



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Dear Colleague:

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) will convene the 2010 Reading Institute in Anaheim, California, July 19-21, 2010. The Reading Institute is a key part of ED's strategy to provide educators the support they need to provide high-quality literacy instruction and to assist State and local policymakers to develop effective, comprehensive pre-kindergarten to third grade literacy programs. I hope that you and your colleagues will be able to attend this important Institute.

I am pleased to announce that ED and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will collaborate to add a separate strand on developmentally appropriate early language and literacy at the 2010 Reading Institute. The early learning strand is open to all participants attending the Reading Institute.

The early learning strand will cover what the research tells us about developmentally appropriate early learning goals grounded in child development, sound policy, effective practice, and clearly stated standards. The sessions will also focus on the workforce and infrastructure "systems" required to provide the best possible contexts for child learning, including literacy instruction for children from diverse backgrounds. There will be opportunities for facilitated conversations among the participants throughout the conference. ED and HHS will also provide information about Federal initiatives and funding that support the development, coordination and implementation of high quality comprehensive early literacy systems.

Certain sessions within the early learning strand will be designed to enable participants from the same state to share information about intersections between their roles, about important needs in promoting developmentally appropriate learning outcomes for young children, and about how best to leverage limited resources. A debriefing session will be presented at the end of each day.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Grantees of Federal Programs

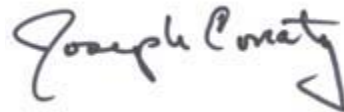
- Reading First
- Striving Readers
- Early Reading First
- Early Childhood Educator Professional Development
- Even Start
- State and Local Title I
- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Other grantees of federal early learning programs

Other Stakeholders in Early Learning

- State leadership
- Local leadership
- National organizations
- Education program leaders
- Teachers
- Literacy coaches and specialists
- Professional development coaches and specialists
- State and local reading specialists
- Family engagement specialists
- Higher education representatives
- Program evaluators
- Literacy and assessment specialists
- Early learning researchers
- Community partners
- Partnership and collaboration experts

We look forward to your participation in the 2010 Reading Institute! Information about registration for the Institute will be posted on at www.mikogroup.com beginning March 15, 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph Conaty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a distinct "C".

Joseph Conaty
Director, Academic Improvement
and Teacher Quality Programs