

Dear Senators & Delegates,

You're Invited to Join Decoding Dyslexia MD for lunch and a panel discussion:



“The State of Reading & Dyslexia in Maryland”

Creating and Sustaining Reading Achievement Through Teacher Training

Thursday, February 2, 2017 from 12-1pm

Room 180, Lowe House Office Building, Annapolis

2016 was a year of solution finding for families and educators concerned about access to effective instruction for dyslexia and reading. The **“Task Force to Implement a Dyslexia Education Program in Maryland”** completed its recommendations and provided a report to the Maryland General Assembly and the Governor. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) developed a [Technical Assistance Bulletin on Specific Learning Disabilities \(SLD\) with a focus on dyslexia](#) to help facilitate and implement effective instruction for students with dyslexia, dysgraphia and dyscalculia.

But we must do more. Join us to learn about dyslexia and reading solutions that will narrow the reading and writing achievement gap in Maryland. Many students with average to above average intelligence have trouble learning to read, write and/or spell in Maryland public schools. The [2016 Maryland state assessment \(PARCC\) for 4th grade students](#) shows that 91% of special education, 77% of African American, 98% of limited English proficiency and 79% of students in poverty are not on grade level for reading and writing. **Maryland can change this outcome with your help.**

12:00 - 1:00pm LUNCH & PANEL DISCUSSION

PANELISTS -- Moderator: Karleen Spitulnik, Decoding Dyslexia MD, State Leader

- Dayne Guest, Recent Graduate, Baltimore County Public Schools: **What I Needed from my School**
- Ella Jane Miller, 7th grade student, Earle B. Woods Middle School in Rockville: **What I Need for School Success**
- Amy Siracusano, MS, Ed., Maryland Teacher, Literacy Coach, Higher Education Adjunct: **What Teachers Need to Know about Reading and Dyslexia**
- Monica McHale-Small, Superintendent, Saucon Valley School District, PA & Dr. Fran Warkomski, Dyslexia Pilot Coordinator, PA Dept. of Ed: **Creating and Sustaining Reading Achievement Through Teacher Training**
- Delegate Anne Kaiser, Chair, House Education Subcommittee: **Next Steps for Reading and Dyslexia Policy**

We encourage you to register so we can be sure to have enough food for everyone. See you on February 2!

REGISTER: <https://dyslexiaadvocacyregistration.eventbrite.com>