OCTOBER 2017 - DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH IN ALABAMA

October 2-6, 2017: Dyslexia Awareness Month Kick-off Week for School and Community

Create awareness in schools and communities in your district with “dyslexia day/night,” social media events, school casts, morning messages, etc. using #SayDyslexiaAL17, the official hashtag for Alabama’s Dyslexia Awareness Month. Utilize Multisensory Structured Language Education (MSLE) trained teachers, school reading specialists, coaches, partners, parents, and community experts to host mini-workshops/seminars and open house community events. Create awareness of resources for support of dyslexia by promoting the International Dyslexia Association-Alabama Branch (IDA-AL) and the Alabama Reading Initiative Dyslexia Websites. Coordinate with local partners and stakeholders to develop community awareness of dyslexia by providing facts, resources, and support to families. Encourage groups to reach out to local experts and develop on-going partnerships to support dyslexia. Work to develop year-round communication, support, and resources for families, school, and communities in your district.

October 9-13, 2017: “Lights, Camera, Action!” Week

Bring technology into the classroom to highlight the many ways in which students with dyslexia can express themselves and communicate by means other than writing. Encourage students to share stories with oral recounting, storytelling, and/or drama activities. Consider a “No Pencil/Pen Day” storytelling competition by utilizing technology solutions such as text to speech, audio and/or video recordings, and recording through pictures so that all students can enjoy expressing themselves.

October 16-20, 2017: Show Your Support Week

Wear red or silver to demonstrate awareness and support in your school and community. Encourage teachers and students to demonstrate support for dyslexia by wearing the colors and offering school/class proclamations. Encourage district communication/media personnel to create public service announcements, local news articles, and district communication posts for local school Websites promoting awareness using #SayDyslexiaAL17, the official hashtag for Alabama’s Dyslexia Awareness Month.

October 23-27, 2017: “Famous Dyslexics” Week,

Create school and community awareness for the many talents and gifts dyslexic students have by engaging in class projects and school-wide activities that feature famous dyslexic achievers in America and across the globe.

Additional Resources for Teachers, Administrators, and Parents:

- International Dyslexia Association
- Alabama Dyslexia Association
- Alabama Game Changers
- Decoding Dyslexia
- Roundtable Solutions
- Dyslexia In the Classroom: What Every Teacher Needs to Know
- Embracing Dyslexia
- Being You
- Dyslexia Help
- What Does the Dyslexia Person Feel?
- Understood