



Stern Center for Language and Learning Program & Research Outcomes

Orange North Supervisory Union ■ Model of Success

2013 - 2017 A Four-Year Plan

K-5 teachers in all three elementary schools within the Orange North Supervisory Union participated in a robust structured professional learning program of coursework and coaching across a hierarchy of literacy skill development. Results of school achievement testing showed strong student growth and a reduction in special education referrals.

“Since implementation, more students each year are meeting targets on Universal Assessments in the area of foundational reading skills. For example, **72% of first grade students met or exceeded the Foundational Skills target** on Universal Assessments in December, and the group is on track to meet the district goal of 80%.”

~ Michaela Martin, Co-Director of School Transformation

Current trends, using the district's local assessment tool TRACK MY PROGRESS, show strong growth in reading from fall to spring/summer 2015-16, with gains maintained, if not enhanced, over the summer into the 2016-17 school year (a time when most students regress). This is likely due to summer services provided by district interventionists who had been trained in structured literacy by Stern Center staff over the past four years.

Results from the 2015-16 school year to the 2016-17 school year show evidence of strong growth in students' foundational and reading comprehension skills across grades and schools.

One striking indicator of this success is that there were no referrals for reading-based special education at Williamstown Elementary School for the 2015-16 school year, a first for the school.



Year 1
School Improvement Coaching



Year 2
T•I•M•E for Teachers™ trainings



Year 3
Orton-Gillingham Classroom Educator training with school year long practicum



Year 4
Orton-Gillingham Classroom Educator training for new teachers and those from the consolidation as well as Orton-Gillingham Associate Level training for special educators and classroom educators

“Our students' phonemic awareness and understanding of language is amazing. Our instructional language is consistent and precise, and our teachers' confidence has never been greater.”

~ Jamie Kinnarney, Principal
Williamstown Elementary School

The Stern Center for Language and Learning has an extensive Professional Learning program, offered through the Cynthia K. Hoehl Institute for Excellence within the Stern Center, providing a range of opportunities in structured literacy, social cognition, executive function and systems analysis for school change for both educators and school districts. Also, our multidisciplinary staff provides evaluations and instruction in all areas of learning for children, adolescents, and adults.

