



**California Reading First  
Regional Technical Assistance Center (RTAC)  
Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE)  
313 West Winton Avenue ♦ Hayward ♦ CA 94544**

**Date:** March 18, 2006

**To:** Reading First Coordinators, Coaches, and District Representatives

**Cc:** Reading First Principals, Superintendents, and Stakeholders

**From:** Gladys Lazo Frantz, Executive Director  
Regional Technical Assistance Center (R-TAC)  
California Reading First, Regions 4 & 5

**Re:** RTAC March Communications

**RTAC Website: Visit our new website at [www.alamedartac.org](http://www.alamedartac.org)**

The website provides access to information, the calendar of events, English curriculum resources, areas RTAC services, Lectura curriculum resources, RF links, a forum to exchange ideas, and more. We continue to build the website with your ideas, tools, needs, and suggestions.

### **Regional Network Meeting**

RTAC facilitates quarterly meetings for Coaches, Coordinators, Content Experts, and RF Administrators in the English and the Spanish Reading First Programs. This year, Writing is the topic of discussion for the English Program, and English instruction in Lectura classrooms. As agreed by the group, we meet at a location central to all (The Beverly Heritage Hotel in Milpitas)

If you would like to participate, please register for each meeting by calling Araceli Varela at 510-670-7772 or emailing her at [avarela@acoe.org](mailto:avarela@acoe.org); she will be able to help you with the process.

*Next Meeting Dates:*

- *Lectura Regional Network: May 12, 2006*
- *HMR Regional Network: May 19, 2006*

### **LEA Session..... Congratulations to San Francisco USD!**

On our last meeting we honored our own San Francisco Unified School District, Sheridan School which had the top Reading First Achievement score in California last year. The principal Nurjehan Khalique was presented with an award and recognized for Sheridan's accomplishments. She accepted the award and reminded us to keep the children's achievement as our central goal: "When the effort is systemic, all structures are in place, your instructional materials are used with integrity, the district supports your efforts, and as a leader you support your staff and monitor the process, wonderful results do happen. It takes time, preparation, commitment, and resources, but it can be done." Way to go!!

The next LEA session will be on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006; it will be the last session of the 2005-2006 school year. Registration for the LEA Session and Administrator Training of Trainers is now available online at [www.calread.net/lea\\_sessions](http://www.calread.net/lea_sessions). Please go to the website and click on LEA Sessions at the top of the page to view information on how to register for these events. Online registration for these events will close on Monday, April 17, 2006.

## **Administrators Training of Trainers: Next TOT will be April 27, 2006**

Some of you did not have the opportunity to attend the TOT for the Principals' Modules on Thursday, March 16, 2006. CTAC presented five more Modules: Assurances, ELD II, Vocabulary, Coaching, and Role of Routines in Effective Instruction. These are succinct modules of professional development for principals to be presented in one to two hours. The training and materials have been developed and are available for RF districts to continue refining their principals as RF instructional leaders. Our RTAC office will provide some of these trainings for principals next year.

The Administrator Training of Trainers (April 27, 2006) session will provide district presenters the opportunity to experience and practice using both Administrator's Modules that focus on English learner issues: *English Learners, Developing English Competency, Part I and Part II*.

## **Assurances: Required Professional Development AB 466 New, Advanced 1, 2, 3 (second, third, and fourth year)**

As we continue our progress in the RF Districts, it's important to remember that professional development is part of the RF Grant Assurances. All Reading First Districts are required to provide professional development to their RF teachers in every year they are part of the program. As Rounds 1 and 2 will receive a 4<sup>th</sup> year of funding, they will also be involved in professional development. This is the time to begin planning teachers' involvement in the appropriate institutes. For the advanced professional development, districts may choose to access the CTAC Institutes or develop their own curriculum course that is comparable to AB 466 and grade level material specific. The grant requires districts to make sure this assurance is met as well as the others.

Should you decide to develop your own Advance curriculum, please send it to the RTAC Office by May 10<sup>th</sup> for approval and/or recommendations. Call our office if you need more information.

## **Reading Implementation Center (RIC)**

If your district decides to use the RIC to deliver the summer RF Institutes (new or advanced), please call our Alameda RIC to reserve your spots as we are in the final stages of planning our professional development institutes. At this point the RIC is working with the numbers that districts have already sent in their intent letters. Please send your numbers as soon as possible as it would be very difficult to add institutes at the last minute (planning for instructors, facilities, and materials are taking place now). Contact Kiyu Masuda at 510-670-4295 or John Ellsworth at 510-670-7743

## **Reading Instruction: Boosting Vocabulary**

Our RTAC has obtained permission from the HM Publishing Company to create a Picture Vocabulary Program that contains illustrations of the vocabulary words of the selections of the HM Programs (English and Lectura) K-3 Themes for teachers to make vocabulary teaching easier and more meaningful to children. This program will be available in August for all RF districts and RF schools in our Regions. It's our goal to support the districts which are making efforts to improve the teaching of vocabulary.

## **Lectura**

A special invitation to all educators in RF Schools involved with the RF Lectura program to participate in an afternoon seminar presented by Dr. Adelina Arellano-Osuna on Monday, April 24, 2006 at the Alameda County Office of Education (12:00-4:30 p.m.). She brings her expertise and knowledge as a global reading consultant for many countries and as an author of teachers' and children's books. She will be addressing elements of effective instruction in a Spanish program. Registration is required (no cost for RF Schools). Deadline for registration: April 17, 2006

**Reading First Events Update 2005-2006**  
**Alameda Regional Technical Assistance Center (R-TAC)**

| <b>Purpose of Meeting</b>  | <b>Date<br/>2005-2006</b>          | <b>Location</b>  | <b>Time</b>                       |
|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. RTAC Prof. Dev. On Sd/Sp Cards, Wd. Pattern Boards, Blending Routines for Coordinators, Administrators, and Coaches | September 7, 2005                  | Hayward<br>ACOE<br><br><b>Presented by Roberta 'Boots' Nichols</b>                                 | 9am-2pm                           |
| 2. RTAC RF Principals Walkthrough Training (for Salinas City and Alisal Principals)                                    | September 8, 2005                  | Salinas<br>Salinas City School District<br><b>Presented by Gladys Frantz</b>                       | 9:30-11:15 am                     |
| 3. RTAC Prof. Dev. On Sd/Sp Cards, Wd. Pattern Bds., Blending Routines for Coordinators, Administrators, and Coaches   | September 15, 2005                 | Salinas<br>(specific location to be determined)<br><br><b>Presented by Roberta 'Boots' Nichols</b> | 9am-2pm                           |
| 4. RTAC RF Regional Lectura Network Meeting (for Lectura Coaches and RF Administrators)                                | September 16, 2005                 | ACOE<br>Rm #142<br><b>Facilitated by Gladys Frantz</b>   | 9:30am -12:30pm                   |
| 5. North 2-day Coach Institute (for Coaches and RF Adm.)   | September 20-<br>September 21 2005 | Sacramento<br>Doubletree Hotel   | 2 day event                       |
| 6. RTAC RF Regional Districts Network Meeting (for Coaches and RF Administrators)                                      | September 30, 2005                 | ACOE<br>Rm# L1<br><b>Facilitated by Gladys Frantz</b>  | 9:30-12:30 p.m.                   |
| 7. RTAC RF Principals Walkthrough Training (for all RF principals)   | October 3, 2005                    | ACOE Rm#142<br><b>Presented by Gladys Frantz</b>   | 9:30-11:30 a.m.                   |
| 8. Superintendents' Summit (for Superintendents and District RF Administrators)  | October 25-26, 2005                | San Diego<br>San Diego Marina<br>Marriott  | Specific times will be sent later |
| 9. Administrator Training of Trainers (for RF principals and administrators)   | October 27, 2005                   | San Diego<br>San Diego Marina<br>Marriott  | 8:30- 4:00                        |
| 10. RTAC RF Regional District Network Meeting (for RF districts and  | November 3, 2005                   | Salinas<br>SC School District  | 9:30-12:30                        |

**Reading First Events Update 2005-2006**  
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| <b>Purpose of Meeting</b>                     | <b>Date<br/>2005-2006</b> | <b>Location</b>   | <b>Time</b>                        |
|---|---------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| coach coordinators)                           |                           |   |                                    |
| 11. RTAC RF Lectura Network Meeting           | November 18, 2005         | Santa Clara County Office of Education Cupertino Room                 | 9:30-12:30                         |
| 12. RTAC Directors Meeting                    | December 5, 2005          | Sacramento Reading Lions Center                                       | 12:00-5:00                         |
| 13. North RF LEA Session                      | December 6, 2005          | Sacramento Doubletree Hotel   | All Day Event                      |
| 14. RTAC RF Vocabulary Forum                  | December 9, 2005          | ACOE Rm 142   | 9:00-12:30                         |
| 15. RTAC RF Principals Walkthrough Training   | January 11, 2006          | ACOE Rm 142<br><b>Presented by Gladys Frantz and Becky Sullivan</b>   | 9:00-12:00                         |
| 16. North 2day Coach Institute                | January 25-26, 2006       | Sacramento Doubletree Hotel   | All Day Event                      |
| 17. North LEA Session                         | February 7, 2006          | Sacramento Doubletree Hotel   | All Day Event                      |
| 18. RTAC RF Regional District Network Meeting | February 3, 2006          | San Jose Hampton Inn<br><b>Special Presentation by Becky Sullivan</b> | 9:30-12:30                         |
| 19. RTAC RF Regional Lectura Network Meeting  | February 27, 2006         | Milpitas, The Beverly Hotel   | 9:30-12:30                         |
| 20. North Administrator Training Follow-up    | March 16, 2006            | Sacramento Hilton Arden West Hotel                                    | 8:30-3:00                          |
| 21. Effective Spanish Instruction (new)       | April 24, 2006            | ACOE Rm 142<br><b>Presented by Adelina Arellano-Osuna</b>             | 12:30-4:30                         |
| 22. North LEA Session                         | April 26, 2006            | Sacramento Doubletree Hotel   | 8:30-1:30                          |
| 23. North Administrator Training Follow-up    | April 27, 2006            | Sacramento Doubletree Hotel   | 8:30 (exact times to be confirmed) |
| 24. RTAC RF Regional Lectura Network Meeting  | May 12, 2006              | Milpitas, The Beverly Hotel<br><b>Facilitated by Gladys Frantz</b>    | 9:30-12:30                         |
| 25. RTAC RF Regional District Network Meeting | May 19, 2006              | Milpitas, The Beverly Hotel   | 9:30-12:30                         |

You may access the full calendar at the Regional Technical Assistance Center Website: [www.alamedartac.org](http://www.alamedartac.org)  
 Select: **Calendar of Events** from the Menu