

Arizona Department of Education

State Personnel Development Grant Partner



Collaboration among personnel from several areas of the [Arizona Department of Education](#) is a major component of the SPDG project. Exceptional Student Services applied for and received the grant award. Associate Superintendent of Highly Effective Schools, Robin Kauakahi, oversees the SPDG. The Professional Learning and Sustainability Director, Tracey Sridharan, leads the SPDG efforts to increase reading achievement for students with specific learning disabilities in Focus and Pre-Intervention schools, grades 4-8. Ms. Sridharan oversees SPDG personnel, the development of the modules, and the implementation of the professional development.

Additional SPDG personnel from Exceptional Student Services include Susan Shooter, Project Coordinator and Carol Crawford, Project Manager. Abby Sanchez is the SPDG Project Specialist, and Bill McQueary is the Community of Practice Advisor. Kimberly Rice, Harold Campbell, Stacy Riccio, and Teresa Kirkman will be trained as SPDG Cadre Specialists.

Deputy Associate Superintendent, Devon Isherwood, and Scott Maxwell, Director of Support and Innovation, are lending their expertise to SPDG activities and will oversee Liz Allen, Ericka Ciganek, and Steve Henneberg, SPDG Cadre Specialists appointed to work with the selected districts.

Becky Rapier of K-12 Academic Standards works as a literacy advisor to SPDG and serves as a liaison for ESS and K-12 Academic Standards to promote the SPDG project activities and use of the modules.

As the SPDG Cadre, the Specialists will be trained in the modules to provide technical assistance and assist in facilitation, if needed. Another aspect of SPDG's collaborations within ADE includes alignment with the Early Childhood Initiatives.

