



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**AWARD-WINNING TEACHER TAKES A TEAM APPROACH TO LITERACY EDUCATION**

Shares best practices for creating successful literacy leadership teams in new book

**Larchmont, NY** – According to the Alliance for Excellent Education, 70% of eighth-grade students and 65% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students read below grade level, and high-stakes test results continue to report low student achievement despite widespread efforts to increase accountability. Meanwhile, principals have become responsible for an ever-growing and unrealistic multitude of responsibilities.

Pamela S. Craig, longtime educator and former Florida English Teacher of the Year, believes that the creation of literacy leadership teams in schools will help to address these issues. With student achievement strongly linked to reading ability, Craig recommends that schools build teams consisting of teachers, administrators, and other school community members dedicated to finding ways to improve students' reading levels. Teams review research related to literacy education and take on leadership positions within their teams as they engage in their own professional development.

In her new book, *Literacy Leadership Teams: Collaborative Leadership for Improving and Sustaining Student Achievement*, Craig shows school leaders how to create and sustain teams focused on improving literacy within content areas. Craig clearly explains steps to organize the team, synthesize data and research, and develop and implement improvement plans.

“While many schools sincerely want to establish effective literacy teams, they often do not know how,” said Craig. “Ultimately the teams revert to meetings rather than opportunities for bringing about sustained change. I wanted to write a book that would provide practical, doable activities to help literacy teams engage in the type of reflection and collaboration necessary to produce and sustain change.”

Craig has helped schools throughout Florida develop their literacy plans and has also presented nationally on the topic of adolescent literacy. She continues her research on practical ways to raise reading levels today.

Eye On Education publishes practical reference books for teachers, principals, administrators, and other educators on topics such as literacy, professional development, educational leadership, and school improvement.

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