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## ACCOUNTABILITY/ACCREDITATION

### In the News: High Poverty Texas School is Using Reading Intervention Found Effective by Gold-Standard Research

By Rhonda Stone - ReadRight  
Sep 21, 2010, 08:32

Irving ISD's high-poverty John Haley Elementary School made headlines in the Dallas Morning News last week for its exceptional success achieving a 90 percent passing standard and an "exemplary" state rating.\* Among the many effective programs and strategies embraced by staff to raise student achievement, John Haley Elementary has been using a highly structured small-group tutoring program to help "Tier III" students with extreme reading difficulties become competent, successful readers.

\*See the story at

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/091510d\\_nmetexemplary.28c5d97.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/091510d_nmetexemplary.28c5d97.html)

Irving ISD, which has a high percentage of English Language Learners, introduced the Read Right Intervention Program to more than 30 of its elementary, middle, and high schools beginning in 2004. The district adopted the program specifically for its Tier III struggling readers and has tracked TAKS results for all of its schools each year. In 2010, out of 1,405 Tier III elementary, middle, and high school students, 61% passed the TAKS, an extraordinary achievement for students with extreme reading difficulties and reading disabilities designated as "Tier III" because other instructional strategies have failed to help them.

#### Independent Research Documents Read Right's Rapid Effectiveness

Read Right is not a "product," per se. It is a comprehensive and complete system of small-group tutoring delivered by classroom teachers and aides trained in Read Right methodology. In June 2010, the first independent, gold-standard study of the methodology was completed by Education Northwest, a non-profit research firm hired by an Omaha foundation to study results with urban Omaha middle and senior high students. (Note: Read Right Systems welcomes inquiries from researchers and is seeking to participate in additional university and private studies).

A news bulletin issued by Education Northwest in June and picked up by *Education Week* last summer states: "A rigorous experimental study by researchers at Education Northwest found that low-achieving middle and high school students increased their reading comprehension after one semester of

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tutoring with Read Right... . The evaluation found Read Right had a significant positive effect on reading comprehension.” On average, students involved in the study received just 18 hours of tutoring.

*See the release at*

<http://www.readright.com/news/EducationNorthwestReadRightRelease2010.pdf>

### **68% of Irving Elementary Tier III Readers Pass 2010 TAKS**

Education Northwest’s study in Omaha focused on adolescents, long considered a more challenging population for reading remediation. Irving ISD is finding excellent results with all students, Grades 3 through 12, with the most impressive results with elementary students. While the average passing rate was 61% for all of Irving’s Tier III students, elementary-age students passed at a rate of 68%. In 2009, Irving’s elementary Tier III readers received an average 38 hours of tutoring.

### **Read Right Now Offers “Online Tutoring” Anywhere**

This year, Read Right Systems, Inc. is making small-group tutoring available virtually everywhere through its new Online Tutoring Service. Schools can purchase services long-term or test the program by purchasing group tutoring sessions provided by an Online tutor short-term. The service requires that schools have computer stations equipped with the Internet, head-sets, and webcams, one per student. Read Right’s trained Online tutors work with up to four students at a time, making purchased tutoring services cost-effective for schools.

More information about Read Right can be obtained at its website:

[www.readright.com](http://www.readright.com) .

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