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## Right To Read Training Begins Again This Fall

The Michigan Right to Read Program will begin its fourth year of training again this fall. The training will be for both administrators and reading coordinators. The twenty-four day training program, which has been widely acclaimed by educators throughout the state, will be conducted in eight three-day segments. As one person said of the training recently: "Without a doubt, this has been the most rewarding and stimulating activity I've ever taken part in during my professional career. My district has already benefitted through our involvement." This kind of reaction to the training is typical.

The training consists of training in planning and management skills, which are integrated with reading content in such a way that participants will design and implement a total comprehensive reading program for their districts. According to Robert Trezise, state Right to Read Coordinator, in the initial stages of the training, each person is required to organize a task force or support group back home in the district to assist in the whole planning process. This support group is essential to the success of the district-wide effort and in the development of a workable reading plan.

Some of the major process changes that have occurred as a result of Right to Read are:

1. Boards of Education have established reading as a priority in their district.
2. Administrators are taking a more active role in the whole area of reading.
3. The reading consultant is now viewed as a reading coordinator and as a resource person for inservice and materials.
4. More districts are using performance objectives and management systems in reading in a systematic way.
5. More comprehensive planning and coordination among reading programs is taking place.
6. Reading needs of secondary students are being met through secondary reading labs and inservice of content area teachers.
7. Parents are more involved in the educational process.
8. Communication between districts about reading has greatly improved.

Presently, Michigan has 297 Right to Read coordinators — 18 at the intermediate level and 195 at the local level. Perhaps one of the most beneficial outcomes of the state Right to Read effort, Dr. Trezise said, is that it has developed a real network of reading people throughout Michigan who share in the Right to Read principles and concerns.

Applications will be sent in September to all the superintendents of local and intermediate districts that have not taken part in the Right to Read effort to date. If anyone interested in the training program would like any further information, please contact:

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