

YEAR IN REVIEW

ALABAMA PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

LITERACY LIGHTS THE WAY



DR. TRACY WEEDEN, ED.D
PRESIDENT/CEO
NEUHAUS EDUCATION CENTER

It is an honor for Neuhaus Education Center to be a part of activating a bold vision which is completely aligned to our mission of reading success for all. Words are containers of power and through reading, words are being made accessible to every scholar, regardless of zip code, across the State of Alabama through your investment in educators.

When an educator is apprenticed to apply the science of reading diagnostically the first time, the teacher will also recognize the red flags of a student who is dyslexic before the scholar experiences reading failure. Dyslexia therapists and practitioners are being empowered to provide intensive therapy, which is also an aspect of this life-changing initiative Neuhaus is honored to support and cultivate. Educational leaders and literacy coaches who are equipped to support the work will serve as the infrastructure to hold up and sustain this dynamic venture.

I predict many states will look to Alabama as a beacon of light where choices provided for professional development and coaching for hardworking educators light a flame of change, ensuring that literacy will light the way for generations to come.

LITERACY KNOWLEDGE SUMMARY Summer of 2020-Spring 2021

Neuhaus administers a test to participants before and after professional development classes to measure growth in teachers' knowledge of literacy instruction best practices.

Pre-post tests were administered in the grades K-3 Language Enrichment.

LITERACY KNOWLEDGE PRE-TEST

66%

AVERAGE SCORE (13.2/20 PTS)

LITERACY KNOWLEDGE POST-TEST

83%

AVERAGE SCORE (16.7/20 PTS)

COACHING & IMPLEMENTATION

An evaluation on the effectiveness of Neuhaus Education Center coaching and implementation assisting educators with strategies to successfully engage students in their own learning.



Confidence Boost
The coaching was a critical component to helping me feel more confident with implementation!



Best Training Ever!
Neuhaus was one of the best trainings I have attended and the coaching was phenomenal!

Strongly Agree

Agree

Neutral

Strongly Disagree

0% 20% 40% 60% 80%



DR. REBECCA TOLSON, PH.D., CALT-QI VICE PRESIDENT LITERACY INITIATIVES

It is very powerful to see a state focused on literacy success for all students including students with dyslexia.

The Alabama Reading Initiative, approved by the State Board of Education and implemented by the Alabama Department of Education, provides an example for other states of the commitment required to effect positive change. This is policy translated to practice!

IN-SERVICE CENTER PROJECT TESTIMONIALS

FROM MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT...

I've seen more understanding and growth with my students than ever before in my career using the Neuhaus Language Enrichment format. We just finished end-of-year benchmark assessments last week and I am happy to report that 86% of my Reading Intervention students who tested Intensive in the fall actually met benchmark in the spring! I cannot express how rewarding that has been - to know and see proof that the daily efforts and consistency are seeing actual evidence of effectiveness and growth.

FROM CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT...

Thank you for such an incredible class! I have been in language education for over 15 years, but have never been as impressed with the delivery of content or inspired by its possibilities than with Neuhaus! You've put new wind in my sails to go out and enrich the lives of kids who need it most.

DYSLEXIA SPECIALIST PREPARATION PROGRAM

- 7 individuals completed 80-92 hours of professional learning related to Basic Language Skills Level 1, an instructional framework effective for students with dyslexia and related disorders.
- 3 individuals are eligible to continue with Basic Language Skills Level 2 professional learning.
- 2 individuals completed all Level 1 practica requirements and are eligible to sit for the National Competency Exam at the Practitioner Level administered by the Academic Language Therapy Association.
- 2 individuals started implementation of Basic Language Skills in late winter 2021.



PAM DENIS, VESTAVIA HILL CITY SCHOOL

My training has equipped me to identify learning gaps in my Tier 3 students and teach small groups using a systematic approach. All my students have shown gains in their reading data and confidence in their ability to read!



SHERRY DRAKE, TUSCALOOSA COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

The training I am receiving has the potential to positively impact the lives of the students in Alabama. The current students utilizing the program have made amazing strides in their literacy skills.



JENNIFER VERES, PIKE ROAD CITY SCHOOLS

The experience of learning and delivering the program to my students has been life-changing for us both. I've been teaching in special education for seven years and never experienced such success with any other program or methodology. We have finally found something that can close the gap for children with language learning differences, and I couldn't be more thrilled to bring it to every child I can in Alabama!