

*Creating schools that work*  
**FOR ALL CHILDREN**

**IDRA**

INTERCULTURAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

CATALOG OF SERVICES

# Dear Educator

Welcome to IDRA's new catalog of services!

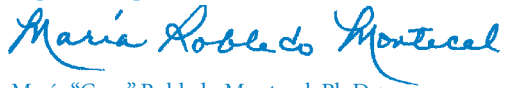
There is so much to share with you about our technical assistance and training, and research and evaluation services—including some new ways that we can help you ensure the success of every child.

For more than 30 years, the Intercultural Development Research Association has partnered with schools and communities to increase school effectiveness and improve academic outcomes for all students. IDRA has been a resource to thousands of teachers, administrators, school board members, families and communities, from the development of a highly-successful dropout prevention model, started in Texas and expanded to serve students across the United States and Brazil, to innovations in math and science education for English language learners, to helping schools build bridges with the parents and families that make up any campus community.

Our mission—to create schools that work for all children—is a gold standard we can only meet in partnership with you and those you serve. All our products and services, then, are dedicated to you and the work you do every day, in every classroom, with every child.

Please let us know how we can be a resource to you. Together we can fulfill a vision of success for every child.

In partnership,



María "Cuca" Robledo Montecel, Ph.D.

President & CEO





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# Professional Development Services

On an annual basis, IDRA provides on-site training and technical assistance to more than 100,000 teachers and students across the country and to more than 1,600 school districts and other groups. With an unwavering commitment to student success, our services provide innovative, practical and sustainable solutions for the schools that need them most. IDRA's professional development services reflect a thorough knowledge of curriculum and assessment standards, national standards such as the NCTM math, the TESOL ESL, and the ISTE technology standards.

## We're here to help! IDRA's professional staff members are:

**Skilled**—trainers that design and implement top notch workshops with proven results

**Prepared**—hold graduate and doctoral degrees in reading, math, bilingual education and educational administration

**Bilingual**—fluent and literate in English and Spanish

**Experienced**—teachers and administrators with years of bilingual and ESL classroom and administrative experience

## Professional Development: On Tap. On Time.

IDRA delivers services on site and online. Based on the unique needs of your district, campus or classroom, our staff integrates multimedia technologies and web resources and activities in on-site technical assistance, workshops, and coaching and mentoring activities. IDRA staff demonstrates and teaches educators technology integration models in the planning, communication and delivery of education. In addition to online resources, IDRA workshops include CDs and DVDs with static and dynamic files that include documents, multimedia applications, video and audio. Tailored to meet the needs of each school, IDRA also can support the design and production of web sites, multimedia applications and technology-infused learning models.



IDRA is committed to a valuing philosophy: we respect the knowledge and skills of the teachers we work with, model continually how educators can identify assets and build on the strengths of the students and parents in their schools.



“

I feel that I have gained so much more knowledge, skills and new strategies for teaching from people who have been in the classroom and taught for 15-plus years. In all my years of teaching...I can't think of a time when pre-service training or any other training met the expectations this project has made.

”

—Teacher, Central Texas, 2007



# Math & Science

For elementary and secondary schools

## Math Smart!™

Energize student learning in mathematics and increase academic achievement. Through dynamic workshops, mentoring, co-teaching and webcasts, Math Smart! can help you create a hands-on problem-solving environment that engages students of all backgrounds and helps every student succeed. Grounded in best practices research, IDRA's Math Smart! professional development model focuses on increasing mathematical proficiency and achievement for all students, while deepening teacher knowledge. Math Smart! can help you:

- Excite student learning in mathematics and increase mathematical proficiency and achievement for all students.
- Provide teachers the opportunity to explore mathematical concepts in a safe environment that builds collegiality.
- Implement the five dimensions of mathematical proficiency in a standards-based curriculum.
- Draw on students' experiences and innate, natural sense of mathematics to strengthen their mathematics competency.
- Boost campus accountability ratings.



“IDRA is the reason we are off of AYP; now we can breathe and focus on our next goal: increasing the number of kids in higher level math.”

–Principal, South Texas, 2007

In 2006–07, IDRA was called upon to work with schools throughout Texas and Louisiana struggling to meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Every participating Math Smart! school made significant gains. Most moved off of AYP within one year of model implementation.

Visit [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org) for IDRA Classnotes podcasts on mathematics and science teaching and learning, how to prepare students for access to higher level mathematics and the five dimensions of mathematical proficiency.

### Science Smart!™

Customized to strengthen your existing science curriculum and pedagogy, Science Smart! helps teachers engage diverse learners through an authentic inquiry-based curriculum that is aligned with state standards. Science Smart! deepens students’ conceptual understanding of science, keeping the “why” in scientific discovery. Science Smart! can help you:

- Raise student confidence, competency and achievement in science.
- Present scientific concepts in new, collaborative ways that build collegiality among teachers.
- Create science-friendly campuses that excite learning and real-world problem-solving, engage families as partners, build collegiality and bring out the scientist in everyone.

Math Smart! and Science Smart! enrich teaching and learning with workshop training, co-teaching, mentoring, demonstration lessons, pre-classroom observations, mobile labs, video conferences, online discussions and reflection. Each package incorporates an array of real-time and dynamic technology tools. CPE credit is available.

# ESL & Bilingual Services

## Language Acquisition in Diverse Classrooms

### Focusing on Language and Academic Instructional Renewal (FLAIR)

Increase cognitive growth and academic achievement in reading for all students, including linguistically diverse students, through an intensive language-across-the-curriculum program. This professional development model helps teachers transform every classroom into a powerful learning environment, where students and teachers are encouraged to think creatively and achieve at high levels. FLAIR...

- Adapts itself to the reading materials already on the campus while encouraging teachers to explore the rich diversity of children's literature available to them
- Values students and teachers and encourages them to think for themselves as they teach and learn
- Models instructional approaches through training and technical assistance that stress all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing)

### Engagement-based Sheltered Instruction (EBSI) NEW!

Are your English language learners meeting state standards? EBSI provides a rich model of student engagement as a key to academic success. EBSI offers comprehensive learning opportunities for educators, families and community-based organizations that build upon each partner's strengths, while developing new strategies to increase student success. EBSI will help you:

- Understand students' language proficiency levels and the language demands of content areas, texts and tests
- Develop student academic language in content areas
- Plan, teach and observe for maximum cognitive engagement
- Integrate technology as a tool for student engagement

### Success Using Bilingual Education! (iSUBE!)

IDRA supports all phases of effective bilingual education, from planning through implementation, community engagement and sustainability for student success through training of mentors and coaches. iSUBE! combines state-of-the-art technology, hands-on and face-to-face training to help you:

- Align bilingual strategies to meet state and federal requirements in content areas
- Address the affective, linguistic and cognitive needs of students
- Plan, structure and assess effective bilingual programs on an ongoing basis
- Strengthen parent engagement for student success

“Having witnessed my teachers go from active listeners, to the movers and shakers of what they learn, has been such a gift. It is a privilege to have such a wonderful partnership with IDRA!”

—Elementary School Principal,  
Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, 2006 – 07

To learn more, visit [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org) for podcasts on “Fostering Student Engagement with English Language Learners;” “Good Schools for Children Learning English;” and “A Model for Successful Reading Instruction.”





# Early Childhood Education for Diverse Learners

Building pre-K literacy and numeracy  
one child, one classroom at a time.

## Together we can create excellence from their very first step.

IDRA's Early Childhood Centers of Excellence model teaches young children to read and lays out a path to reading success. This proven classroom-based approach helps school districts and Head Start centers ensure the success of every student through professional development and teacher support; curriculum, instruction and services to support preschool and family literacy; and technical assistance, training and support to develop meaningful family-school partnerships. We can help you build your center of excellence with model components:

- Professional Development—coaching, mentoring and in-class demonstration lessons to prepare teachers and center staff to succeed with diverse learners
- Curriculum and Instruction—resources, technical assistance and training to create a dynamically-enriched environment and instruction
- Family Engagement—proven practices, coaching and support to build strong teacher, child and family relationships

Our tailored technical assistance and training in early childhood education can help you:

- Meet Title III requirements
- Establish effective early childhood bilingual programs
- Train in early literacy development
- Infuse diversity into the curriculum
- Develop curricula for early childhood

“

Since I've started with this program, everything has changed in my teaching, the classroom, the small group rotations, and even the students. Some children are reading, spelling and recognizing words. I have more access to teaching tools, such as books, materials, etc. I feel this program has helped me teach in a way I didn't know I could.

—Early Childhood Educator,  
Head Start Center, Central Texas, 2007

Join us for the Annual IDRA *La Semana del Niño* Early Childhood Educators Institute.™ Join the nation's only gathering place for teachers and parents concerned with early childhood education of English language learners. To register online, visit [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org).



Visit [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org) to learn more about IDRA's Early Childhood Centers of Excellence model and how we can help you build centers of excellence for early learners.

# Coaching & Mentoring for Novice Teachers

New teachers thrive. Seasoned teachers hone their skills. Students excel.

## Dynamic induction training for mentors and new teachers NEW!

Creative, high quality teaching is at the heart of school success. IDRA can help your teachers fulfill their full potential with an induction program that selects and pairs effective mentors with novice teachers and gives new teachers the peer support and trusted advice they need to succeed from day one.

As guides, advisors and trusted friends, mentors serve as successful role models, counselors and co-teachers. Mentors help new teachers navigate rough waters, build on a teachers' natural strengths, reflect on what works, and be partners for success. Training incorporates IDRA's WOW! Workshop on Workshops model—the art of planning and conducting workshops—for mentors and coaches helping new and struggling teachers.

## Research-based mentoring model

Through a proven mentoring model, IDRA supports novice teachers to address the challenges of a new school culture, the emotional ups and downs associated with a new work experience, high expectations of the school and the community, and all the new knowledge that must be acquired about policies and practices of the school district. The model is based on these premises:

- Learning never stops; it is a career-long process developing teaching expertise.
- All students regardless of SES, ethnicity, race or gender must be engaged in the learning process.
- Teaching must be data driven, must be inclusive and must address linguistic and cultural characteristics of the student population.

- Quality teaching leads to improved student academic performance.
- Professional and ethical standards drive the professional development of teachers.

IDRA's induction training for mentors and new teachers can help you:

- Ease new teachers' entry into education and support them during their first year.
- Raise teacher retention rates.
- Connect teachers with knowledgeable, caring, experienced teachers.
- Build your faculty's confidence, efficacy and success in serving diverse students.



IDRA is an approved provider of the Beginning Induction and Mentoring Program under the Texas Education Agency.



# Parent Involvement & Family Leadership

## Family Leadership in Education Model

Strong school, family and community engagement dramatically impact student achievement. IDRA can help you build a school culture of positive parent involvement and meaningful partnerships. IDRA provides comprehensive, in-depth learning opportunities for parents, teachers, administrators and community-based organizations that build on the strength and knowledge each partner brings, while developing new and effective strategies for engagement that focus on student achievement. Through customized training, services and support, IDRA can help you to:

- Plan for family involvement and build home-school partnerships that work
- Build parent efficacy to help children succeed in school
- Analyze student outcome data and develop partnerships to improve student academic achievement and evaluate and communicate results to stakeholders
- Conduct community asset maps
- Create a district or campus-wide culture of engagement: Assessing what's in place and what's needed
- Create parent-teacher-student visions for success and goal setting
- Understand federal and state policy and the implications for parent and community engagement
- Offer WOW! Workshops on Workshops, IDRA's highly popular, practical training of trainers workshop, to parents and parent liaisons in Spanish and English

IDRA's parent and community engagement training and professional development opportunities combine best practices, state-of-the-art technology, and hands-on and face-to-face training in effective parent and community engagement to help plan, create and sustain important connections between school, home and community.

“The best I've attended based on 26 years experience. Future workshops will pale in contrast.”

—Administrator, West Texas, 2007

IDRA's Texas Parent Information and Resource Center was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a national model in parent engagement and best practices. To learn more, see: *Engaging Parents in Education: Lessons From Five Parental Information and Resource Centers* (June 2007) online at: <http://www.ed.gov>

Find out more about IDRA's Family Leadership Model by visiting [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org).



# Dropout Prevention Programs & Resources

## The Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program

IDRA's Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program, a cross-age tutoring and dropout prevention model, started in 1984 with a small seed grant. Since then, the program has kept more than 23,000 students in school and positively impacted more than 416,000 children, families and educators in districts across the United States and in Brazil. It was identified in *Show Me the Evidence!* as one of only two dropout prevention programs in the country that show empirical evidence of success. The program works by engaging middle and high school students who are at risk of dropping out as tutors for elementary school youngsters who are also struggling in school. Results show that tutors stay in school, have improved academic performance, and advance to higher education. To bring IDRA's award-winning



## Graduation Guaranteed/ Graduación Garantizada Professional Development Services and Training to Raise Graduation Rates

IDRA can help your district develop, implement and evaluate a comprehensive plan to raise graduation rates and engage family, community and school stakeholders. IDRA can help you:

- Assess needs and target effective approaches to reducing dropout rates and increasing college readiness
- Convene solution-oriented community-school forums around school data (using IDRA's web-based School Holding Power Portal at [www.idra.org/portal](http://www.idra.org/portal)) and a shared vision of student success
- Implement a school-community action plan, aligned with your School Improvement Plan and informed by best practices
- Build capacity to increase academic rigor and raise student achievement
- Evaluate new practices and results for accountability and continuous improvement

“You showed us all the doors in the future and taught us how to open those doors.”

—Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program tutor, Mesa, Arizona (2004). Today, this student is in her freshman year at the University of Arizona College of Nursing on a full scholarship

“Being able to call myself a great role model means a lot to me. I hate to miss school because I look forward to seeing my tutees and working with them every day.”

—Ninth Grade Coca-Cola Valued Youth Tutor, Central Texas, 2007

Find out more about IDRA's Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program and best practices for strengthening school holding power at [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org). And sign up, free, to Graduation for All, a bilingual (Spanish/English) monthly e-newsletter for people around the country taking action to strengthen school holding power.

# Specialized Professional Development Institutes & Workshops

## WOW! Workshop on Workshops

Learn the art of planning and conducting workshops! WOW is a challenging, participatory two-and-one-half day session that—with a touch of humor—provides practical, research-based tools to help new leaders prepare and run superb workshops with minimal stress. Whether they are teachers moving into new leadership roles, experienced presenters looking to innovate, coaches/mentors, parent volunteers or liaisons, WOW participants become more effective presenters.

## Technology Integration for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching, Learning and Leadership NEW!

To help schools to capture the excitement of new technology tools to transform teaching and learning, IDRA now offers a series of customized institutes and workshops for teachers and administrators, including:

- Technology Integration Institute for Administrators (TIIA)
- Technology Integration for Teachers
- Engaging Students through Technology Model (ESTT Model)

## One-Day Workshops

(For topics, see the IDRA Services Catalog on CD)

In addition to professional development packages that will engage your teachers through in-depth training, technical assistance and follow up, IDRA offers customized, one-day workshops on a broad range of topics.

I feel so privileged and validated because finally my skills as a teacher are being recognized, not through an award, but by allowing me to prepare and carry out professional development for my colleagues...Thank you for acknowledging our strengths, but also for constantly pushing us to do more critical thinking about our teaching.

—Teacher, IDRA's ExCELS (Educators x Communities = English Language Learners = Success) Project, 2006

## Title I and Title III Assistance

IDRA's experienced staff is uniquely prepared to help you meet Title I and Title III requirements. We offer professional development packages that will engage your teachers in long-term, in-depth training coupled with innovative follow-up technical assistance. We ground ourselves in the latest scientifically-based research and align all our efforts with state and local standards. We use cutting-edge technologies and have special expertise in working with bilingual populations.

## Sample professional development packages include:

### Early Literacy Development for Spanish Speakers

Designed for regular and bilingual classroom teachers, grades PK–3

### Making the Transition to English

Designed for regular and bilingual classroom teachers, grades 2–5

### Sheltered Instruction for Secondary Students

Designed for regular content area and ESL teachers, grades 6–12

### Mastering the Language of Mathematics

Designed for math teachers, grades 6–12

### Parent Involvement and Leadership Development

Designed for Spanish-speaking parents of school-age children

### Evaluation Research Services

Designed for schools and school districts implementing Title III programs

# Evaluation, Research & Needs Assessment

## IDRA Evaluation, Research and Needs Assessment

IDRA is nationally-recognized as a reliable, efficient and cost-effective contractor in the field of evaluation and research. Through IDRA's research-based evaluation work, educators and other program implementers can assess and document project outcomes using qualitative and quantitative methods and improve future activities by clarifying what works, for which students and under what conditions. IDRA's evaluation adheres to Program Evaluation Standards set by the Joint Committee of Standards for Educational Evaluation. IDRA's evaluation can help you by conducting a comprehensive needs assessment at the district or campus level, informing district plans, assisting in reporting of planned and monitored instructional programs, and informing federal programs, state program evaluations, local evaluations, needs assessments and accountability plans.

### What programs can IDRA evaluate?

- Chapter I Regular
- Chapter I Migrant
- Title III Bilingual
- State Bilingual
- Compensatory Education
- Family English Literacy
- Special Alternative Education
- Parent Involvement Programs
- Technology Applications Readiness Grants for Empowering Texas (TARGET)
- Smaller Learning Communities
- Teacher Training and Retention
- Vocational Education Programs
- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for

Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP)

- Teaching American History
- Training Development and Improvement

### IDRA clients include:

- School districts
- Education service centers
- Campuses
- Colleges and universities
- State education agencies
- Federal programs

## Research Services: Knowledge when you need it. Information that matters most.

IDRA has gathered and analyzed data that promote a broader understanding of educational and social policy issues among public and professional decision makers. Using collaborative and innovative methods, we investigate important questions and provide insight into compelling educational issues. As national resource, IDRA sets standards in the design, analysis and synthesis of timely and useful research involving diverse populations.

### IDRA can help you by conducting research on:

- Effective schooling
- School finance
- Student assessment
- Literacy
- Early childhood education
- Cross-age and peer tutoring
- At-risk prevention and recovery
- Technological applications in education
- Bilingual education and other special



# Featured Products & Resources

For a full list of IDRA products, including many free publications and publications available in English and Spanish, visit us online at [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org).

## **A Community Action Guide—Seven Actions to Fulfill the Promise of Brown and Mendez**

Also available free online at [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org)  
(No ISBN; Paperback, 28 Pages; 2005) **\$12.50**

## **Creating Centers of Learning – Home and School**

(No ISBN; 28 Pages; English/Spanish; 2004) **\$10.00**

## **Good Schools and Classrooms for Children Learning English: A Guide**

(ISBN: 1-878550-69-1; 64 Pages; 2002) **\$15.00**

## **Hacia Adelante ~ Pathways to College A Guide for Latino Families**

Also available free online at: [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org)  
(ISBN: 1-878550-72-1; 46 Pages; 2002) **\$7.00**  
Spanish-language version also available.

## **InterAction: Higher Education and Latinos in the New Millennium**

(No ISBN; 48 Pages plus CD; 2005) **\$18.00**

## **Minority Women in Science: Forging the Way Student Workbook**

(ISBN 1-878550-67-5; Paperback; 32 Pages; 2000) **\$6.50; Teacher's Guide**  
(ISBN 1-878550-68-3; Paperback; 94 Pages) **\$25.00**

## **Multicultural Education: A Generation of Advocacy**

(ISBN: 0-536-58760-4; 556 Pages; 1995) **\$38.00**

## **Promoting Student Leadership on Campus: A Guide for Creating a Culture of Engagement**

(No ISBN; 15 Pages, 2002) **\$6.00**  
Also available free online at: [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org)

## **Texas School Finance Reform: An IDRA Perspective**

(ISBN: 1-878550-63-2; 387 pages; 1997) **\$30.00**

## **The Ohtli Encuentro—Women of Color Share Pathways to Leadership**

(ISBN# 0-9740243-8-4; 112 Pages; Boerne, Texas: Sor Juana Press, 2005) **\$15.00**

## **What Every Teacher Should Know About Migrant Students**

(Interactive CD and guide)  
(No ISBN; CD and brochure, 16 Pages; 2006) **\$10.00**

## Sign up to receive:

**The IDRA Newsletter.** Free in print and online at [www.idra.org](http://www.idra.org). Hundreds of searchable articles on education research, policy and practice on making a difference in creating schools that work for all children. María “Cuca” Robledo Montecel, Ph.D. (ed.) (ISSN 1069-5672)

## **IDRA's Classnotes podcast series!**

A twice monthly, award-winning podcast series for people who care about excellent and equitable education for all children. Subscribe to series or download podcasts on-demand at: [www.idra.org/Podcasts](http://www.idra.org/Podcasts)

## **Graduation for All. Get Informed. Get Connected. Get Results.**

Free, bilingual (Spanish/English), monthly e-letter for people concerned about the dropout issue and taking action to address it. Subscribe at: [www.idra.org/School\\_Holding\\_Power/Graduation\\_for\\_All\\_e-Letter](http://www.idra.org/School_Holding_Power/Graduation_for_All_e-Letter)

## **IDRA's School Holding Power Portal (in Texas) ([www.idra.org/portal](http://www.idra.org/portal))**

A web-based resource designed to provide school, community, family, student and business leaders with key information to assess school holding power and student preparation and, where needed, to develop a school-community action plan to improve outcomes.

Contact IDRA to place an order or to request a full publication list at 210-444-1710 or [contact@idra.org](mailto:contact@idra.org).



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