look at instructional needs and plans
- Providing special attention to students with diverse needs: linguistic, academic, other.

Note: (see RF Assurances page)

To comply with the RF Assurances schools use and support only supplemental materials, technology programs, or staff development programs that support the scientific research-based, adopted reading/language arts instructional program

Assure the LEA's Reading First Program is coordinated with all other district and site level Language Acquisition, Title 1, School Improvement, and Special Education Programs.

If you're planning to attend the RIC professional development institutes this summer, please call John Ellsworth for information and registration at 510-670-7743, and to secure space.

Please call me if you have any questions or to make an appointment to see your curriculum for approval. Thank you.

Gladys