

Nancy Hennessy, M.Ed., LDT-C

2013 Keynote Speaker for the 23rd Annual Dimensions of Dyslexia Conference and 1st Annual Southern Regional Conference

Nancy Hennessy is an experienced general and special education teacher, diagnostician, administrator, and consultant. She holds an undergraduate degree in psychology from Regis College, a graduate degree in special education from William Paterson University and has completed advanced studies in administration.

While in public schools, she provided leadership and guidance in the development and implementation of innovative programming for special needs students and professional development planning for all staff. She served as a training specialist for the New Jersey Department of Education for its pilot project "Plan to Revise Special Education." In her last school district, Nancy designed and established an award winning supervision evaluation system.

She has created and delivered keynotes, workshops, multi-day trainings and facilitated sessions nationally and internationally. Her topics have included components of research-based reading, dyslexia, RTI, co-teaching, as well as supervision evaluation systems, mentoring, and strategic planning.

Nancy is the author of articles on the dyslexic experience, study strategies, mentoring, professional development practices, and program implementation. Nancy has written the chapter, "Mentoring in a Professional Community" in *The Reflective Mentor: Case Studies in Creating Learning Partnership*, co-authored Module 6 of LETRS, *Digging for Meaning: Teaching Text Comprehension* (2nd edition) with Louisa Moats and wrote Chapter 11, "Word Learning and Vocabulary Instruction," in *Multisensory Teaching of Basic Skills* (3rd edition).

She has served in various positions for the International Dyslexia Association including President, Branch Council Chair, and National Conference Chair. She also serves on the National Joint Committee for Learning Disabilities, advisory board of the National Association for Education of African-American Children with Learning Disabilities, and is a past member of Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic's National Advisory Council.

Nancy has worked as an adjunct instructor for Fairleigh Dickinson University for several years. She is the founding member of The Consulting Network, has served as a Lead Trainer for Wilson Language Systems and is currently a National Trainer for LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling).

Nancy was recently inducted as an honorary member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, is the 2011 recipient of IDA's Margaret Rawson Lifetime Achievement Award and NCIDA's 2012 June Lyday Orton Award.