



**February 24, 2015**

In this edition of NIFDI News!

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If you have questions or need additional information, you can reach us at 877.485.1973 or [info@nifdi.org](mailto:info@nifdi.org).

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## NIFDI Membership Access Available Online!

Those of you who are members of the National Institute for Direct Instruction (NIFDI) received an email with some exciting news recently...NIFDI launched the Members Only area on our website!

Members of NIFDI have exclusive access to several print and video resources such as a 5-part video sequence where Zig Engelmann gives us his take on topics such as individual learning styles, the role of rote teaching, individualizing instruction and more. There is also an excellent interview with Jean Osborn and Elaine "Cookie" Bruner on the early days of Direct Instruction development and the Berieter-Engelmann Preschool.



In the Members Only document section, there are several useful forms as well as suggestions for independent work, details on how to implement duet reading, assessment guidelines for students placing in *Corrective Reading* and other interesting, useful material.

If you are not currently a member of NIFDI, you can fill out and return the [Membership Registration form](#) or [sign up online](#).

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## 206 Teachers and Administrators Trained at Australian Preservice

This month, NIFDI continued its on-going work in Australia, training 206 teachers and administrators in Direct Instruction programs. Twelve trainers from across the United States traveled Down Under to provide sessions over the course of a week. On some days, trainers and participants put in 12 long hours in order to get eight cohorts trained in NIFDI's Routines and Expectations module.

Dignitaries such as Australia's Executive Director for the Northern Territory, Ken Davis, and Indigenous leader Noel Pearson joined educators in launching the latest projects in Western Australia and the Northern Territory, speaking at a banquet hosted on Tuesday, February 3rd in honor of the education initiative to serve students in remote schools.

Following the week-long training, four of the 12 staff members stayed and two more arrived from the States to begin providing support on-site, such as NIFDI's Implementation Manager, Paula Bleakley (shown right). [Join us on Facebook](#) to see more pictures in our Australia photo album.

Curious about the day-to-day experiences of life Down Under? One of NIFDI's Implementation Managers, Dr. Sheri Wilkins, has been blogging about her time in Australia. Dr. Wilkins says her purpose in writing the blog is to share with educators in other regions some of the similarities and differences she's noticing while she's there. She also thought it would be fun to share a little bit about her activities and wonderings. Check out [Sheri's Blog](#).



NIFDI Implementation Manager, Paula Bleakley, looks on as students in Nullagine participate in a DI lesson.

## Meeting the Common Core State Standards with Direct Instruction

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) have become a universal language for schools across our nation and play a significant role in instructional decisions made in schools, including curriculum selections. The Common Core State Standards were developed with the intent to provide a clear framework of what students are expected to learn and to ensure consistent standards, regardless of where students attend school.

Current Direct Instruction programs are closely aligned to the Common Core State Standards. An evaluation of *Reading Mastery Signature Edition (RMSE)*, a well-known and commonly used DI program, has been conducted by McGraw-Hill Education to determine the alignment of the program's content with the English Language Arts standards. The newest addition to the DI math family of programs-*Connecting Math Concepts: Comprehensive Edition (CMCCE)*-was specifically designed to meet the Common Core State Standards and has a 100% alignment.

Read more about [Direct Instruction's alignment with the Common Core State Standards](#).



Join Shari Tomlinson at the [41st Annual National DI Conference and Institutes](#) for sessions discussing the impact of the Common Core State Standards on curriculum design, program evaluations and state testing. These sessions will feature an analysis of the standards, and participants will learn how *Connecting Math Concepts: Comprehensive Edition* and *Reading Mastery Signature Edition* address these standards.

## DI Community Fair to be Featured at National Conference

As a part of the Excellence in Education Awards evening, NIFDI and McGraw-Hill Education are hosting the first ever Community Direct Instruction Fair. The fair will be an opportunity for participants to "show and tell" about their application of DI.

The format is simple. First, submit the brief application included in the conference brochure. After review, if the application is selected, we will provide a board for you to display up to a 36x36" poster. There will also be a table in front of the display board where handouts or display material can be placed. Then, as people enjoy the social hour, you can share your story of how DI has impacted your school or district.

Possible topics could include a University program featuring DI teacher prep, a school district showing results attained through DI, a charter school recruitment. Really there is no limit, as long as you can explain through your

application how your proposal will be of interest and of benefit to other DI users!

The event will be held **Tuesday, July 28th from 5:30-8:00pm at the Hilton Eugene**. Applications for participation will be available as part of the conference brochure available in early spring.

For more information about the Eugene conference and other summer trainings, visit us [online](#):

**3rd Annual Southwest DI Conference**

**June 8-11, 2015**

**San Antonio, Texas**

**41st National Direct Instruction Conference and Institutes**

**July 27-31, 2015**

**Eugene, Oregon**

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**Know other DI users or supporters who would benefit from receiving NIFDI News?**

Share this sign up link: <http://www.nifdi.org/component/content/article/61-uncategorised/226-nifdi-news-signup>.

Interested parties can also sign up via their mobile device by texting NIFDI to 22828 to get started!

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