

February 2016 News 4 You

Mentoring 4 Reading Achievement (M4RA)

Happy February to friends of reading mentoring,

We need your help: We are presenting at the Ohio Transition Conference (Ohio Association for Career & Technical Education, Special Needs Division; Ohio Association of Supervisors & Coordinators for Exceptional Students) on March 3rd in Columbus. Part of our presentation will address using older age students as mentors. Would you send amy.freeman@m4ra.org 2-3 sentences about the success of having older age students as your mentors? We need your comments by February 12th. If you are attending this conference, we welcome your participation in the 2:45 session. Thank you!



In the Spotlight: In the Spotlight: “Wildcat Readers” at North Union Elementary

Sandra is the WILDCAT READERS’ Coordinator at North Union Elementary. This program continues to be amazing with school-wide support, and test scores to show its success. 85 students are mentored by 22 mentors 4-5 days a week. There are many ideas that Sandy has shared, and some of the forms she uses for trainings, motivators; and success stories at wildcat-readers-north-union-elementary/

Update at Hilfiker Elementary: From Bethany: “*The Two Week Focus Goal to improve mentoring is going great. When I’m explaining the focus, so many mentors are saying, ‘Oh, that is me, I didn’t do that’ or ‘Oh, I forgot that.’*” Read more: [two week focus at-hilfiker-elementary/](http://two-week-focus-at-hilfiker-elementary/)

Tiffin City Schools: Thank you Leah for sharing these wonderful ideas to bring “real life” into the reading process. The students will remember these lessons. “*The book, We Make Maple Syrup, Pack Level I, talks about the maple syrup making process. My husband’s family makes maple syrup annually...*”

To find Leah’s ideas click on tiffin-city-schools-bringing-real-life-reading-process/

Upcoming M4RA Instruction Sessions #1 and #2: Please mark February 24th and 25th on your calendars. M4RA will have an Instruction Session #1, and an Instruction Session #2 at the ESCCO in Columbus. To read more about these **free sessions** and how to register: m4ra.org/instruction-sessions-2016/

M4RA Updates: The “**Reading Zone**” is now being implemented in all three of the Department of Youth Services prison schools. There are many male youth asking for 1:1 reading mentoring and there are not enough mentors. Contact amy.freeman@m4ra.org if you have ideas to help.

Coaches 4 Life: M4RA partners with Easter Seals and the Circleville Juvenile Corrections Facility to provide 1:1 reading mentoring while youth are incarcerated, and Coaches 4 Life when the youth reenter their home communities. This work is funded by the Community Connectors Grant through the Ohio Department of Education.

Best wishes to all,

Debby & Amy

Debby Ambroza & Amy Freeman

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Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities