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READING

A Priority in Michigan Schools

by Carolyn Farquhar

Reading has been declared a priority by approximately 150 boards of education throughout Michigan. These boards are supporting the Right to Read effort by releasing an administrator or reading consultant to participate in one of seven regional Right to Read workshops.

The participants in the Right to Read training are acquiring management skills in such areas as group problem solving, planning procedures, decision-making, etc. Reading consultants are also addressing each group about the latest concepts in teaching reading. Therefore, the management process and reading content are interwoven to enable each participant to plan and implement a total reading program for his/her district.

The training is being held in eight segments of three consecutive days a month. This enables the trainee the opportunity to transfer newly acquired knowledge and skills to situations back in the home districts.

The trainees participated in the Right to Read training last year for 30 days. They also attended an intensive nine-day session in which they prepared a training manual to insure consistency in the regional workshops. Following is a list of the trainees and the location of their workshops:

Clarence Brock
Curriculum Consultant
St. Clair ISD (313) 364-8990
St. Clair ISD, 1111 Delaware,
Marysville, MI

Marian Dygert
Curriculum Consultant
Kent ISD (616) 949-7270
Kent ISD, 2650 E. Beltline, SE
Grand Rapids, MI

Erma Gibbs
Director of Reading
Highland Park School District
(313) 868-1264
Howard Johnson,
3rd & West Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI

Shirley Goodman
Director, Gen. Ed. Services
Saginaw ISD (517) 799-4733
Saginaw ISD, 6235 Gratiot Road
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Sylvia Kinnunen
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Tom Makela
Alpena ISD, (517) 354-3101
Holiday Inn, Grayling, MI

Jim Alexander
Director of Instruction
Oscoda Area Schools (517) 739-2033
Holiday Inn, Grayling, MI

Richard Ross
Curriculum Consultant
Manistee ISD (616) 723-6205
Park Place Motor Inn, Traverse City, MI