



A+ EDUCATIONAL CONSULTING
Clarity. Alignment. Action.



A+ LEADER BRIEF

Literacy Leadership in Action

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SCIENCE OF READING • SCIENCE OF LEARNING • STRONGER SYSTEMS • STRONGER STUDENT OUTCOMES



LEADER INSIGHT

Five Moves for Stronger Learning

Small shifts. Big impact.

- 1 Start with purpose.**
Anchor every lesson in a clear learning goal.
- 2 Make thinking visible.**
Use routines that reveal and build understanding.
- 3 Practice with retrieval.**
Bring knowledge back to mind to make it stick.
- 4 Build connections.**
Link new learning to prior knowledge and real-world context.
- 5 Respond and refine.**
Use evidence to adjust instruction and accelerate growth.



RESOURCE ROUNDUP

- **The Reading League** – Summer book study & resources
readingleague.org
- **Stephanie Stollar** – MTSS tools & articles
stephaniestollar.com
- **Education Rickshaw** – Strategies for the modern classroom
educationrickshaw.com
- **EdWeek** – Research & leadership insights
edweek.org



FOCUS ON LEARNING

Fragile Learning: Why It Happens and What Leaders Can Do

Students can appear to know something today—yet tomorrow, it's gone. That's fragile learning: information that hasn't been encoded deeply enough to last.

THE SCIENCE OF LEARNING

Our brains need support to move information from working memory to long-term storage.



Reduce cognitive load.
Clear, concise instruction helps students focus on learning, not managing confusion.



Retrieve and strengthen.
Retrieval practice and spaced review help build durable memory.



Space and revisit.
Return to learning over time to strengthen connections.



Connect and apply.
Link new learning to prior knowledge and real-world use.

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Create the conditions for learning that lasts.

- ✓ Protect time for practice and review.
- ✓ Support teachers with modeling and coaching.
- ✓ Use data to guide instruction and intervene early.
- ✓ Build a culture where every adult owns learning.



RECENT WORK & HIGHLIGHTS

A Story That Sticks

When a midwest district partnered with A+, early data told a tough story: only 48% of K–3 students were proficient in reading. Leadership knew the root cause wasn't effort—it was inconsistent instruction and limited support.

Together, we audited their systems, built a clear plan, and invested in teacher learning. Within one year, foundational skills instruction strengthened, coaching became consistent, and students started making measurable progress.

Two years later, K–3 literacy proficiency rose to 69%—a 21% gain. More importantly, educators now have the tools, confidence, and systems to keep growing.

Real change happens when leaders align the right supports with a clear plan—and never stop. That's what we do together.



A+ LITERACY SYSTEMS AUDIT

Clarity. Evidence. Action.
Get a snapshot of what's working—and what's not.

Learn more: apluseducationalconsulting.net/a-plus-audit



BLOG SERIES: FRAGILE LEARNING

New this month! Explore the 4-part series:

- Part 1: What Is Fragile Learning?
- Part 2: Why It Happens
- Part 3: Noticing and Addressing Gaps Early
- Part 4: Building Learning That Lasts

Read the series: apluseducationalconsulting.net/newsletter-and-blog



LEADER TAKEAWAY

Learning that lasts is built on clarity, practice, connection, and time.

Every system. Every classroom. Every child.



The goal is not just coverage.
The goal is learning that lasts.

– Dr. Stephanie Stollar

Let's build what's possible—TOGETHER.



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