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If you have questions or need additional information you can reach us at 877.485.1973 or info@nifdi.org.

Begin Making Your Summer Plans Now!

As the winter rain is falling in Oregon, we are busy planning the 46th National Direct Instruction Conference and Institutes and the 8th Southwest Direct Instruction Conference. The National Conference will be held in Eugene, Oregon, July 27-31. The Southwest Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas, June 8-12. Both events feature high quality training on most Direct Instruction programs. The National DI Conference will include a special presentation on the new Reading Mastery Transformations Edition, as well as specific program training on the kindergarten and first grade levels of the reading strand. As always, the conference includes many additional sessions related to DI, such as behavior management, research on DI, fluency building and much more. We also will continue to offer the very popular Trainer Training, Coaching and Administrator Institutes at the conference in Eugene. The Trainer Training Institute will also be offered in San Antonio.

Additional details will be available and registration will open in February. Until then, [view this short video](#) and imagine yourself in Eugene or San Antonio this summer!

Baltimore Curriculum Project Charter Schools Make History!

Wolfe Street Academy in Baltimore, Maryland just received an unprecedented 8 year extension on their charter, and Govans Elementary was awarded a 5 year extension. Typically, schools receive 3 year extensions. Both of these successful schools are run by the Baltimore Curriculum Project, and feature Direct Instruction as their core curriculum.



Wolfe Street Academy serves mostly Hispanic and immigrant children and has had the same principal for 15 years. Baltimore City Schools chief Sonja Santelises said Wolfe Street has "embraced the power" that a high-functioning school can "play in the revitalization" of an area of the city. Principal Mark Gaither comments on the extension, "I am thrilled. It provides such a sense of stability for the families, the staff and the community to know that the school will be around for eight more years."



NIFDI sends congratulations to the staff and students of both schools. We are proud to continue to partner with Govans Elementary and Wolfe Street Academy in their efforts to provide quality education to their students.

There's Still Time to Register for NIFDI Enhanced DI Coaching Academy!



Time is running out to register for our popular Coaching Academy, Enhanced Coaching and Facilitating Professional Development, on February 20 & 21, in Columbus, Ohio. This two-day training, co-sponsored by McGraw-Hill Education, is designed for instructional coaches, peer coaches and others responsible for observing instruction and improving student performance.

Topics include:

- Communicating with staff in order to increase instructional effectiveness.
- Refining observational skills to increase the coach's ability to provide data-driven feedback.
- Determining the appropriate intervention based on data and observation.
- Utilizing a variety of interventions (in-class coaching, small group practice, 1:1 rehearsal sessions).
- Designing and delivering efficient on-going professional development sessions.
- Facilitating Data Analysis Team meetings to find and solve student performance problems in a timely manner.

The low fee of \$269 includes lunch each day as well as a binder filled with resources. For a complete brochure and registration information, [click here](#).

Plan on Attending the Direct Instruction Leadership Academy!



Are you currently implementing Direct Instruction or planning on implementing DI in the upcoming school year?

Join the National Institute for Direct Instruction (NIFDI) in Columbus, Ohio March 19 & 20 for a Direct Instruction (DI) Leadership Academy on the essentials of a successful DI implementation. This academy is designed for administrators, instructional coaches, curriculum directors and school board

members.

- Understand how DI facilitates effective instructional leadership.
- Acquire skills and knowledge that will show leaders how schools should be set up for success with DI.
- Identify steps school leaders should take to prepare for implementing DI.
- Develop a personal "action plan" for transforming their school into an effective, efficient school.

A full brochure and registration information is available on [our website](#).

You can also contact Bryan Wickman, NIFDI's Outreach Events Coordinator at 1.877.485.1973 or by email at bwickman@nifdi.org with questions or for more information.

Direct Instruction Author Linda Meyer Passes



Linda A. Meyer, Ph.D., died December 31, 2019, in Urbana, Illinois. She held B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and a Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Oregon.

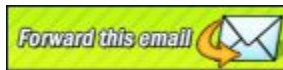
Linda's connection with Direct Instruction began in Champaign at the University of Illinois, where, as a graduate student, she worked at the Bereiter-Engelmann Preschool and with another project with Down syndrome learners at the Children's Research Center.

Her work was instrumental in changing the expectations educators have of mentally developmentally delayed children. In the words of Doug Carnine, "In the past many believed that children with Down syndrome could not learn to read. In the 1960s Zig and Linda Meyer demonstrated that Down syndrome children could

learn to read."

Linda came out to Oregon in the 70's to work on the Follow Through Project. She also worked with Engelmann and others in the development of the Corrective Reading Program. She returned to Illinois, and directed longitudinal research on children and learning at the Center for the Study of Reading. In 1996, she received the Harold Mitzel Award for Educational Practice from the Journal of Educational Research for the results of that study.

Donations in Linda's memory may be made to Crisis Nursery, Urbana. Go to crisisnursery.net or call 217-337-2731.



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