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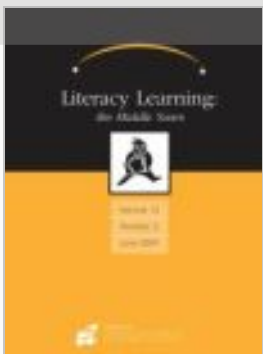


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Literacy Partnership Coaches: An

Initiative of the South Australian Department of Education and Children's Services

Literacy Learning: The Middle Years

Volume 18 Issue 2 (June 2010)

Thelning, Kath¹; Phillips, Bronwyn²; Lyon, Kathy³; McDonald, Jill⁴

Abstract: As a part of the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) National Partnerships: Literacy and Numeracy program within the wider Smarter Schools initiative, the Department of Education and Children's Services in South Australia has employed fourteen Literacy Partnership Coaches and fourteen Numeracy Partnership Coaches. These coaches work side by side with teachers in identified primary schools across the state. The aims of this Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership (LNNP) are to improve student outcomes through developing classroom teacher expertise in literacy and numeracy education and strengthen effective whole school approaches to literacy and numeracy improvement. The Partnership Coaches were appointed in August 2009, through a statewide selection process, which meant that many of them took up the full-time, newly created coaching role in an unfamiliar school. As can be imagined, it has been a challenging, exciting and rewarding journey for all of them. This article provides a snapshot of the Literacy Partnership Coaching role, and some of the experiences of the coaches, the principals of their schools and the coordinating field officers who support the Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership program in South Australia.



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