

Project MORE

Mentoring in Ohio for Reading Excellence

School Year 2013/14

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Project MORE: Mentoring in Ohio for Reading Excellence

“Our support for this project is an example of our belief that without fundamental reading skills, it is nearly impossible for students with disabilities to improve in subjects across the curriculum. By definition, 80 percent of students receiving special education services have reading problems.”

Margaret Burley
Executive Director of OCECD

History of Project MORE

Why Reading Mentoring for Students with Disabilities?

- Originally funded by the Ohio General Assembly 1999

Collaborative Partnership

- Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities since 1999
- ODE/Office for Exceptional Children & State Support Teams since 8/2010
- Ohio Department of Aging (RSVP- Retired Senior Volunteer Program) & Project MORE since 2/2013

Project MORE Fact Sheet

- Project MORE served about 4350 students with disabilities and students at-risk for reading failure
- Currently partner with about 300 schools across Ohio
- 4128+ mentors volunteered their time logging 100,133+ mentoring sessions
- Project MORE was created to be Effective, Affordable, Replicable and Sustainable (EARS) for local school districts with minimal funds required
- Bluffton University (student enrollment <1200) served over 200 thirty minute mentor slots per week for Project MORE Students. Bluffton is one of 17 universities that partners with Project MORE schools.

Top Ten Reasons for Choosing Project MORE

1. At last, children with disabilities learn to read
2. Project MORE is scientifically based reading research
3. Encourages high expectations for **all** students
4. Provides 1:1 supplemental instruction at individual student's reading level in grades K-12
5. Offers 30 minute sessions four times per week for 128 sessions during school hours
6. Significantly improves reading levels of diverse elementary learners
7. Reinforces home/school connection
8. Requires minimal local school funds: cost effective
9. Strengthens community awareness and relations
10. Works for individual classroom or building-wide

Project MORE has EARS: Effective, Affordable, Replicable, Sustainable

Student Eligibility

**A Minimum of Eight
Students with Disabilities
Who Have An IEP
Reading Goal**

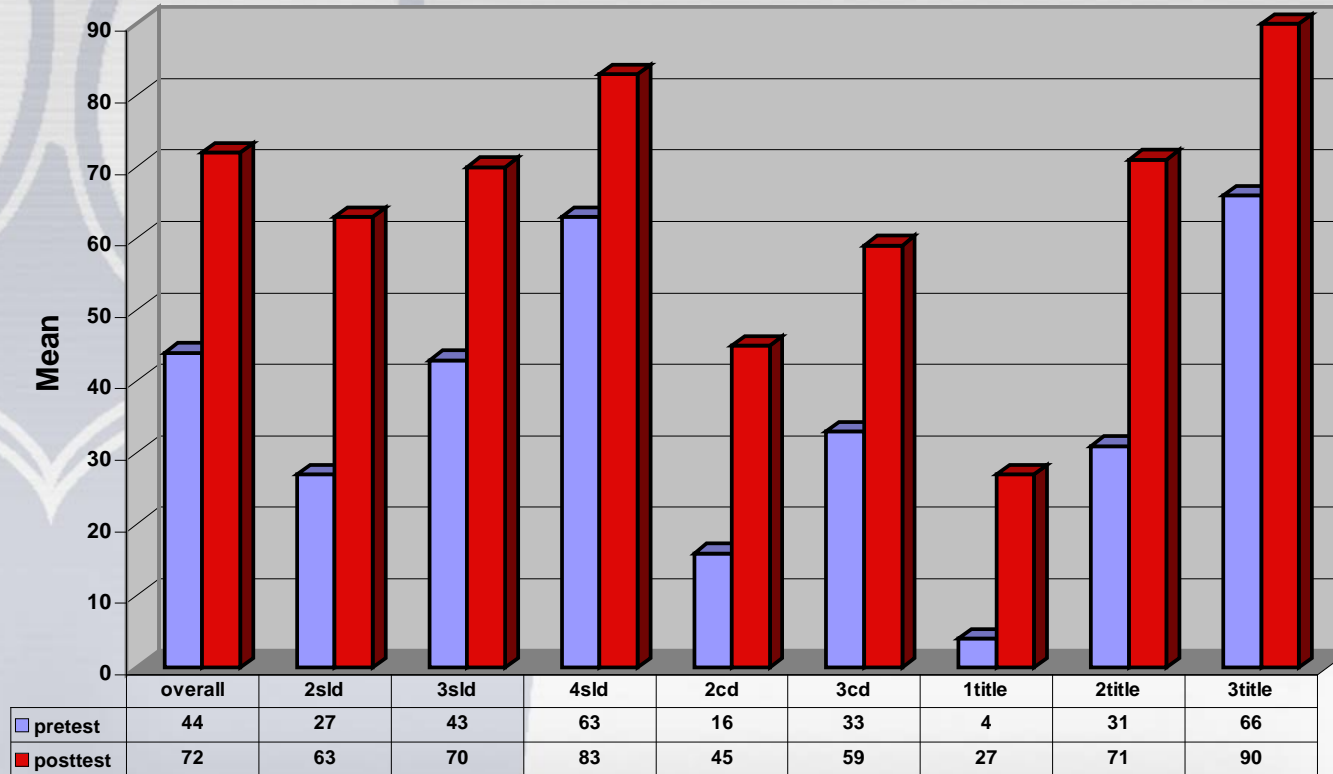
Project MORE Agreement 2013/14

- Serve a minimum of **8** students with disabilities (Grades K-12) using Reading-tutors materials. Other students who are not on-track may be included once eight students with disabilities are served.
- Plan to mentor students with disabilities: **1:1, 30-minute sessions, four times/week during the school day for the remainder of the school year. Goal is 128 sessions/year.**
- Participate in two Project MORE professional development trainings.
- Pre/post test all students at their reading level.
- Complete and return the Demographic Data Form by May 23, 2014.
- Purchase a Reading-tutors license directly through www.reading-tutors.com.

Success at Leipsic

- 100% Passage 3rd Grade Reading Achievement
- 142 Mentors - 3,548 Hours
- Title 1 Reading Specialist - 90 Students (40+ Children with Disabilities)
- 100% of 4th & 6th Grade Students with Disabilities Passed Reading Proficiency
- “Academic Watch” to “Excellent” in Two Years

Project MORE BGSU Reading Fluency Gains over 6-month period



Grade and Disability or Title Status

“Over the past eight years, evaluation results have shown that students with specific learning disabilities (SLD) have made month for month reading gains for each month of structured reading intervention.”

Dr. Rich Wilson

Co-Director BGSU/Center for Evaluation Services

The most rewarding parts of this program are the excitement shown from students telling me about the book, the pride they show telling me how many stickers they earned that day, the excitement of who won the games, the happiness when the mentor gives them a good work certificate, and how happy they are to tell me they are ready for a new book. These students love to read!!

Intervention Specialist

Putnam County

“Thank you for having the Project MORE conference!!! It was the boost I needed to finish the school year and I gained a lot of ideas for next year. I was so worried about ‘doing it right’ when I started Project MORE. What I realized yesterday was that there are many RIGHT ways to implement the program!!!”

Project MORE Coordinator

“89% of our Project MORE students passed the OAA with 29 students scoring advanced or accelerated. 84.6% of our IEP students passed the OAA with 13 students scoring advanced or accelerated.”

North Union Local

Contact:

Amy Freeman

Project MORE Director

Putnam County ESC

Afreeman@pm.noacsc.org

1.888.319.3560 ext. 3014