



# District 1

# Coach Talk



The newsletter for District 1 Elementary Literacy Coaches

September 2004  
Volume 3, Issue 2

**Robert Collins, Superintendent**

**Annette Star, Literacy Coordinator**

*District 1 ....where students come first!*

## MEETINGS:

- Sept. 23**      **Coach Meeting**  
Devonshire Site  
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Oct. 15**      **Citywide Coach Meeting**  
Location TBD
- Oct. 21**      **Coach Meeting**  
Devonshire Site  
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

### Kindergarten Prof. Dev.

- Sept. 11** - The Arts  
**Nov. 6** - Science/Health/P.E.  
**Dec. 11** - History/Social Science/Block Play
- Devonshire Training Site  
10045 Jumilla Ave., Chatsworth  
7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Register at <http://sib.lausd.net/drp>

## TRAINING:

- Nov. 1-5**      **OCR Training**  
Wilshire Grand Hotel  
Downtown Marriott Hotel
- Reading First Teachers
  - New Teachers from Non-RF Schools
  - Literacy Coaches, All Schools
- [www.csbe.ca.gov](http://www.csbe.ca.gov)

## READING FIRST EVENTS:

- Cohort #1:**  
**Sept. 29-30**  
**Reading First Coach Institute**  
Wilshire Grand Hotel  
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Cohort #2:**  
**Sept. 9-10**  
**Reading First Coach Institute**  
Wilshire Grand Hotel  
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Cohort #2:**  
**Sept. 13-15**  
**Reading First Coach Institute**  
Wilshire Grand Hotel  
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Cohort #2:**  
**Oct. 25-29**  
**Reading First Coach Institute**  
Omni Hotel, L.A.  
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

## Full Day Kindergarten Debuts at 32 District 1 Schools

Dearborn St. ES is among 32 District 1 schools preparing to offer full day Kindergarten classes beginning in the 2004-05 school year. Literacy Coach **Helen Kim** and Office Assistant Maria Juarez are shown here near one of two banners their school has displayed announcing the change in the Kindergarten schedule.

In order to maximize the instructional potential of the full day schedule, Kindergarten teachers are invited to attend three professional development sessions in the Arts, Science/Health/PE, and History/Social Science/Block Play. Kindergarten teachers from all schools (not only Full Day K schools) are encouraged to take advantage of these professional development opportunities being held at the Devonshire Training Center. Teachers may register at <http://sib.lausd.net/drp>.



## Literacy Team on the Move!

After considerable effort (those books are heavy!), the Elementary Literacy team has completed the move to its new location within the District 1 Office complex. **Annette, Diana, Aviva, Cecilia, Joanne and Jet** are now located in the small building at the south end of the front parking lot, near the District 1 Conference Room.



## THEY'RE B-A-A-C-K!

Two retired Literacy Coaches from District 1 have returned to active duty! **Patty O'Hearn** (former coach at Vintage ES) and **Marie Reilly** (former coach at Liggett ES) have accepted half-time positions at **Castlebay Lane ES** and **Pomelo ES** respectively. Welcome back!

Best Wishes to **Jennifer Andaya**, who will begin her maternity leave from Gault ES on Sept. 17. Her baby is due October 1.



## How to contact us:

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We're delighted to have **Kathy Frank** back in the Literacy Coach fold. Kathy recently accepted an OCR Expert position, but later declined due to family reasons. She resumes her coaching duties at Bassett ES.



## A Note from Annette...

As the traditional school year begins, we need to continue our challenging work of “raising the bar and closing the gap” for all students. We have experienced remarkable gains in student achievement in literacy over the past five years, only to see our student achievement plateau this past year. So where do we go from here?

We are extremely fortunate to have the leadership and total support of our Superintendent, Bob Collins, in our efforts to ensure the full implementation of Open Court in every classroom. Mr. Collins’ message is clear and strong: ***Open Court Reading will be fully implemented with fidelity in every classroom in District 1.***

We need to work to reduce the problems of multiple innovations, fragmentation and lack of coherence at the school site for our teachers. We need to lead our teachers, many of them feeling comfortable with their implementation level, toward even deeper learning. Sustainability requires deep learning for

our students, our teachers, our administrators and our District.

Quoting Michael Fullan in his new book Leadership & Sustainability. System Thinkers in Action, “It is not hard work that tires us out as much as it is negative work.” Fullan divides the world into energy creators, energy neutrals and energy consumers. Energy creators:

- Are enthusiastic and always positive;
- Use critical thinking, creativity and imagination;
- Stimulate and spark others;
- Are able and willing to scrutinize their practice and willing to make their practice accessible to others;
- Wish to improve on their previous best.

So as we work this year to “raise the bar and close the gap,” let us also work to be that energy creator for the teachers in our schools.

- - *Annette Star*  
Literacy Coordinator

## Expert Advice

***“The only measure that counts at the end of the day is whether the gap between high and low performers is explicitly reduced.”*** FULLAN, 2003

Traditional schools begin as some tracks in year-round schools complete ¼ of their school year. The beat of the pacing plan is ongoing. While teachers are giving instruction in the grade level standards through Open Court, intervention for our benchmark, strategic and intensive students must also be a focus. These children require more learning opportunities than can be provided in large groups. Their needs must be addressed in small groups or individually, during Independent Work Time, or Workshop.

The thrill of skill gives us our self-esteem, and reading is the freedom skill. For our students who are below proficiency in reading, intervention must begin immediately and provide explicit and systematic instruction in phonemic awareness, word attack skills, including decoding, fluency, spelling, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing skills.

How to target students’ needs as outlined in the Reading/Language Arts Framework:

- Benchmark students in grades K-12, who are near, at, or above grade level, receive instruction in the core program.
- Strategic students in grades K-12, who are 1 to 2 years below grade level, receive instruction in the core and extended instruction through additional time (IWT) in pre-teaching, re-teaching, and practice.
- Intensive students who are in grades 4-12, who are 2 or more years below grade level may need to receive a stand-alone intervention program.

We are here to support you in any way we can!

*Aviva, Cecilia, & Joanne*

## Pacing Plan Reminder

Dates Coaches & RF Teachers must have data in SOAR

### OCR 2000

#### **90/30:**

- 9/2 - (B) 2-1, 4-1, (D) 2-1
- 10/5 - (A) 5-1; (D) 1-wk 12
- 10/7 - (B) 1-wk 12, 3-2, 5-2

#### **C-6:**

- 10/5 - (C) 1-wk 12

### OCR 2002

#### **90/30:**

- 9/1 - (D) 4-1
- 9/2 - (B) 2-1, 3-1, 4-1; (D) 3-1
- 9/10 - (D) 2-1
- 9/14 - (A) 5-1
- 10/7 - (B) 1-3 & 4

#### **C-6:**

- 10/6 - (C) 3-2
- 10/8 - (C) 1-3 & 4, 5-2, 6-2

### Foro Abierto

#### **90/30:**

- 9/1 - (D) 4-1
- 9/2 - (B) 2-1, 3-1, 4-1; (D) 3-1
- 9/10 - (D) 2-1
- 10/6 - (A) 5-1
- 10/7 - (B) 1-wk 12

#### **C-6:**

- 10/6 - (C) 3-2
- 10/8 - (C) 1-wk12, 5-2

No assessments given at Single-Track schools in September.

### Editor:

*Diana Keeney,*  
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### Graphics and Layout

### Design:

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## Happy Birthday

### SEPTEMBER



|    |                 |    |                 |
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| 3  | JOANNE CHO      | 26 | MARALYN SOIFER  |
| 21 | STACY LIEBERMAN | 29 | CAROLLE PURSELL |
| 24 | PATTY SONNABEND | 30 | ARLENE COWEN    |