



REAC³H COACH

E-Mail Newsletter

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"Reading is important because if you can read, you can learn anything about everything and everything about anything."

Tomie dePaola

Keep in mind how I can assist you and your district:

- 1. Assess your needs.*
- 2. Contact me to schedule my visiting your site.*
- 3. Make sure all those who would benefit are aware of my visit.*

Staying in Touch

In attempts to help keep districts of the panhandle informed I'm starting a weekly newsletter highlighting anything I feel is important to you as PK – 3 educators in the Oklahoma panhandle. It will be a one stop source for you to stay informed. Look for announcements from the State Department of Education, upcoming professional development in your area, and links to resources. I'd love to hear your feedback as I get this started. If you have an opinion or request send it to me at kreddick.reac3hcoach@gmail.com.

Reac³h Coach Focus for 2013 - 2014

With the 3rd grade retention law coming into effect this upcoming year the SDE is focused on lessening the effect on school districts across the state. Watch this video from PBS that explains: <http://www.oeta.tv/video/3492.html>.

For this reason Reac³h Coaches will focus their assistance on grades PK – 3 for the 13 – 14 school year. The following is the definition of "What Do the Reac³h Coaches Do?" released by the SDE:

- Provide PK – 3rd grade teachers professional development and support in literacy and particularly in the five components of reading
- Assist districts in understanding and effectively implementing every phase of the Reading Sufficiency Act
- Assist administration and classroom teachers in the interpretation of student assessment data to make instructional decisions
- Assist in coordinating and monitoring intervention services to identified students
- Model effective research-based literacy instruction and best practices
- Observe teacher practice and provide feedback related to effective instructional strategies
- Provide literacy resources to teachers and principals
- Assist in the implementation of a plan to actively involve parents/guardians in improving their children's literacy skills



All sites/districts will have to update their Reading Sufficiency Plans online by 8/30/13. There are seven (7) changes to this year's (13-14) plan:

1. Will select only one intervention for outside the 90 minute reading block but multiple Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions can be created for each grade.
2. Tier 2 and Tier 3 will have different selections for intervention.
3. A new question has been added about computer based programs and how progress monitoring will be handled.
4. There is a new button on the submission page to copy last year's data.
5. Your plan will go through a verification process that all fields are completed before plan will be allowed to be submitted.
6. Can choose a different Core Program for each grade level.
7. The assessment plan and goals section has grade specific questions instead of site level questions.

Kimmy Reddick

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RSA

The Reading Sufficiency Act will have a huge impact on districts this following year if schools/districts do not understand their responsibilities. In early June I offered two workshops featuring the Reading Sufficiency Plans associated with the Reading Sufficiency Act. Schools in attendance included Keyes, Laverne, Balko and Guymon. I'd like to offer this workshop again prior to the plans submission deadline of August 30, 2013. If you'd like to participate please send me an email including your interest, kreddick.reac3hcoach@gmail.com.

There are six good cause exemptions tied to the Reading Sufficiency Act that allow students who meet at least one to go on to fourth grade. Exemption #4 is the demonstration of proficiency through a portfolio assessment. The following is a link to the checklist of items that should be included in a portfolio used to demonstrate a 3rd grade student's grasp of 3rd grade concepts and the need to promote them to 4th grade despite their score of unsatisfactory on the OCCT.

<http://ok.gov/sde/sites/ok.gov.sde/files/RSA-PortfolioChecklist.pdf>

Since the use of a portfolio for promotion may be an issue for any 3rd grader it's important for schools/districts to consider implementing portfolios for all 3rd grade students.

The State Department of Education has included many resources to assist you in understanding the Reading Sufficiency Act and the plan associated with this act, <http://www.ok.gov/sde/reading-sufficiency-act>.

Great Reads

Nine Things Every Teacher Should Know about Words and Vocabulary Instruction

<http://web.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail?sid=146f988f-f147-49b1-a06e-44a11308f97f%40sessionmgr13&vid=1&hid=22&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWwhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#db=aph&AN=24572523>

Use the link to the left of the screen at the above site to download the pdf version of the article. Included are many ideas for vocabulary instruction at all levels for all students, especially English Language Learners.

Upcoming Professional Development

- The State Department of Education will be in Guymon on August 12 for a Reac³h Network Regional Professional Development. To learn more visit: <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/OKSDE/bulletins/83af6b>



- As I schedule PD's for the panhandle check out <http://www.eventbrite.ca/org/3716513753> for a full listing.
- Check out all Reac³h Coach Professional Development offered free across the state at www.reac3hcoach.com.