The Consortium
South Office

Layers of Reading Series: Grades 7-12

PRESENTED BY
Michelle Bence, PhD & Miriam Ramzy, PhD

SERIES SESSIONS

Date	Time
January 22, 2025	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
February 25, 2025	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
March 19, 2025	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
April 10, 2025	12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

LOCATION
Grasslands Public Schools Central Office - 745 2nd Ave E

FEE
$150.00

QUESTIONS?
Contact Us:
403-381-5580

REGISTER ONLINE
Visit our website to register:
south.aplc.ca

Learning Opportunity

Join Michelle Bence and Miriam Ramzy for a 4-part series digging into the Layers of Reading targeting secondary learners. Together, we will unpack the research around reading instruction and look at the essential role of disciplinary literacy in supporting the reading journeys of your students. We will share many strategies and tools that you can carry into your classrooms to support the reading development for all your learners.

January 22, 2025 (morning, in-person)
In this first session, we will provide an overview of how reading develops, and will preview the Layers of Reading Development graphic. Next, we will dig into Word Study.
Together, we will explore the complexities of English, and how, through a pattern-seeking approach, we can support students in working with letter representations for
reading and writing success.

February 25, 2025 (morning, in-person)
In our second session, we will take an in-depth dive into morphology and syllable patterns. We will examine how these two concepts support secondary students' reading
and understanding of complex vocabulary and content-specific words.

March 19, 2025 (morning, in-person)
In this session, we will target Tier 2 vocabulary words, one of the biggest indicators of success in school from grade 4 through post-secondary education. We will examine why
this is an essential element of instruction and what it can look like within and across disciplines to support student diversity in our classes.

April 10, 2025 (afternoon, in-person)
In our final session, we will integrate everything through Fluent Comprehension. We will also examine ways to support all students in deeply understanding text, including
text across disciplines.

Presenters

Michelle Bence, PhD

Michelle Bence is a dedicated educator with over 20 years of experience in K-12 classrooms and literacy education. She has worked extensively with several school boards across Western Canada as a literacy consultant, leading initiatives in literacy development, professional teacher learning, and the system-wide implementation of evidence-based literacy practices. Michelle recently completed her Ph.D. at the University of Calgary. Her research focuses on dialogic pedagogy and its role in fostering students' complex thinking, literacy identities, and language development in relation to literacy acquisition and engagement with texts.

Miriam Ramzy, PhD

Miriam Ramzy is a teacher and researcher based in Alberta. She has worked as a classroom teacher in both English and French Immersion settings, a literacy coach and facilitator, a school administrator, and Director of Student Learning. Currently, she works with school boards across Western Canada, supporting teachers, leaders, educational assistants, parents, and students from Jr. K - 12. Her work centers on literacy research and practice, with a deep commitment to supporting partners in education to create effective, responsive, and inclusive spaces where all students thrive. Miriam holds a PhD from the University of Calgary. Her research examined writing instruction, with a particular focus on the transcription process. She continues to contribute to professional learning and educational research with a passion for bridging theory and classroom practice.

Supporting every educator in every classroom