

# impactreport



A bi-annual report for our donor partners to learn how their contributions effectively influence student literacy March 2016

*Peer Coaching is exciting for schools because it takes them to the next level of Reading In Motion. The Peer Coaches provide great support to each other and there is a cross pollination of ideas and support from other schools.*

- Elizabeth Johnston, Reading In Motion Curriculum Content Leader

## 2015/2016 Peer Coaches

**Amanda Wren** Cleveland Elementary

**Melissa O'Brien** Tonti Elementary

**Stacy Gibson** Tonti Elementary

*Peer Coaching helped our grade level meetings become more focused. We geared our meetings toward the data and we could answer questions and create solutions immediately because we were right there with our peers.*

- Stacy Gibson, 1st Grade Peer Coach, Tonti Elementary

## Evolving Curriculum

Reading In Motion has been a long-time advocate for supporting teachers and helping them expand their capacity as professionals. We built our new sustainability model with this in mind.

Our sustainability model identifies excellent teachers who implement Reading In Motion well in their classrooms. We train those teachers to coach their peers and they become Reading In Motion **Peer Coaches**. This gives these top teachers more professional development, and it gives their fellow teachers more support than our regular coaches can because they are in the schools with their peers everyday. The Peer Coaches still get support from a Reading In Motion coach once a month, where they acquire more techniques about coaching their peers.

This is our first year implementing our Peer Coaching model and we've gotten off to a strong start. Our three peer coaches, Melissa O'Brien and Stacy Gibson at Enrico Tonti Elementary, and Amanda Wren at Grover Cleveland Elementary, have done an excellent job at learning this new model and supporting their peers.



## Connecting Education Leaders Karl Androes Chosen for Mayor's Literacy Task Force



For more than 30 years, Karl Androes, our Executive Director, has been a leader in Chicago, in merging the arts with literacy and education. It's no surprise that Karl was recently tapped by Chicago's Mayor Rahm Emanuel to join his literacy task force to address the reading achievement gap between the 60,000 Chicago Public School students who have Individualized Education Plans and those in general education population.

The task force is comprised of experts in early childhood education, literacy and foundation leaders. The City's first Mayoral Task Force to raise the literacy achievement of Chicago students, is focused on children, with disabilities, from birth through third grade. The task force's charge is to identify the causes of the literacy achievement gap, develop a set of recommendations that are realistic and aggressive for closing it, and identify a mechanism to measure the results in student progress. Recommendations will be presented to the Mayor in Spring 2016. The ADA (American Disabilities Act) 25 Chicago and the Chicago Community Trust will provide consulting support.

"I'm honored to be among this group of education experts and leaders," said Androes. "I've always believed that getting students reading early is the key to building successful lifelong learners. If we can understand and close that achievement gap, we are one-step closer to building strong readers."

## Speaker Series Connects Education Experts and Our School Leaders

One-on-one conversations with nationally known education experts are the opportunities we offer our school leaders and donors through our Speaker Series. For three years, we've sponsored these dinner-and-conversation events to generate a lively discussion and inquiry about the topics of children's literacy, reading improvement, and building teacher capacity.

Often, our partners only hear from these speakers in large, auditorium venues or during conferences. We wanted to create a more intimate setting to spark conversation so we set up smaller 30 to 50-person dinners where experts are approachable. We've consistently had strong interest from principals and other administrators, and many look forward to the events every year.

We welcome our supporters to join us for any of these evenings. Below is our upcoming schedule of speakers and topics.



**Tim Shanahan, Ph.D.**  
Distinguished Professor Emeritus  
of Urban Education,  
University of Illinois-Chicago

**March 16, 2016**

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Chicago's Essex Inn, 800 S. Michigan  
Park East Room, 2nd Floor

*Topic: RTI: Why Didn't It Work?*



**Karen Beeman, M. Ed.**  
**Cheryl Urow, M. Ed.**  
Teaching For Biliteracy

**April 6, 2016**

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Chicago's Essex Inn, 800 S. Michigan  
Park East Room, 2nd Floor

*Topic: The Leadership Issue in  
Teaching Biliteracy*



**Noma LeMoine, Ph.D.**  
CEO, LeMoine & Associates  
Educational Consulting Consortium

**May 11, 2016**

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Chicago's Essex Inn, 800 S. Michigan  
Park East Room, 2nd Floor

*Topic: Language Variation & Learning in  
Standard English Learners: Transforming  
Perceptions, Pedagogy and Practice.*

## Changing More Lives

Despite the ever-changing financial climate of the Chicago Public Schools, we were still able to increase the number of students we serve this school year by 8% (4,975 to 5,375).

We also continued our relationship with the Racine Unified School District in Racine, WI with sustainable classrooms.

We're looking forward to seeing this year's students' success at the end of the school year because they had Reading In Motion in their classrooms.



**5,375** Students Served



**200** CPS Classrooms  
**15** Racine, WI Classrooms



**39** CPS Schools  
**7** Racine Schools

