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## President's Message

By: Brian Dorman, FLCA President  
Sanford Middle School Reading Coach,  
Seminole County Public Schools

With the end of the FCAT testing rapidly approaching, this is the time of year to take the opportunity to get back into classrooms and model effective literacy strategies with your teachers. Encourage your faculty and staff to look at the last part of the year as the preparation for the next FCAT.

Also, this is the time to meet with your Literacy Leadership Teams (or create one if you don't have one) and begin reflecting on this school year.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Spring break and I look forward to seeing you April 20 and 21 at the Secondary Reading Conference located in world's most famous beach, Daytona!

Respectfully,



Brian Dorman



## Upcoming FLCA Events

- April 20-21, 2007 Florida Secondary Reading Council Conference @ Daytona Beach
- April 20, 2007 FLCA Board Meeting @ SRC Conference, Time TBA
- August 5-8, 2007 Just Read, Florida! Leadership Conference @ Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando

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States: Kentucky, South Carolina, and Pennsylvania

Country: Okinawa, Japan

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## By The Numbers

- 559 Current membership  
61 Districts Represented  
3 Other state represented  
1 Other country represented

## Research Review

By: Maxine Mangus, Coaching Update Editor  
Tavares Middle School Literacy Coach  
Lake County Public Schools

In “What are the characteristics of effective literacy coaching?” Nancy Shanklin of the University of Colorado outlines the six characteristics that define success. (Literacy Coaching Clearinghouse, 2006)

1. Effective literacy coaching involves collaborative dialogue for teachers at all levels of knowledge and experience. Without involving everyone in coaching opportunities, schools will find it hard to make informed decisions about assessments, instruction, and meeting student needs.

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“A coach will help teachers form important questions about their instruction and explore new answers.”  
(Casey, 2006).

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*Please see Research Review on page 3*

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## Research Review continued

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“A coach often acts as a liaison between the school and the district, communicating views of literacy goals in each direction.”  
(as cited by Shanklin, 2006).

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2. Effective literacy coaching facilitates development of a school vision about literacy that is site-based and links to district goals. Toll states that “a coach often acts as a liaison between the school and the district, communicating views of literacy goals in each direction.” (as cited by Shanklin, 2006)
3. Effective literacy coaching is characterized by data-oriented student and teacher learning. Allen reiterates that “A good coach suggests assessments and helps teachers learn to administer them, to interpret the data, and to design instruction from the information gained. Finally, s/he helps teachers learn to monitor students’ progress. This process may include helping to develop response to intervention programs and coaching teachers in methods to be used in such programs” (as cited by Shanklin, 2006).
4. Is a form of ongoing, job-embedded professional learning that increases teacher capacity to meet students’ needs. Literacy Coaches help teachers work new practices into their instruction, find new interventions for students who need them and observe instructional practices. With the Literacy Coach on site, staff development happens during the school day – at the point of need.
5. Involves classroom observations that are cyclical and that build knowledge over time. Coggins, Stoddard and Culter maintain that both teachers and literacy coaches themselves report that classroom coaching is the activity where coaches’ work has the potential for most impact

*Please see Research Review on page 4*

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## Research Review continued



(as cited by Shanklin, 2006). Is supportive rather than evaluative.

6. In such a quickly changing world, teachers need the help of an intermediate figure such as a literacy coach, who can help them learn new methods in a supportive manner.

Literacy coaching is an ongoing, reflective process by which both teachers and schools progress on the path to literacy.

Reference:

Shanklin, N. L. (2006). What are the characteristics of effective literacy coaching? *Literacy Coaching Clearinghouse brief* available from <http://www.literacycoachingonline.org>

## Help Wanted

### Volunteers Needed

FLCA Exhibit Hall booth

Are you going to Daytona? Do you think you will have an hour or two to spare? If you answered yes to either question, you may be able to help staff the FLCA booth at the SRC Conference. To express interest, contact Beryl Rogers, Promotions Chair via email at [rogersb@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:rogersb@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

### Literacy Coach Wanted

Youth Co-op Charter School  
12051 West Okeechobee Road  
Hialeah Gardens, Florida

*Please see Help Wanted on page 5*



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## Help Wanted Continued

The Youth Co-op Charter School is seeking a Reading Coach/ Reading Leader/ Literacy Leader. The school has been an "A" school for five years and offers very competitive salary and excellent benefits.

To apply: e-mail resumes, college transcripts and certificates or statement of eligibility to:

Maragon@dadeschools.net or fax to: 305-819-8455.

**The FLCA does not endorse the Youth Co-op Charter School over any other public or private school.**

## In the Spotlight

### 10 READING WEBSITES TO VISIT

[www.getreadytoread.org](http://www.getreadytoread.org)

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

[www.adrianbruce.com/reading/games](http://www.adrianbruce.com/reading/games)

[www.teachingheart.net/readers theater](http://www.teachingheart.net/readers theater)

[www.kinderkorner.com/readalouds](http://www.kinderkorner.com/readalouds)

[www.techteachers.com/vocabulary](http://www.techteachers.com/vocabulary)

[www.curry.edschool.virginia.edu/go/readquest/links](http://www.curry.edschool.virginia.edu/go/readquest/links)

[www.bookadventure.org](http://www.bookadventure.org)

[www.mrsmcgowan.com/reading/rubrics](http://www.mrsmcgowan.com/reading/rubrics)

[www.readthinkwrite.org](http://www.readthinkwrite.org)

Reference:

Wasburn-Moses, L. (2006). 25 best internet sources for teaching reading. *The Reading Teacher*, 60 (1). 70-75.

