

# Learning, Teaching, & Leading at the Middle Level *NELMS Summer Institutes & Courses*

## Implementing RTI at the Middle School Level

*Designed to Help Educators Understand RTI and the Steps to Successful Implementation*

What is RTI? How do you implement this model in middle schools? Does this model work with middle school students? How does student data fit into RTI? These questions and specific steps for successful implementation of an RTI model will be discussed at this session.

### Topics include:

- Why RTI? The Urgency & Efficiency
- Building Consensus for RTI
- Middle School Schedules & RTI
- Key RTI strategies and Procedures
- Assessment and Using Student Data to Drive RTI



**Complimentary Book – RTI Success: Proven Tools and Strategies for Schools and Classrooms (Book with CD-ROM)** Elizabeth Whitten, Ph.D., Kelli J. Esteves, Ed.D., and Alice Woodrow, Ed.D.



Paul and Ester Asbell are experienced educators who have provided leadership in a variety of middle level settings. Their past presentations have left attendees with a strong sense of appreciation for the clarity and practicality of the work.

## Oh the Learning Strategies You Will Learn: Inviting Success in ML Classrooms

Are you a new or veteran teacher looking for strategies that capture your students' energy and imagination or additional strategies to keep your classroom energized? Do you wonder how to use students' fascination with the digital world to engage them more? This strand is for you! Using interactive instructional strategies organized around research-informed principles of learning, this Institute strand will send you home with new ideas that you can implement easily with confidence. Explore ways to craft your lessons to ensure student participation and encourage critical and creative thinking no matter what the subject! You will:

- Transform traditional research-informed practices into interactive student-centered strategies that energize and engage students.
- Structure opportunities for students to rehearse for success without increasing to your correcting load.
- Consider strategies to teach higher order thinking skills in an intentional manner.
- Investigate effective literacy strategies that work across the curriculum including Web 2.0 and information fluency tools.
- Explore ways to increase the effectiveness of cooperative learning strategies so one student is NOT doing all of the work.
- Reflect on your own pedagogy as it relates to providing highly effective core classroom instruction within the RTI model.



**Complimentary Book - Everyone's Invited! Interactive Strategies That Engage Young Adolescents**, Spencer, NMSA 2008



**Jill Spencer** works with educators across the country to increase their capacity to be more effective in the areas of literacy, technology integration, leadership, instructional practices, differentiation, curriculum development, and middle level practices.

## Differentiation—It's "A Planful Process!": Differentiated Instruction Institute

Differentiation is largely a mindset—thinking ahead and making it habitual is key. Participants will reflect on their current practices, add varied and flexible instructional strategies to their repertoires, create usable differentiated lesson plans, and share with colleagues. All will leave with practical ideas, tools, and procedures that will support their professional journeys towards greater differentiation. Teachers are asked to bring curricular materials to support their work.

### Topics include:

- From Plans to Practice
- Attitudes & effective teaching practices
- Effective assessment practices
- Lesson planning procedures that support greater learner success
- Application in academically diverse classrooms.



**Complimentary Book - Differentiation: From Planning to Practice Grades 6-12**, Wormeli, Stenhouse & NMSA, 2007



**Eunice Taylor** was a public school teacher for 37 years and has been the Teacher-in-Residence for NELMS since 2004. She has provided on-site professional development and coaching in over one hundred middle schools in the New England area.



**July 20-22, 2010**  
**Attitash Grand Summit Hotel**  
**Bartlett, NH**

*If you only attend one professional event or take one course this summer, this is it!*

# NELMS Summer Institutes & Courses Info

## July 20–22, 2010

Individual, school, and/or team renewal is at the core of this experience!

**Six Institutes/Courses** will be offered. Each one is a major component of effective middle level education and will be offered for professional or graduate credit\*. Join your colleagues and terrific consultants for three days of intensive learning. Leave with greater confidence, new skills, and new directions.

Let us treat you like the professional you are!

Quality Programs + Quality Facilitators + Quality Location + Quality Food = Quality Experience!

*Great Location: In the beautiful mountains of New Hampshire at the Attitash Resort. Bring the family early and stay late!*

### Each Institute includes:

- Online learning and discussions through January 2011
- Time to work together and become a highly effective team
- Relevant and student-directed learning
- Many professional materials and other resources
- PDP, CEU, PDC and other professional credits are included in the conference fee
- Options for groups/teams to attend single or multiple Institutes
- Three General Sessions
- Interest based discussion groups
- Breakfast and lunches

Individuals will attend the one Institute for which they register. School and team groups can all attend one strand or divide themselves into many strands. Teams will have common scheduled time, afternoons, and evenings to meet together.

### Schedule Overview

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
8:00 Continental Breakfast	8:00 Continental Breakfast	8:00 Continental Breakfast
8:30 Registration	8:30 Keynote Presentation	8:30 Institute Time
9:30 1st General Meeting	What Makes a Difference!	10:30 Break
10:00 Break	9:15 Institute Time	10:45 Institute Time
10:15 Institute Time	10:30 Break	12:00 Lunch & General Session
12:00 Lunch	12:00 Lunch	1:00 Institute Time
12:45 Institute Time	12:45 Institute Time	2:00 Conclusion
2:30 Break	2:30 Break	
4:00 Network, Team Group Time, Reflection, and/or Action Planning	3:30 Network, Team Group Time, Reflection, and/or Action Planning	

### Registration Information

Please visit [www.nelms.org/calendar/nelms\\_summer\\_institute.html](http://www.nelms.org/calendar/nelms_summer_institute.html) for complete information and registration form.

Register early to secure your place. Your registration fee includes three continental breakfasts, three luncheons, and all registration materials.

Registration costs: Attend as a team, partial team, school team or individual.

### Hurry Early Registration ends July 6, 2010

1 Person (Member) 3 days @ \$389 each Non-Member add \$40 After July 6, 2010 add \$30

**Discounts:** Register 5 get 1 free registration Full-time college students  
Register 10 or more get 2 free registrations Large group discount (20 or more) Please inquire

**Graduate Credits:** Two or three graduate credits are available from Plymouth State University at low cost! Please check [www.nelms.org/calendar/nelms\\_summer\\_institute.html](http://www.nelms.org/calendar/nelms_summer_institute.html) for more information

Same Price as 2009!

NELMS offers Connecticut CEUs,  
Massachusetts PDPs and  
Rhode Island PDCs



Great New Location

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## Leadership Institute: Honing the Skills and Knowledge to be an Effective Middle Level Leader

*Designed for School, Team, Aspiring, and District Leaders*

Expand your leadership capacity while learning about the mindset, skills, and tools necessary to lead and sustain effective teaching and learning in your school or district. This interactive Institute is based on key concepts from NMSA's *This We Believe*, and NASSP's *Breaking Ranks in the Middle*. Participants will actively engage in modeling, reflecting, and transferring key concepts and practices to their own professional practice. Learn what works in schools where young adolescents learn to high levels, ask your difficult questions, get informed research-based information, and enjoy the networking opportunities. Bring your state's middle level report or reform agenda; it will be used in this session.

### Topics include:

- Your Leadership Capacity
- Effective Professional Learning Communities
- Leading for Success – High Quality Indicators of Effective Middle Level Learning
- The “How” of Collaboration
- Leading Teaching Teams that Get Results
- Technology Tools for Leadership
- Climate • Teams • Advisory • Instruction • Curriculum • Assessment



**Complimentary Book - *Voices of Experience: Perspectives from Successful Middle Level Leaders*, Swaim & Kinney.** (Participants are encouraged to purchase the new edition of *This We Believe*, published by NMSA and available from NELMS.)



**Chris Toy** has over 30 years of experience as a teacher, administrator, university instructor, presenter and consultant.

## Connect and Develop Personal Meaning to Motivate Learners

*Designed to Encourage Personal Connection for Increased Learning*

The participants in this session will collectively explore key strategies that help engage middle level learners to investment of themselves and in their learning; therefore they will experience a greater satisfaction with their time in school. The climate conditions and strategies that are effective will be the basis for this session. Key advisory activities will also be included.

### Topics include:

- Developing student ownership
- Student Goal Setting / Study Habits
- Developing student responsibility
- Advisory Activities
- Student Choice
- School Climate



**Complimentary Books - *Reaching and Teaching Middle Level Learners*; Bishop and Pflaum, Corwin, 2005, and *Taking the Lead in Implementing and Improving Advisory*, Spear, NMSA 2005**



**Cathie Thibodeau** has taught grades K-8 in her 40+ years of service to students. She was the NELMS first Teacher-in-Residence, she is the current President of NMSA and has provided on-site professional development and coaching in over seventy-five middle schools in the New England area.

## Checking for Understanding: It's Much More Than A “Ticket To Leave”

*Designed to Help Educators Save Time, Focus Learning, and Address Specific Learning Needs*

This Institute is designed to examine current classroom assessment strategies used to check students' prior knowledge before, during and after instruction and to identify what they know and need to know. Bring units and/or lesson assessments you are currently using or have used. See how to incorporate the use of formative assessment strategies to guide your instruction and improve student learning. Bring unit or lesson assessments you are currently using or have used.

### Topics include:

- Why do This?
- Writing
- Formative Assessment Strategies
- What is Assessment?
- Projects & Perfection
- Common Assessments
- Questioning
- Tests
- Consumer Scoring



**Complimentary Book - *Checking for Understanding: Formative Assessment Techniques for your Classroom*, Fisher & Frey, ASCD 2007**



**Mary Jean Fawcett** is Co-Administrator in Residence for NELMS and an educator with 36 years of middle level experience, 19 years teaching middle grades and 17 years as a middle level assistant and supervising principal.

This professional experience is based on *BRIM* (from NASSP), *This We Believe* (from NMSA) and *Turning Points 2000* (from Carnegie).