



July 22, 2014

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

NIFDI is Coming to San Antonio August 3rd-7th!

Last week, over 200 educators gathered in Eugene, Oregon for the 40th National Direct Instruction Conference. Participants enjoyed expert training as well as the fantastic summer weather throughout the week. Mark your calendar now for next year's National Conference scheduled for July 27-31, 2015!

If you missed us in Eugene, there is still time to register for the [Southwest Direct Instruction Conference](#). We will be in San Antonio August 3rd-7th. NIFDI's Southwest Training Conference and Institutes is designed to help both veteran and novice teachers, paraprofessionals, building coordinators and administrators successfully implement DI for all students. This powerful professional development event will provide the most thorough program training possible in all levels of the main DI reading, language and mathematics programs available. [Register today](#) and join us in San Antonio!

UPCOMING TRAINING EVENTS:

Southwest Direct Instruction Training Conference

August 3-7, 2014

San Antonio, TX

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Leadership Academy

October 20-21, 2014: Orlando, FL

October 23-24, 2014: Houston, TX

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Sponsored in part by McGraw-Hill Education

[Don't forget! Members save 20% on their registration!](#)

And, the award goes to...

The National Institute for Direct Instruction is excited to announce Kelly Shaheen of American Preparatory Academy in West Valley City, Utah as the recipient of the 2014 Siegfried Engelmann Excellence in Education Award.

Kelly has taught 6th grade at American Preparatory for two years, where he has shown how effective Direct Instruction is when used correctly. His students have demonstrated outstanding growth -- doubling their reading fluency rates and achieving grade level skills in math in just one year.

Mr. Shaheen's Academic Director, Debra Lloyd, nominated him for the recognition, citing his dedication to

educating students enthusiastically through Direct Instruction. She noted the academic progress Kelly's students make as well as his skill in helping them develop character traits that will help them succeed in subsequent years.

Shaheen was recognized July 16th at the McGraw-Hill Celebration of Excellence Social Hour held in conjunction with the 40th Annual National DI Conference. Congratulations, Kelly!

If you know an educator deserving of recognition, consider nominating them for the 2015 Excellence in Education Awards. Up to three awards are granted each year, and nomination forms become available each spring. Watch NIFDI News!, social media and nifdi.org for announcements and information.

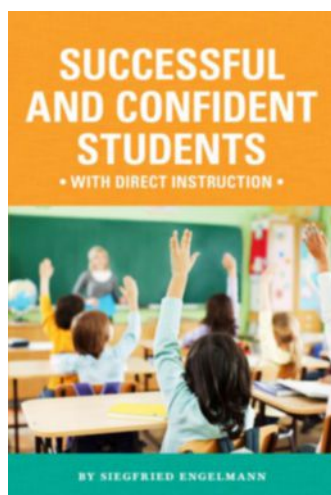


The Latest from NIFDI Press: *Successful and Confident Students with Direct Instruction*

Can all students be successful? Learn? Develop confidence in their abilities? Yes! There is an answer -- an answer that has been proven many times over: Direct Instruction.

Teachers can help their students catch up with their peers. Administrators can promote school environments that nurture achievement, appropriate behavior, and strong commitments to learning. Written by the developer of Direct Instruction, *Successful and Confident Students with Direct Instruction* will show you how!

Just \$24.95. And, don't forget, if you are a NIFDI Member, you save an additional 20%. [Order online](#) or by calling 877.485.1973.



"This latest impressive work by Zig Engelmann is, among other things, a gift to thoughtful, no-nonsense educators everywhere. Successful and Confident Students provides us with over 40 years of wisdom, insight, sound practice, and true genius collectively applied to educating all students in a brief, easy to read, and professionally inspiring book. The book provides both a platitude-free rationale for and the means by which to teach all students to mastery, accelerate achievement, and thereby create school-wide success for both teachers and students. The last chapter is a must-read for all who love teaching."

~ Laura Doherty, President & CEO at Baltimore Curriculum Project

The Relationship Between Lesson Progress in DI and Performance on Assessments

Students' performance on state developed and norm-referenced assessments is a major concern of educators. Schools may devote many hours to "test preparation," hoping that this will increase students' scores. Yet, policymakers have expressed concern over this practice, suggesting that it can result in invalid measures of student achievement, divert attention from crucial subject matter, and provide less than optimal models for students.

NIFDI's latest Technical Report, [The Relationship Between Lesson Progress in Direct Instruction Programs and Student Test Performance](#), presents data suggesting that a rational alternative to extensive test preparation

is to ensure that students make adequate progress, at mastery, in *Reading Mastery Signature Edition (RMSE)* and *Connecting Math Concepts: Comprehensive Edition (CMCCE)*. The data suggest that when students have attained mastery at their assigned grade level in these programs the probability that they will pass the state assessments is very high. The influence of cumulative mastery of the curriculum is independent of students' prior achievement, providing hope for students who have struggled with low assessment scores in the past.

The Relationship between Lesson Progress in Direct Instruction Programs and Student Test Performance

Technical Report 2014-1



Jean Winkward
Office of Research and Evaluation
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DIRECT INSTRUCTION
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The National Institute for Direct Instruction | 805 Lincoln | Eugene | OR | 97401