Greetings, I hope this letter finds you well. We are in full swing of the school year and there have been a lot of great things going on at our Northern Ohio Branch of the International Dyslexia Association.

We have had a busy summer and fall with some great events. We kicked off the warmer months with a simulation in Vermillion. Moving into summer, we had our long time advisory board members and Wilson trainers, Ellen Brick and Lori Josephson, lead several Wilson and Fundations workshops.

Again, our branch is reaching out to the education community and using our resources to lead teachers in Structured Literacy. We are a leading resource in northern Ohio in bringing best practices for Structured Literacy for our students with dyslexia.

In September, Mary Jo O’Neill, an advocate, gave valuable information in a session called "Understanding the IEP Process." She shared her wealth of knowledge in helping parents navigate best in this process.

Video from Jennifer LaHaie
It's October and Dyslexia Awareness month. NOBIDA is actively participating. On October 20, we will be hosting the 29th Symposium “Diverse Learners, Dyslexia and More” at the Cleveland Marriott East Hotel. This is an exciting day of Structured Literacy and other related sessions. We have designed a day to address the needs of a student with dyslexia - not limited to reading and spelling instruction, but also issues that might challenge students with dyslexia. You can register at nobidaevents.org.

Our goal as the Northern Ohio Branch is to support the community affected by dyslexia and we are continually striving to make that happen. We take our mission seriously and putting our efforts into growing our outreach. We have had and will continue to lead events that fulfill our mission, "...NOBIDA has a mission to offer hope, education, and the opportunity for personal success to people with dyslexia and those who interact with them in northern Ohio..."

Thank you for your time. I hope to see you at the 29th Annual Symposium.

Jennifer LaHaie, President
International Dyslexia Association - Northern Ohio Branch
Keynote Session: "Structured Literacy for All" by Elsa Cárdenas-Hagan, Ed.D.

Session Breakouts:

- "The Bilingual Dyslexic: From Assessment to Intervention" by Elsa Cárdenas-Hagan, Ed.D.
- "Subtleties in the Management of ADHD" by Steven Wexberg, M.D. and Michael Manos, Ph.D.
- "Reading Anxiety" by Moira Erwine, M.A.Ed. and John Zbornik, Ph.D.
- "Nothing = Everything: Teaching the Concept of the 'Elusive Schwa', the Key to Accurate Spelling" by Ellen Brick, M.A. and Lori Josephson, M.A.
- "An Overview" by Charlotte Andrist
- "Integrating Multisensory Learning in a Typical Primary Classroom" by Beth Jack, M.Ed. and Mandy Reigler, M.A.
- "Assistive Technology for Students: Round Table" by Brenda Bailey
- "Learned Helplessness" by Cheryl Chase, Ph.D.
- "The Magical Journey of Building a Beginner Reader's Brain" by Alicia Sparks, M.Ed.
- "Setting the Groundwork: The Cohesive Ties of Early Literacy a Hands-On Approach" by Theresa Kaska, M.Ed., CALT and Michelle Spansel, B.A., CALT
- "Oral Language and Listening Comprehension" by Rebecca Tolson, M.Ed., CALT, QI
- "What Parents Can Do to Help" by Morgan Amend, M.Ed., CALT, Beth Reusser, CALT, and Nicole Smyk, CALT, CDT

Grad Credit Hour now available with attendance!

See link for requirement details.

GRAD CREDIT HOUR!

MEET OUR NEW BRANCH SERVICE COORDINATOR

Please welcome our new NOBIDA Service Coordinator, Amy Colaco. If you have questions concerning dyslexia and our branch services, please email her at nobidainfo@gmail.com or call 216-556-0883 from 10am-2pm business days.

Amy joined us earlier this year, becoming more involved with dyslexia after the many years of learning challenges and dyslexia needs for her now 16-year old son, Jacin. Amy has a BS in Business Administration and a Human Resources background with emphasis in health and welfare employee benefits. As an employee with two major U.S. business corporations, she served in national corporate endeavors, and as a client serving consultant for businesses, non-profit and school district administrations across Northeast Ohio.

In her parenting years, Amy has embraced the passion of community volunteering. She resides in Richfield, Ohio with her two high school sons, Jacin and Eric.

PARENT OUTREACH

On September 6, our past board president, Mary Jo O'Neill presented to a group of parents on "Understanding the IEP Process."

Mary Jo provided a wealth of information to parents and teachers who wanted to learn more about how to prepare for IEP meetings, navigate through the process, and learn how to create the best learning experiences for individuals with dyslexia.

Be sure to like our Facebook page "International Dyslexia Association of Northern Ohio" and check out our website noh.dyslexiaida.org/ for upcoming spring events!

DID YOU KNOW?

IDA Fact Sheets are convenient, professionally reviewed materials designed to improve
understanding and support advocacy initiatives. Fact Sheets are frequently used to enrich and supplement IEP meetings, school board discussions, and district policy initiatives.

- AD/HD and Dyslexia
- Adolescents and Adults with Dyslexia
- Applying for Accommodations on College Entrance Tests
- Applying for Accommodations on Graduate School Entrance Tests
- At Risk Students English Language Learners
- Common Core State Standards and Students with Disabilities
- Dyslexia and the Brain
- Dyslexia Assessment
- Dyslexia Basics
- Dyslexia-Stress-Anxiety Connection
- Educational Promises
- Effective Reading Instruction for Students with Dyslexia
- Evaluating Professionals
- Gifted and Dyslexic
- Helpful Terminology
- Home Schooling
- Spelling
- Transitioning from High School to College
- Understanding Dysgraphia

CLICK HERE FOR IDA FACTS!

SPOTLIGHT FOCUS: TEAM STRUCTURED LITERACY on the run!

Runners Team up to Raise $8,300 to Support Students with Dyslexia
A Quest for Literacy at the RiteAid Cleveland Marathon

Mary Jo O’Neill, student advocate and avid runner, has run the Cleveland RiteAid half marathon five times. But this time is different - she is joining forces with fellow runners to raise awareness and the funds needed to bring literacy to Cleveland.

Together, they have already raised more than $8,300 in support of the more than 10 million students in the U.S. who struggle with symptoms of dyslexia.

It all began last fall with Mary Jo training tirelessly for the half marathon and rallying friends and supporters to join her quest. On May 21, 2017, she and seven team members called Team Structured Literacy ran for TeamQuest and the International Dyslexia Association - Northern Ohio Branch (IDA-NO). "Training was hard work," says Mary Jo. "So was keeping the team motivated. I used texts and phone calls to inspire them to train for the marathon."

"It's similar to what we have to do for parents and teachers," she says. "Provide support and encouragement to stay focused on advocating for their children and empowering the students when they are struggling to learn to read."

As a professional in the reading field, past president of the IDA-NO, and national board member of IDA, Mary Jo understands the challenges faced by individuals with dyslexia and their families. "Parents need to know their options. IDA has the right information and is there for our families. It partners with trusted, research-driven, educational organizations to support parents, adult learners, and teachers."

"There's so much that can be done when students are young learners," says Mary Jo. "Early intervention gives children the support they need in first grade so they are ready to read in the third and fourth grades and beyond."
Team Structured Literacy will run the Cleveland RiteAid Marathon for TeamQuest and IDA next May 2018. Their goal is to grow their team to 20 runners for 2018.

Anyone interested can contact Mary Jo at mjoneillequalplayingfield@gmail.com.

AND LASTLY... THINK OF THOSE IN NEED

We are all deeply concerned about the devastating effects of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. Those areas hit are our local IDA branch areas of greater Houston, Louisiana, and Florida (which also serves Puerto Rico). It is during difficult times such as these we must band together as an organization to support one another.

To assist in this effort, IDA created an opportunity for your organizations, your constituents, and others to help the Houston, Louisiana, and Florida branches by making a donation. One hundred percent of the funds collected will go directly to these branches for their discretionary use in support of the communities they serve.

Please visit the IDA Facebook page www.facebook.com/DyslexiaIDA, read our post and clicking the big blue "Donate" button at the top right of the page.