



Reading Recovery®

Reading Recovery Council of North America
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2015

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Missouri Educator Receives National Award for Literacy Leadership

Columbia Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Peter Stiepleman has been selected to receive national recognition for literacy leadership in an awards ceremony to be held in Kansas City, MO, on Thursday, June 25, 2015. The Reading Recovery Teacher Leader Award recognizes those who have made an outstanding contribution to Reading Recovery both within their local schools and beyond.

At the district level, Dr. Stiepleman has worked to expand the number of Reading Recovery-trained teachers in the Columbia Public Schools to teach lowest-performing first-grade children and others having difficulty with literacy learning. With his support, the district now has a teacher leader who has trained additional teachers in Reading Recovery, growing from 4 to 19 teachers. In addition, the district has trained two Literacy Lessons teachers who work with special needs children.

Beyond the local level, Dr. Stiepleman has worked with key Missouri legislators to advocate to expand Reading Recovery teaching, hosting a session so that Missouri State Representative John Wright could observe Reading Recovery student lessons and teacher training. Additionally, Dr. Stiepleman formed a consortium of area superintendents that provided an excellent forum for others to learn about Reading Recovery. In 2014-2015, Southern Boone School District began training Reading Recovery teachers at the Columbia Public Schools site.

Reading Recovery is a short-term intervention for first graders having extreme difficulty with early reading and writing. In Reading Recovery, specially trained teachers work one-to-one with students in daily 30-minute lessons. After a full series of lessons, about 75% of these formerly lowest first graders reach grade-level standard. Reading Recovery includes yearlong training and ongoing professional development for teachers. In the past school year, the average Reading Recovery teacher worked with 48 students.

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Reading Recovery® Works!
30 Years of Excellence

Celebrating 30 Years of Reading Recovery in North America

Reading Recovery is highly rated in a research review by USDE's What Works Clearinghouse, receiving positive ratings across all four domains – alphabets (phonics and phonemic awareness), fluency, comprehension, and general achievement. Since Reading Recovery began in the United States 30 years ago, more than 40,000 teachers have been trained and more than 2.2 million students have had Reading Recovery lessons.

Also receiving a Teacher Leader Award this year is Jane Berenz, superintendent of Rosemount/ Apple Valley/Eagan School District in Rosemount, MN. This professional recognition is sponsored by the Reading Recovery Council of North America, a not-for-profit association of Reading Recovery professionals and partners.

For more information about Reading Recovery visit <http://www.readingrecoveryworks.org/>