



Partnering for Positive Change:

How the SLD Support Project and SCISC are Collaborating to Support Students with SLDs

Presented by: Aubrey Durkin, Melissa Jones–Bromenshenkel, Robin Thoma, and Jill Uher



Jill Uher
Director of
Professional Learning
South Cook ISC



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Eastern Illinois University,
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SLD Support Project,
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Project Manager
SLD Support Project



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Math Specialist
SLD Support Project

SLDSP

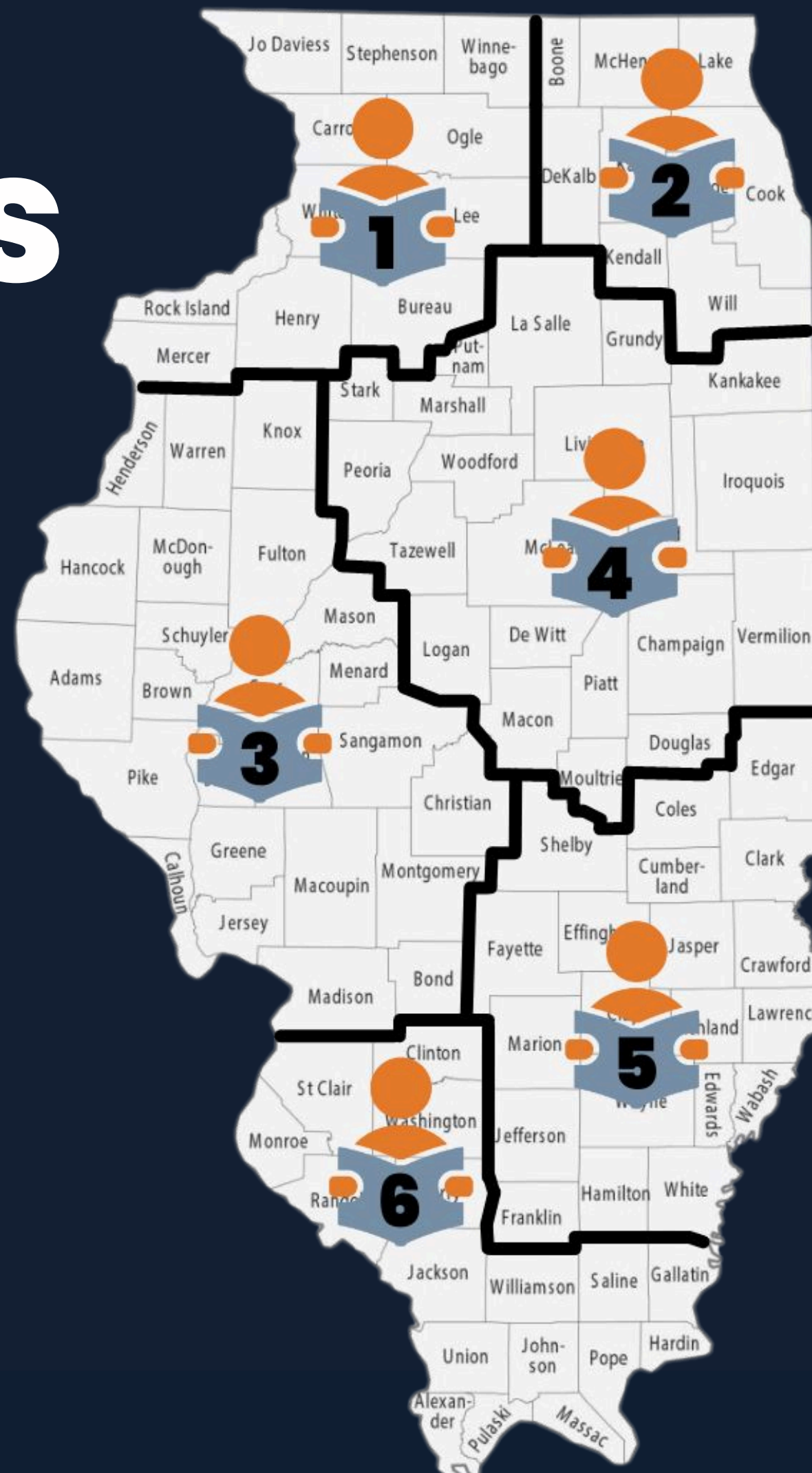


SLDSP

The Specific Learning Disability Support Project is a **federally funded** grant project through the Illinois State Board of Education in partnership with Eastern Illinois University and Eastern Illinois Area of Special Education. The Specific Learning Disability Support Project **aligns with IDEA's purpose** "...by supporting system improvement activities, coordinated research, personnel preparation, coordinated technical assistance, technology development and media services [to] ensure the effectiveness of efforts to educate children with disabilities." This project aims to **reduce the achievement gap** and **offer training** and **resources** to meet the educational needs of all students with specific learning disabilities. It also aims to **increase reading and math skills** and **decrease achievement gaps** by expanding upon the development of previous training materials to address **"specially designed instruction"** for students with **specific learning disabilities** , including, but not limited to, dyslexia.



Regions

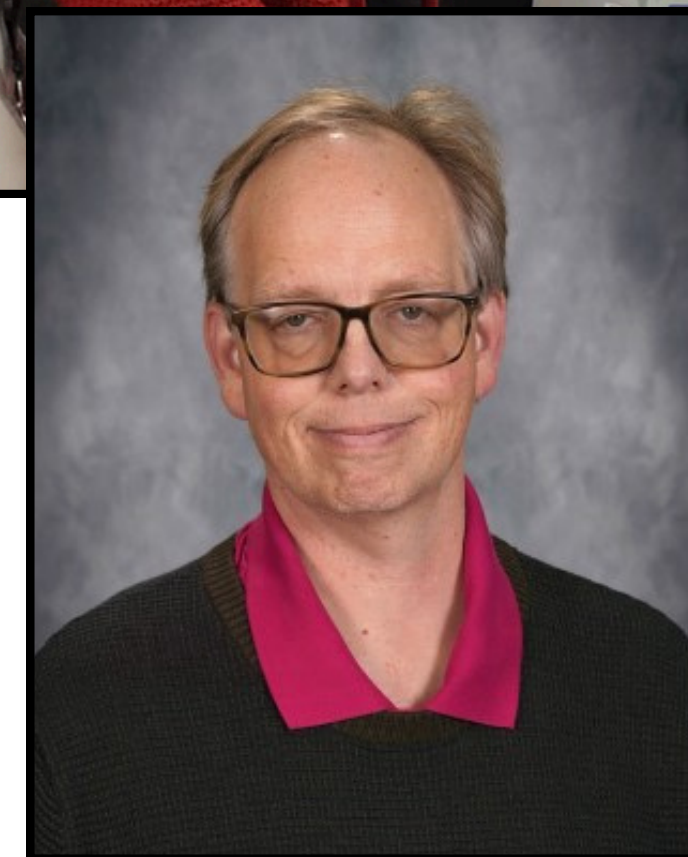




School Coaching Partnerships



District Spotlight



Memorial School

Post-Cycle Data

Students with SLDs Post Assessment Results

Name	Pre Assessment Score	Post Assessment Score	Score Difference
Student	92	100	+8
Student	54	79	+25
Student	90	99	+9
Student	75	100	+25
Student	31	47	+16
Student	81	85	+4
Student	60	53	-7
Student	78	93	+15
Student	82	99	+17
Student	43	43	0
Student	32	65	+33

Name	Pre Assessment Score	Post Assessment Score	Score Difference
Student	82	100	+18
Student	36	33	-3
Student	39	43	+4
Student	65	72	+7
Student	58	46	-12
Student	50	58	+8
Student	64	100	+36

Assessment Link

Assessment Analysis: Most of the students made gains. Those who scored on the lower end initially did not show the same gains as those who scored more towards the middle. We may want to proceed with three groups, cover copy compare, taped problems, and a flashcard intervention for those that score below 40% initially.



10 Sessions

5

MIN

**120%
FLUENCY**

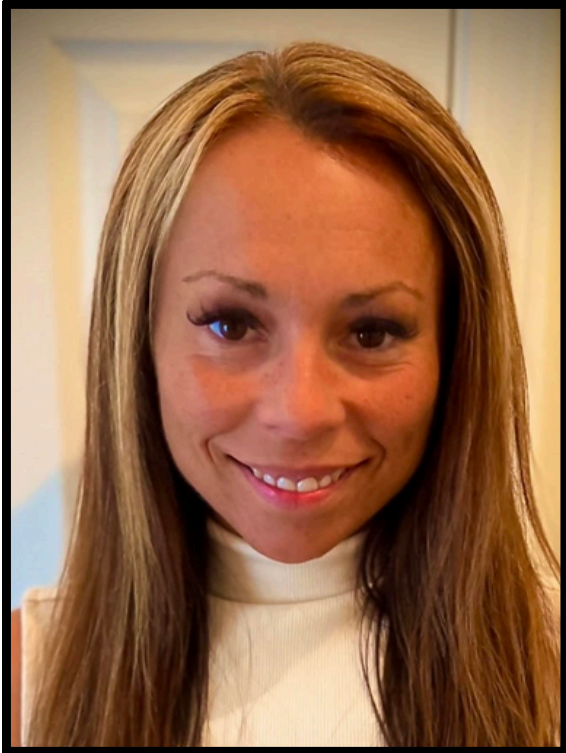
Name	Baseline	Post									
Student Names	92	100									
	54	79									
	90	99									
	75	100									
	31	47									
	81	85									
	60	53									
	78	93									
	82	99									
	82	100									
	36	33									
	39	43									
	65	72									
	58	46									
	50	58									
	64	100									
	32	65									
	43	43									
	99	100									
	97	100									

[illegible]

District Spotlight

Calumet CSD 155

Lisa Stuart and
Jeannine Pazanin



Melissa Santangelo
Literacy Coach



20 Sessions

5

MIN

**24%
FLUENCY**

Student Names	Beginning Addition	27	2025-01-23	56	2025-05-02	19
	Beginning Addition	61	2025-01-23	100	2025-03-17	12
	Beginning Subtraction	62	2025-03-27	86	2025-05-02	12
	Beginning Addition	62	2025-02-10	100	2025-04-10	13
	Beginning Subtraction	—	—	—	2025-04-10	2
	Beginning Addition	67	2025-01-23	100	2025-02-24	7
	Beginning Subtraction	61	2025-02-25	95	2025-05-02	13
	Beginning Addition	75	2025-01-23	100	2025-02-21	9
	Beginning Subtraction	60	2025-02-25	96	2025-05-02	14
	Beginning Addition	67	2025-01-28	100	2025-03-27	18
	Beginning Subtraction	50	2025-04-05	48	2025-04-14	9
	Beginning Addition	79	2025-01-23	100	2025-04-09	21
	Beginning Subtraction	67	2025-04-26	77	2025-04-28	5
	Beginning Addition	26	2025-01-28	92	2025-04-14	18
	Beginning Addition	56	2025-01-23	84	2025-05-02	21
	Beginning Addition	50	2025-02-06	47	2025-05-02	16
	Beginning Addition	33	2025-01-28	56	2025-05-02	19
	Beginning Addition	59	2025-01-23	75	2025-05-02	20
	Beginning Addition	71	2025-01-28	100	2025-02-21	10
	Beginning Subtraction	95	2025-02-24	100	2025-03-17	7
	Beginning Addition	13	2025-01-28	17	2025-04-09	14
	Beginning Addition	34	2025-01-29	58	2025-04-14	17
	Beginning Addition	19	2025-02-06	50	2025-05-02	14
		1194		1737		
		52%		76%		

Name	Operation	Placement Fluency	Date	Current Fluency Score	Date of Last Quiz	Number of Quizzes
Student Names						
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	27	2025-01-23	71	2025-05-22	21
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	61	2025-01-23	100	2025-03-17	12
	Beginning Subtraction (0-10s)	62	2025-03-27	86	2025-05-02	12
	Addition (12s)	—	—	—	2025-05-22	6
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	62	2025-02-10	100	2025-04-10	13
	Beginning Subtraction (0-10s)	—	—	—	2025-04-10	2
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	67	2025-01-23	100	2025-02-24	7
	Beginning Subtraction (0-10s)	61	2025-02-25	95	2025-05-02	13
	Addition (12s)	—	—	—	2025-05-22	3
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	75	2025-01-23	100	2025-02-21	9
	Beginning Subtraction (0-10s)	60	2025-02-25	86	2025-05-22	16
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	67	2025-01-28	100	2025-03-27	18
	Beginning Subtraction (0-10s)	50	2025-04-05	57	2025-05-22	11
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	79	2025-01-23	100	2025-04-09	21
	Beginning Subtraction (0-10s)	67	2025-04-26	77	2025-04-28	5
	Addition (12s)	56	2025-05-22	56	2025-05-22	5
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	26	2025-01-28	93	2025-05-22	20
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	56	2025-01-23	87	2025-05-22	23
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	50	2025-02-06	47	2025-05-22	18
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	33	2025-01-28	58	2025-05-22	21
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	59	2025-01-23	73	2025-05-22	22
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	71	2025-01-28	100	2025-02-21	10
	Beginning Subtraction (0-10s)	95	2025-02-24	100	2025-03-17	7
	Addition (12s)	96	2025-05-09	96	2025-05-22	6
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	31	2025-01-28	92	2025-05-22	15
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	34	2025-01-29	63	2025-05-22	19
	Beginning Addition (0-10s)	19	2025-02-06	55	2025-05-22	16
		56.083333%		79.958333%		



LETRS Partnerships with Schools





Having already obtained my Reading Specialist certification, I was skeptical that I would learn much from the LETRS 1 Training. Boy, was I wrong. Yes, I was pleased to receive confirmation that my current practices were research-based and suitable for my struggling readers. In addition to that, I got such a deeper understanding of how readers think, how they learn best, and what explicit and systematic instruction looks like. I learned about assessments and strategies that I used immediately and put into practice this year. It was very much appreciated, and I understand now why this training is in such demand!





LETRS is an amazing program for teachers to aide their literacy instruction. I plan to utilize Syllabification for spelling strategies with my 5th graders next year.





LETRS Volume 1 has deepened my understanding of how kids learn to read. It's helping me support teachers and make informed decisions as we begin building a strong, research-based literacy plan for our district.



SUZI MUCHOWSKI ~ LSS CURRICULUM COORDINATOR
INDIAN SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT 109



LETRS has helped me to deepen and give a clearer understanding of the Science of Reading. I anticipate that the LETRS screener will be beneficial in analyzing current student skills and will assist in guiding targeted and intentional instruction. LETRS suggested phonics lesson plan will support a variety of literacy components and provide rigor to help build mastery over time. Burbank School District 111 is excited to put our LETRS training to use to enhance our students' learning journeys.





LETRS training has transformed the way our teachers view literacy. They now understand it's just not about teaching reading strategies to their students. It's about knowing how the brain processes written language and using that knowledge to guide instruction. LETRS has given teachers the tools to make instructional decisions that are research based and responsive! Within this year, the teachers who were in the letters program saw literacy gains on their ELA Spring MAP assessment in comparison to their previous data trends!





LETRS has sparked my continued search for knowledge on the Science of Reading and the Science of Learning. Every educator, instructional coach, administrator, and homeschooling parent needs to invest their time to understand the art of literacy. This training is essential to provide efficient and equitable instruction for ALL students. This course shares the “HOW to” teach children to read using research based practices. We need to correct the old system of learning and implement what will certainly produce successful life long learners.



READING

MATH

Training Sessions

CO-TEACHING

**INCLUSIVE
PRACTICES**

1 Special Education Cooperative

25 School Districts

+

49 Instructional Coaches

BRING YOUR ADMINISTRATOR DAY



Data Collection
to Demonstrate
Coach
Effectiveness

FOCUS



READING

Exploring the Science of
Reading (Elementary)
Empowering Reading Success
with Interventions

Leadership Wins and Woes in
Literacy Transformation:
Closing the Achievement Gap
for Students

Equitable Foundations:
Addressing Dyslexia in the Tier 1
Classroom



READING

Leadership Wins and Woes in Literacy Transformation:

Closing the Achievement Gap for Students



FACILITATOR:
CHRISTIE JOHNSON
REGION 3
SPECIALIST

EQUITABLE

FOUNDATIONS

Addressing

Dyslexia

and

Word

Recognition

Deficits

in

the

Tier 1

Classroom

PRESENTED BY:



Kellyn Sirach
Reading Specialist



ILLINOIS

SLD SUPPORT PROJECT

ILLINOIS SLD SUPPORTS PRESENTS:



EXPLORING THE SCIENCE OF READING

Empowering Reading Success with Interventions



PRESENTER:

KELLYN SIRACH
Reading Content Specialist

MATH



ILLINOIS

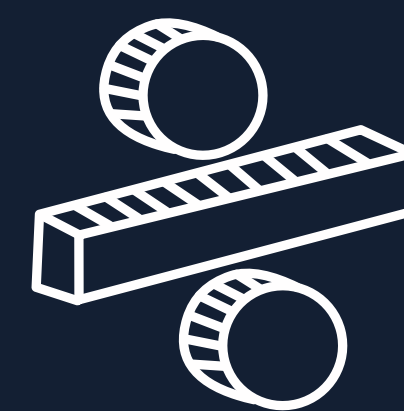
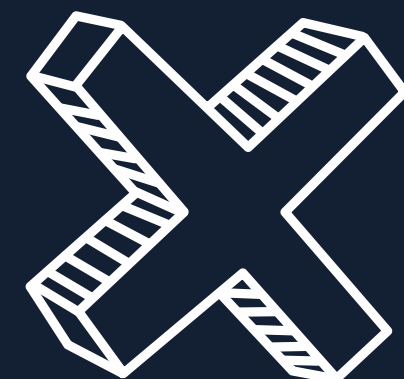
SLD SUPPORT PROJECT

IAR Word Problems

For Students with SLDs

Presenter:
Aubrey Durkin
Math Content Specialist





Concrete and Representational Approaches of Math

Presenter:
Aubrey Durkin
Math Content Specialist



ILLINOIS SLD SUPPORTS PRESENTS:
WHAT IS DYSCALCULIA?

Attributes of Students with a Specific Learning Disability in Math



PRESENTER:
AUBREY DURKIN



CO-TEACHING



PRESENTS:

CO-TEACHING FOUNDATIONS

BUILDING SUCCESS TOGETHER

PRESENTED BY:
Chanita Jones
Region 2 Specialist



PRESENTED BY:
Amy Weltin
Region 2 Specialist



INTERMEDIATE CO-TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR CLASSROOMS:

Implementing Specially Designed Instruction



Presented by:
Christie Johnson
Region 3 Specialist





INCLUSIVE PRACTICES

Specially Designed Instruction

Explicit Instruction and Student
Engagement

Evidence-Based Strategies to Support
Students with Specific Learning Disabilities
in the General Education Classroom

INCLUSIVE PRACTICES



ILLINOIS

SLD SUPPORT PROJECT

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL:

A Deep Dive into Specially Designed Instruction for Educators

PRESENTED BY:

Jessica Rodriguez

Early Writing Specialist



MAXIMIZING LEARNING THROUGH EXPLICIT INSTRUCTION:

Strategies for Engagement and Implementation



PRESENTED BY:
TARI JANSEN
Region 1 Specialist



Evidence-Based Strategies to Support Students with SLD in the Gen Ed Classroom



Presenter:
JANET FLESCH
Region 6 Specialist



Area Wide 2024 Institute Day

Sessions:

Diverse Learners, Diverse Approaches

Content Area Writing

Word Problem Instruction

Specific Learning Disability in Math Attributes

The What and Why of Co-teaching

Empowering Engagement



**14
Schools**

**2200
Participants**

Area Wide 2024 Institute Day

**1 Special Ed
Cooperative**

**Networking
Sessions**

**278
Sessions**



**ILLINOIS
COMPREHENSIVE
LITERACY
PLAN**

Summer 2024

Literacy Plan

Collaboration on District Literacy Plan

75 Registrations

2nd Session – 75 participants

• SOUTH COOK •

**INTERMEDIATE
SERVICE CENTER**



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



On-Demand Virtual SESSIONS

REGISTER AND LEARN

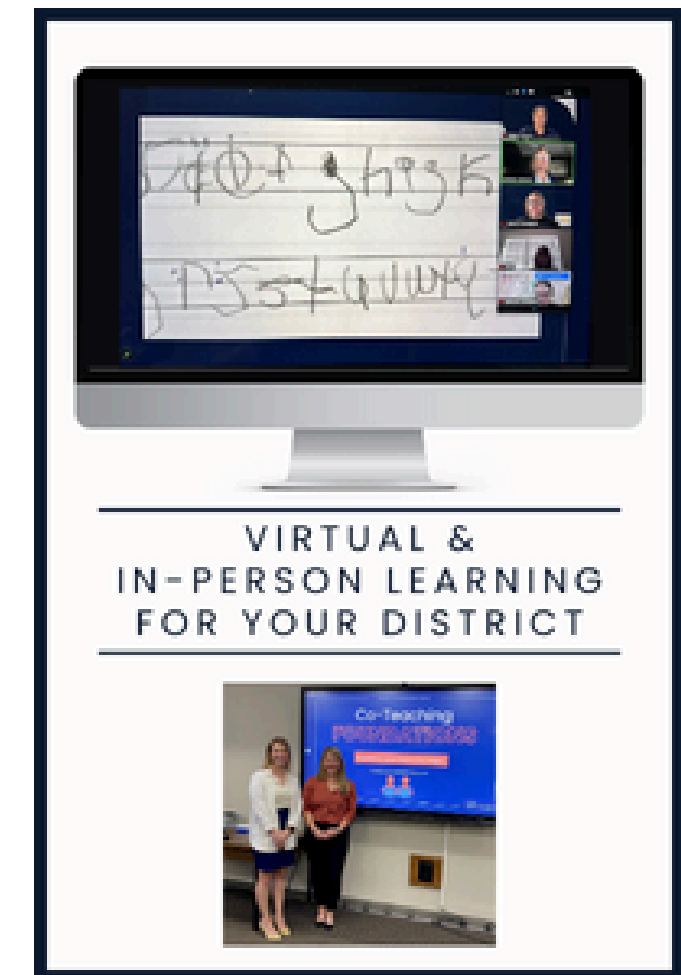
List of current on-demand sessions.



LIVE VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON LEARNING

Live Professional Learning SESSIONS

REGISTER AND ATTEND



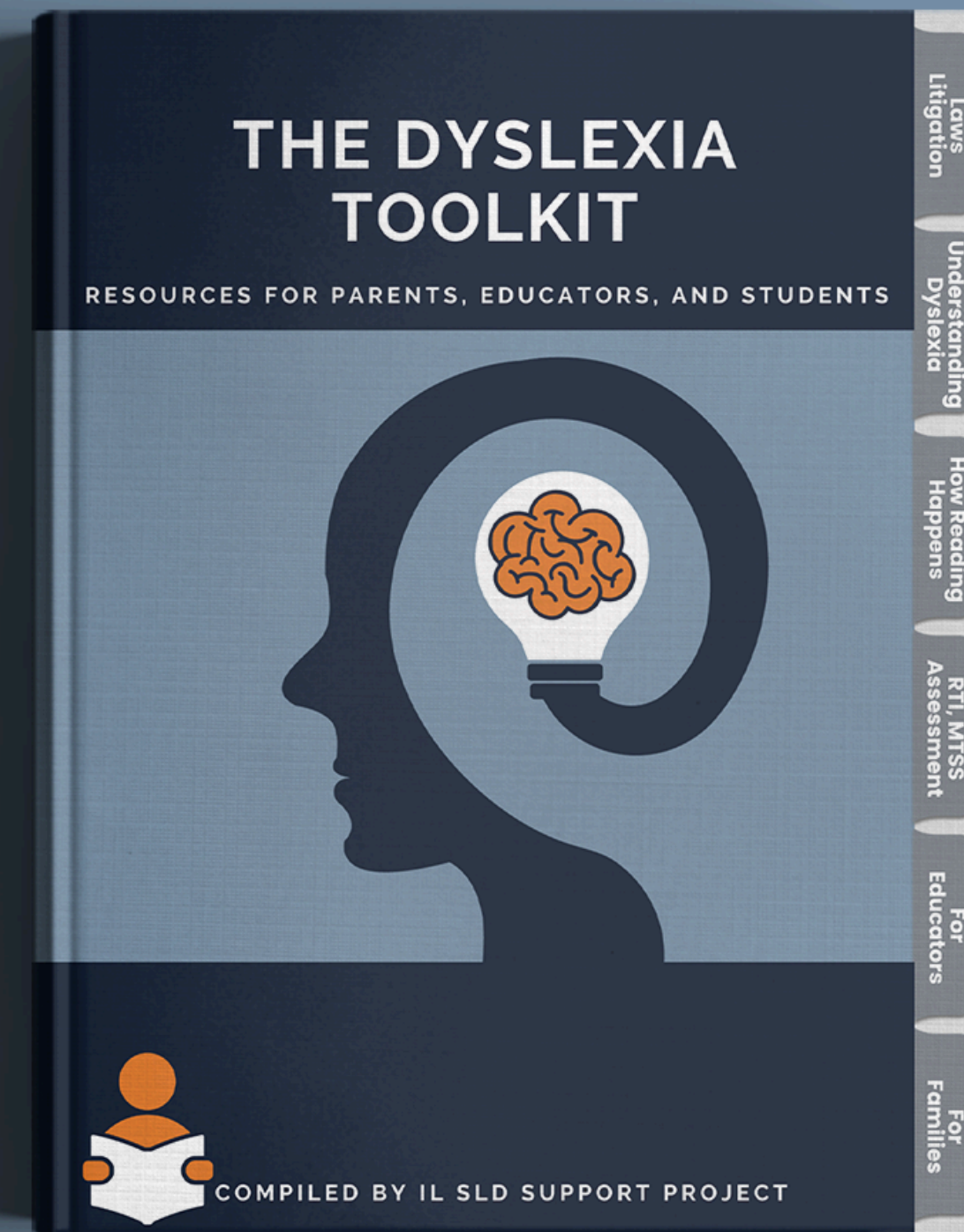
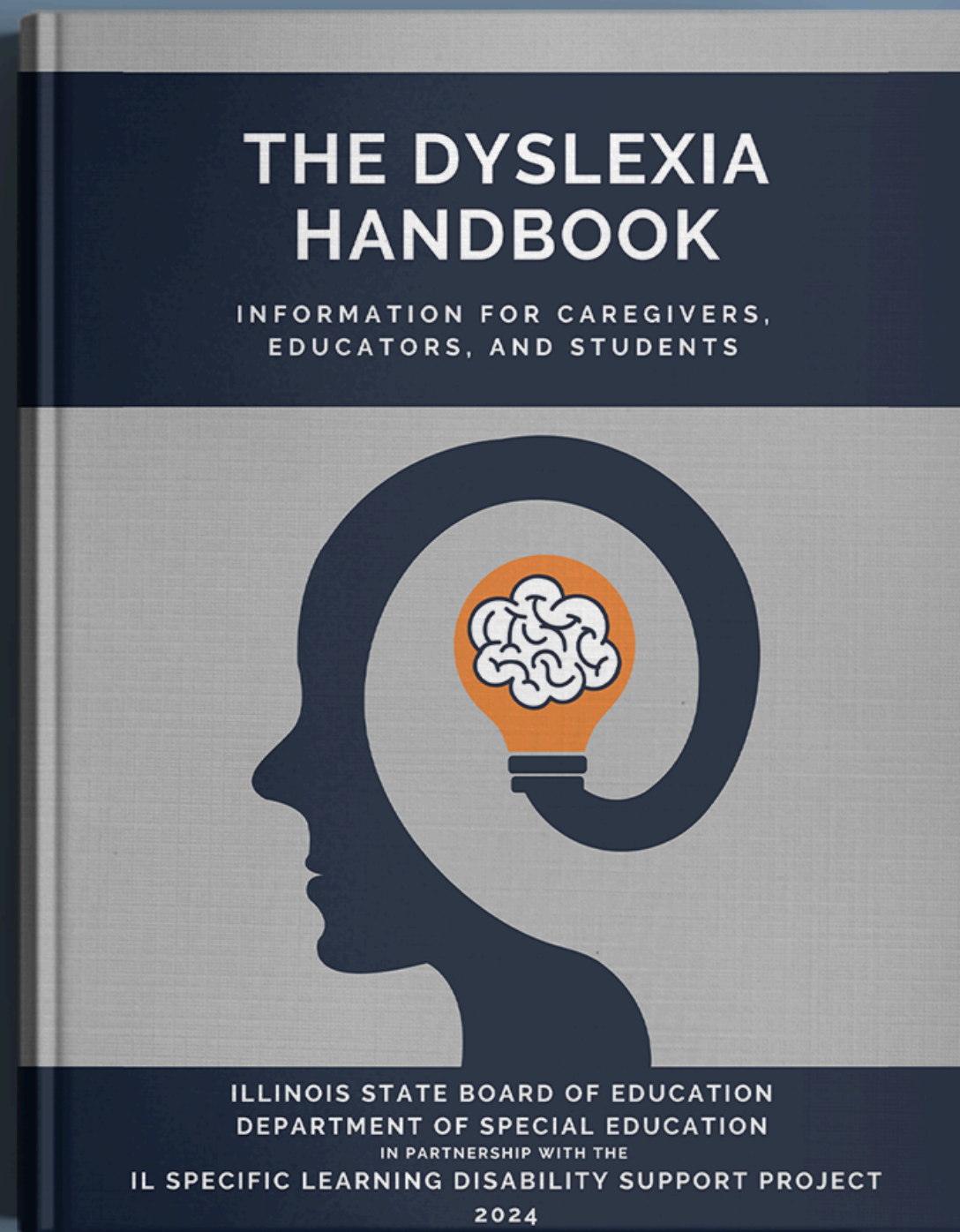
VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON LEARNING FOR YOUR DISTRICT

Request SLD PD

24-25 SESSIONS AT-A-GLANCE

APPLY HERE

NEWLY UPDATED



SAVE THE DATE!

10/10/25



Keynote:
8:00–9:15 AM

Session 1
9:25–10:25 AM

Session 2
10:35–11:35 AM

Lunch & Learn
11:45–12:45 PM

Session 4
12:55–1:55 PM

Session 5
2:05–3:05 PM

EmpowerED: Serve • Lead • Deliver

March 2026

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

IL SLD SUPPORT PROJECT Annual Conference

Crowne Plaza Convention Center | Springfield, IL



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newsletter



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