



Muscofee County School District

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For Immediate Release

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NEWS RELEASE

Cornerstone Literacy 2011 Winter Conference

Listen. Learn. Lead. A Child-Centered Approach for Achieving Results

(Columbus, Ga.) – The Muscofee County School District (MCSD) will host the 2011 Winter Conference of Cornerstone Literacy January 19-21, at the Cunningham Center at Columbus State University.

Cornerstone Literacy (CLI) has worked in partnership with MCSD since 2005 and is now present in 23 elementary schools. The conference is designed to inform and support the ongoing work throughout the district, while also contributing to the broader, national challenge of improving student literacy and thinking skills.

The conference theme is ***Listen. Learn. Lead. A Child-Centered Approach for Achieving Results***, reflecting a core belief that both adult and student growth are characterized by group inquiry – where everyone is called upon to listen, learn and lead – into what results look like when true learning occurs.

Celebrated educator and writer Isoke Titilayo Nia will deliver the keynote address on January 19 and conduct a large-group workshop on January 20. Also appearing as a special guest speaker is Dr. Paul B. Yellin, director of the Yellin Center for Student, a New York City-based clinical organization dedicated to helping struggling students experience genuine success in school and in life. Dr. Yellin will present on January 20 and 21, focusing on the link between emerging neuroscience and academic performance.

The conference will provide numerous opportunities for participants to:

- Experience research in action around assessment, implementation and student conversation

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- Interact around strategies for rigorous adult learning
- Observe students interacting around literacy instruction
- Engage in hands-on learning that results in content and strategies that can be immediately used in the classroom
- Study the impact of instructional strategies (through the work of children)
- Examine strategies based on the neuroscience of student learning and brain development
- Learn how schools spread best literacy practices school wide through effective teamwork

Registration for the conference is limited. However, opportunities may still exist. To learn more contact jberry@cornerstoneliteracy.org or go to the CLI website at www.cornerstoneliteracy.org.

About Cornerstone Literacy

Cornerstone Literacy, Inc. (CLI) is a 501(c)(3) public charity based in New York City. Building on the 10-year history of the Cornerstone Initiative of the New York Institute for Special Education, CLI strives to improve student literacy outcomes in all schools – with a particular focus on high-poverty elementary schools – by developing teacher, school and district capacity for sustained self-improvement.

The CLI framework and approach offer a combination of research-based practices, direct in-school supports and intensive year-round training that refines the essential elements of literacy learning. CLI provides comprehensive professional development to build the capacity of teachers, principals and school-based coaches who guide the learning of children. CLI initiates its work in kindergarten through third grade and expands its influence over time. The learning experience is not prescriptive nor exactly the same across districts. Instead, it is responsive to the needs and directions drawn from school-based data.

For more information, e-mail communications@mcsdga.net , or call 706-748-2034.

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