

## KEYNOTES and WORKSHOPS PRESENTED BY

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### SESSION TITLES *(details provided on following pages)*

1. Understanding, Assessing, and Teaching Our Students with Dyslexia
2. The Science of Reading: WHAT We Know & HOW to Implement it
3. Teaching the Foundational Skills of Reading to Meet K-5 State Standards  
*(Alternative Title: Building A Strong Foundation to Help Every Student Become a Reader)*
4. Making Sense of Fluency Data: What Does ORF Really Measure?
5. Reading FAST or Reading WELL? Let's Take Another Look at Fluency
6. Educators as Physicians: Using Data from Reading Assessments for Professional Decision-Making  
*(Alternative Title: Using the RIGHT Data for RTI/MTSS Reading Decisions)*
7. Meeting the Needs of Vulnerable Readers K-12
8. Which Fluency Benchmarks Should We Use and What Do They Really Mean?
9. SAILS: How Standards, Assessments, Instruction & Intervention, Leadership and Sustained Commitment Can Help All Students Achieve Academic Success!
10. Student-Focused Coaching: Helping EVERY Teacher Succeed

**SESSION DETAILS NOTE:** ALL SESSIONS CAN BE TAILORED TO THE NEEDS AND CONCERNS OF A SPECIFIC GROUP OF EDUCATORS OR OTHER PARTICIPANTS

## 1. UNDERSTANDING, ASSESSING, AND TEACHING OUR STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/keynote/webinar or half day workshop.

Our understanding of dyslexia has greatly expanded over the past decade, due in large part to the newest technologies being used by researchers to study the complex brain functions involved in reading and writing. This session will provide an overview of the newest research on dyslexia and addresses the many myths that persist in our understanding of this neurobiological disorder. The importance of early identification and intervention will be stressed, with a discussion of the assessments that can be used to help us identify these students and plan effective instruction. It is exciting that research has also identified specific strategies that help us successfully address the reading, writing, and spelling challenges that our students with dyslexia face. Components of this effective instruction will be presented, including the role of phonological awareness, phonics/decoding, and reading fluency.

Content is based on the professional development book: **Conquering Dyslexia** (June 2020) by Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D. <https://www.benchmarkeducation.com/professional-learning/pd-essentials.html>

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Know the current research on dyslexia.
2. Learn a research-based definition of dyslexia.
3. Understand how dyslexia can be identified even in very young children and the reason why early identification and intervention is so important.
4. Know instructional processes and content that address the challenges of dyslexia.
5. Know a wide variety of resources and organizations to support children with dyslexia and their families.

*Intended Audience:* All Professional Educators and Administrators PreK-12+, Reading and Dyslexia Specialists, Literacy Coaches, School Psychologists, Interventionists, Parents

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## 2. THE SCIENCE OF READING: WHAT WE KNOW & HOW TO IMPLEMENT IT

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/keynote/webinar or half day workshop.

ALTERNATIVE: EVERY Student A Successful Reader! Achieving Academic Success for Social/Emotional Well-Being with Powerful Instruction

Researchers in medicine and education have been researching how the brain acquires the ability to read since the 1800s. During those decades, many theories

were developed. Recently, technology that allows noninvasive tracking of neurological processes has dramatically changed our thinking about how we learn to read and what are the most effective ways to provide instruction and intervention. We now understand that approximately 95% of students can be taught to read, especially if we start the process early. We know that the most effective instruction is provided by teachers who are both well-informed and well-supported. The newest research supports using “structured literacy”, systematic and explicit instruction that involves multi-modality and active engagement from students. This session reviews the current research from medicine, psychology, and education. The implications for how to use this newest, research-based science to design and provide the most effective instruction for all students will be discussed.

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Know about the current research on reading.
2. Understand why we can now conclude that approximately 95% of students can be taught to read, write, and spell successfully.
3. Learn the definition of “structured literacy” and its essential components: Comprehensive, systematic, explicit, and intensive instruction that provides multi-modal engagement for students that is informed by data.
4. Learn ways to effectively implement “structured literacy” in real-world classrooms for all students.

*Intended Audience:* All Professional Educators/Administrators K-5, Interventionists K-12, Reading and Dyslexia Specialists, Literacy Coaches, School Psychologists, & Parents

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### **3. TEACHING THE FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS OF READING TO MEET K-5 STATE STANDARDS**

*(Alternative Title: Building A Strong Foundation to Help Every Student Become a Reader)*

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/keynote/webinar or half day workshop. Can include an overview of ELA Standards.

Most of the U.S. states and Territories have adopted the *Common Core State Standards* (CCSS) for their schools or a state-specific version of them. The primary goal of the CCSS ELA standards is to ensure that all students will “be ready for college, workforce training, and life in a technological society [with] the ability to gather, comprehend, evaluate, synthesize, and report on information and ideas, to conduct original research in order to answer questions or solve problems, and to analyze and create a high volume and extensive range of print and or nonprint texts in media forms old and new.” (National Governors’ Association, 2010 CCSS p. 4). In order to achieve these challenging and ambitious standards, we must teach ALL our students to read, and to read well! The CCSS ELA standards include four foundational skills: Print awareness, phonological

awareness, phonics and decoding, and fluency. This session will review those essential skills and provide the most up-to-date research on each and make a case for the need to be certain that all students acquire these foundational skills.

*(Short description)* Compelling research is providing strong evidence that almost all students can be taught to read at grade level. These days, students need to meet the challenging and ambitious Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. This will require careful attention to helping them acquire a strong set of foundation skills. This session reviews the four CCSS foundational skills and reviews the research on their importance and role in skillful comprehension and motivated reading.

Content is based on a White Paper: **Foundational Skills in the K-5 Common Core State Standards** by Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D. published by McGraw Hill Education. Available from Dr. Hasbrouck.

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Know the current research on the potential reading achievement of students.
2. Understand the effect of powerful instruction on the brain.
3. Know the CCSS foundational skills for reading (print awareness, phonological awareness; phonics and decoding; fluency).
4. Identify specific strategies for effective instruction for each of foundation skills, and how they impact comprehension and motivation.
5. Learn a framework for planning effective instruction: content, activities, materials, delivery.

*Intended Audience:* All Professional Educators K-5, Reading Specialists, Literacy Coaches, Parents

Compelling research is providing strong evidence that almost all students can be taught to read at grade level. These days, students need to meet challenging and ambitious standards such as the CCS Standards for English Language Arts. Researchers have also known for many years that education and mental health are strongly linked, and that doing well in school gives children a sense of competence that results in feeling good about themselves – which in turn is linked to higher levels of well-being in adulthood. Reading success is vital to well-being! Helping our students achieve this level of success requires careful attention to helping them acquire a strong set of foundation skills in the early grades. This session reviews the four foundational skills needed for overall reading success including skillful comprehension and motivated reading.

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#### 4. MAKING SENSE OF FLUENCY DATA: WHAT DOES ORF REALLY MEASURE?

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/keynote/webinar or half day workshop.

These days the curriculum-based measure of oral reading fluency (ORF) is widely used in schools across the world. Most schools are using one of the several commercial versions of ORF measures available today, including DIBELS 8th Edition from the U of Oregon, or Acadience, or easyCBM, or AIMSweb, or FAST Bridge, or iStation, etc. But what do these ORF assessments actually measure? Why are we relying so much on a 60 second measure of oral fluency on unpracticed text? Is this really fair? And shouldn't we really be assessing our students' comprehension? This session, presented by an expert in reading fluency and curriculum-based measurement, will answer all these questions so that educators will be empowered to collect the right amount data, using the right assessment tools, and at the end of the day, be able to accurately and efficiently use the data to make the best decisions about our students' instruction.

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Learn about the origins of the oral reading fluency (ORF) assessment as a curriculum-based measure (CBM).
2. Understand how the ORF assessment should be used for professional decision-making.
3. Understanding the common “myths” or “confusions” regarding ORF assessments.

*Intended audience:* K-12 Administrators, K-5 Teachers, Reading Specialists, Instructional Coaches, School Psychologists, Intervention Specialists K-12

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#### 5. READING FAST OR READING WELL? LET'S TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT FLUENCY (ALT TITLE: READING FLUENCY: ESSENTIAL FOR READING COMPREHENSION)

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/keynote or half day workshop.

The National Reading Panel report identified fluency as “a critical component of skilled reading...often neglected in classroom instruction.” Fluency has also been included in an essential foundation skill in most state reading standards. Educators took note, and as a result reading fluency is now a BIG part of teaching and assessing, but it remains misunderstood. This session—presented by one of the nation’s experts on fluency—provides an updated and *functional* definition of reading fluency. The workshop clarifies the role of curriculum-based measures (CBM) of oral reading fluency (ORF), often used to screen students and monitor their overall progress in reading: What do these measures really tell us and how should they be used appropriately? The updated compiled ORF norms (Hasbrouck & Tindal, 1992; 2006; 2017) will be discussed.

Research-supported fluency instruction strategies will also be addressed. This session provides an opportunity to reflect on how fluency supports reading comprehension and how it should fit into a comprehensive and effective reading program for all students.

*(Short description)* Fluency is essential for skillful and motivated reading but is often misunderstood. Fluent reading is NOT fast reading! This session defines reading fluency and clarifies the link between fluency and comprehension. The role of fluency assessments and effective fluency instruction will also be discussed.

Content is based on the book: ***Reading Fluency: Understand, Assess, Teach: PROFESSIONAL LEARNING GUIDE*** (2019) by Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D. and Deborah Glaser, Ed.D., available <https://www.benchmarkeducation.com/professional-learning/pd-essentials.html>

And the article: Hasbrouck, J. (2020). An update to the National Reading Panel Report: What we know about fluency in 2020. *The Reading League Journal*, 1(3), 29-31.

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Understand and be able to define reading fluency (both the fluency *components* of accuracy, rate, and expression/prosody and fluency *mechanics*).
2. Understand how fluency develops in progressions from the earliest stages of reading acquisition.
3. Understand the role that fluency plays in literacy achievement.
4. Understand how to correctly interpret the role of oral reading fluency (ORF) assessments for benchmark/screening and progress monitoring.
5. Know how to determine a student's reading fluency level.
6. Know research-supported components for effective instruction and intervention for reading fluency for all students.

*Intended audience:* K-12 Administrators, Teachers K-5, Reading Specialists, Instructional Coaches, School Psychologists, Intervention Specialists K-12.

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## **6. EDUCATORS AS PHYSICIANS: USING DATA FROM READING ASSESSMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL DECISION-MAKING** (*ALTERNATIVE TITLE:* Using the RIGHT Data for RTI/MTSS Reading Decisions)

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/keynote/webinar or half day workshop.

In this age of mounting educational accountability-- and the wide-spread implementation of the Common Core State Standards and the RTI/MTSS framework—K-12 educators everywhere are being asked to administer ever-increasing numbers of assessments to their students. Teachers *screen* students to determine who may need additional assistance

in learning to read, administer *diagnostic assessments* to students to determine their skills strengths and weaknesses for planning instruction, and *monitor* students' progress to determine if their skills are showing improvement. All this testing can take a lot of time and requires a lot of paperwork. It certainly has an impact on the amount of time teachers have available for planning and instruction. Many educators—and parents-- are becoming frustrated with this situation and wonder if all this testing is really helping our students.

This seminar takes a close look at WHY these assessments are being used, HOW to select and administer the most time-efficient and valuable assessments, and—most important of all--how to USE the data to make key instructional decisions that can truly help us provide the best possible reading instruction to all students. In the same way that we expect our physicians to make their decisions about our health and wellness by using the best information available, educators must use assessment tools to inform and guide our professional decisions regarding students' academic "health and wellness". But because it is instruction—*not testing*—that is the most important task of schools, we must select and use reading assessments as efficiently and effectively as possible.

(*Short description*) Response to Intervention (RTI) and MTSS processes require professional educators to make numerous decisions about their students' academic needs. Data must be collected and carefully analyzed to help guide essential decisions. Participants will learn research-based strategies for helping teams of educators collect and use assessment data *efficiently* and *effectively*.

Content is based on the professional development training manual and booklet: ***Educators as Physicians: Using RTI Data for Effective Decision-Making*** (2010) by Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D. CURRENTLY OUT OF PRINT—in revision

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Understand the purpose for collecting data effectively and efficiently within an RTI/MTSS framework.
2. Understand the purpose and basic strategies involved in benchmark/ screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring reading assessments.
3. Know how to accurately collect, interpret, and use data using oral reading fluency assessments and informal reading inventories.
4. Know how to create progress monitoring graphs using curriculum-based measurement (CBM) procedures.
5. Interpret data and use it to make decisions about students' instructional needs and to evaluate students' progress.

*Intended Audience:* K-12 Administrators, K-5 Teachers, Reading Specialists, Instructional Coaches, School Psychologists, Intervention Specialists K-12

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## 7. MEETING THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE READERS

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/keynote/webinar or half day workshop.

Too many students in our classrooms struggle with learning to read. This does not need to occur. Research has shown that approximately 95% of all students can be taught to read at grade level, including those with learning disabilities and dyslexia. With the adoption of the challenging and ambitious Common Core State Standards, educators are increasingly wondering: How can we meet the needs of every student in today's classrooms? This workshop describes the characteristics of students who become our struggling readers and presents research-supported and classroom-proven approaches to successfully address these students' needs. The essential foundation skills of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension will be presented within a *real-world* model to help teachers, principals, and specialists collaborate to provide effective reading instruction for ALL students. Discussion of Common Core State Standards and CCSS Foundation Skills can be included.

*(Short description)* With the wide adoption of the Common Core State Standards for reading, the bar for student success has been significantly raised. This session will discuss how educators can use the knowledge from research to design and deliver effective reading instruction to meet the needs of ALL students in real-world classrooms.

Content for this training has been developed by Dr. Jan Hasbrouck and used in multiple university courses and trainings. It draws from multiple sources including research studies and textbooks that will be cited and referenced in the presentation materials.

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Know the current research on the potential reading achievement of students.
2. Identify the research-based components of effective instruction.
3. Understand the effect of powerful instruction on the brain.
4. Know the five key components of reading (phoneme and phonological awareness; phonics and decoding; fluency; vocabulary; comprehension).
5. Identify specific strategies for effective instruction for each of the five key components, plus passage reading and study skills.
6. Learn a framework for planning effective instruction: Content, activities, materials, delivery.

*Intended audience:* K-12 Administrators, K-5 Teachers, Reading Specialists, Instructional Coaches, School Psychologists, Intervention Specialists K-12



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## 8. WHICH FLUENCY BENCHMARKS SHOULD WE USE AND WHAT DO THEY REALLY MEAN?

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/webinar

DIBELS-8<sup>th</sup> Edition has established norms and benchmarks for oral reading fluency (ORF). Acadience and AIMSweb have norms and benchmarks; easyCBM and FAST have norms and benchmarks. They all differ from one another. Why is this? Which set of benchmarks is correct? And how should professional educators use ORF benchmarks to make decisions about the instruction we provide our students? This session will tackle this important and often confusing issue and provide practical suggestions for real-world practice.

Decades ago, researchers determined that short, standardized assessments that measured the *accuracy* and *rate* of students' performance on academic tasks could serve as reliable and valid indicators of their ability to perform those tasks in real-world situations. These assessments were labeled "curriculum-based measures" or CBM. The most widely used CBM measure is oral reading fluency (ORF), a one minute assessment used to determine which students might need assistance with their reading (as part of a benchmark/screening process), and, once instruction has started, whether or not a student is making progress toward an individual goal. Some researchers created commercial ORF assessments including DIBELS-8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Acadience, AIMSweb, easyCBM, iStation, and FAST Bridge. Each of the commercial CBM-R ORF assessments also has established a set of benchmark guidelines, specific to their product. But, confusing to many, these benchmarks vary widely. And most importantly, how should educators *respond* if their students do not reach the benchmark? If a student's ORF score is lower than desired, is the appropriate response to teach them to read faster? While this may seem logical, it is *not* the correct choice. This session will discuss the difference between ORF assessments and the skill of reading fluency and offer the correct response to a below-benchmark performance on a CBM-R ORF assessment—which is to collect diagnostic data to determine an appropriately targeted intervention. The updated compiled ORF norms (Hasbrouck & Tindal, 1992; 2006; 2017) will be discussed.

*(Short description)* DIBELS-8<sup>th</sup> Edition has established norms and benchmarks for oral reading fluency, as has Acadience, AIMSweb, easyCBM, and FAST Bridge. They all differ from one another. Why is this? Which set of benchmarks is correct? And how should professional educators use ORF benchmarks to make decisions about the instruction we provide our students? This session will tackle this important and often confusing issue and provide practical suggestions for real-world practice.

Content is based on the professional development book: ***Reading Fluency: Understand, Assess, Teach*** (2019) by Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D. and Deborah Glaser, Ed.D., available at <https://benchmarkeducation.com/reading-fluency-understand-assess-teach-professional-learning-guide-for-leaders.html>

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Learn about the origins of the oral reading fluency (ORF) assessment as a curriculum-based measure.
2. Understand how the ORF assessment should be used for professional decision-making.
3. Understand how benchmarks are created and why they vary so much across from assessment to assessment.
4. Understand the rationale for following benchmark assessments with skills diagnostic assessments (and suggestions for how to do that quickly).

*Intended audience:* K-12 Administrators, K-5 Teachers, Reading Specialists, Instructional Coaches, School Psychologists, Intervention Specialists K-12

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## **9. SAILS: How *Standards, Assessments, Instruction & Intervention, Leadership and Sustained Commitment* Can Help All Students Achieve Academic Success!**

Presented as a 60 to 90-minute overview/keynote/webinar or half day workshop.

The challenge of improving students' academic achievement on a school-wide and district-wide basis is daunting at best. The adoption of the ambitious Common Core State Standards has raised the stakes even higher. While challenging, these goals can be achieved! Students' academic skills and outcomes improve significantly when schools focus on five critical and interrelated areas: *Standards, Assessments, Instruction & Intervention, Leadership and Sustained Commitment* (SAILS). A large body of research on effective schools supports adopting standards, using assessment data to guide instructional decisions, and implementing high-quality instruction and interventions using proven methods and materials. Leadership weaves these components together, resulting in improved practice and higher achievement. A sustained commitment ensures the system-wide success of these efforts. These components must also be supported by the creation of a safe and positive environment where every student feels a sense of belonging, autonomy and competence.

The rationale and support for a multifaceted systems approach comes from policy evaluations, theory, and logical conclusions from field implementations. This session reviews the research-base for SAILS and describes how effective schools use each component to create a systemic, multi-component plan that improves the proficiency of both challenged as well as highly skilled students, so all students can achieve the most ambitious standards.

*(Short description)* Effective K-12 schools achieve success by paying close attention to five essential components: Standards, Assessments, Instruction and Intervention, supported by Leadership and a Sustained Commitment (SAILS). This session presents strategies for using this research-based framework for success so every school can increase student academic achievement.

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Know about the research base on effective schools used to create the SAILS model.
2. Learn the five components of the SAILS model: Standards, Assessments, Instruction & Intervention, Leadership and Sustained Commitment.
3. Understand the critical importance of creating a climate that addresses the social/emotional needs of learners.
4. Understand the role of each component for academic success.
5. Learn resources to support the effective implementation of each component.
6. Receive a SAILS Needs Assessment to help analyze the current status of each participant's school or district.

*Intended audience:* K-12 Administrators, Teachers, Specialists, School Psychologists, Instructional Coaches, Interventionists

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## **10. STUDENT-FOCUSED COACHING: HELPING EVERY TEACHER SUCCEED**

Presented as a 60 to 120-minute overview/webinar or full day workshop. Additional training support for coaches based on the SFC model can be provided.

**NOTE:** *This workshop is typically presented as GENERIC, with no specific content focus (appropriate for educators who provide coaching support in any content area including math, reading/literacy, science, social/emotional concerns, behavior, special education, etc.). Sessions can also be targeted specifically to reading/literacy coaches. Follow up training is recommended.*

Coaching has become a popular model in schools to provide professional development and support to improve the instructional skills of teachers, and the academic skills and behavioral outcomes of students. Unfortunately, few teachers who are being given the role of “coach” are receiving sufficient training or support to adequately perform this challenging role. This situation is often complicated by the fact that few administrators clearly understand this new role or how to provide the essential support that coaches will need to be successful. This workshop for coaches AND administrators begins with the basics: The research-based rationale for coaching (WHY provide coaching?), WHO makes a good coach, and WHAT are the key tasks that help make coaching successful. The essential difference between coaching and supervision is discussed. Various models of coaching are presented along with an overview of Student-Focused Coaching (SFC; Hasbrouck & Michel, 2022; Hasbrouck & Denton, 2005 & Hasbrouck & Denton, 2009). One day or multiple day seminars can then focus on various topics including: The coach/principal partnership, working successfully with ALL teachers, the professional development role of coaches, using collaborative problem-solving strategies, and more.

*(Short description)* Instructional coaching can be effective but only when all participants have a clear understanding of the purpose for coaching and coaches have a set of tools and strategies for working with all their colleagues. This session explores the research to support coaching and presents a responsive and comprehensive model called Student-Focused Coaching. Participants will leave with a clear understanding of the coaching process and have a tool-kit full of effective strategies!

Content is based on book: ***Student-Focused Coaching: The Instructional Coach's Guide to Supporting Student Success Through Teacher Collaboration*** (2022) by Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D. and Daryl Michel, Ph.D., available at <https://brookespublishing.com/resource-library/student-focused-coaching-the-instructional-coachs-guide-to-supporting-student-success-through-teacher-collaboration-excerpt/>

*Participants in the full workshop will:*

1. Learn the definition of Student-Focused Coaching (SFC) and the evidence-base for the development of that model.
2. Understand the value of instructional coaching.
3. Learn key conditions that allow effective coaching to be implemented.
4. Learn about how to partner effectively with supervisors.
5. Learn specific strategies for working successfully with colleagues.

*Intended audience:* Instructional coaches and K-12 Administrators who support instructional coaches.