

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STATE INITIATIVES

A belated Happy New Year from the Children's Learning Institute and your project management team here at The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston. We are pleased to bring you this issue of the *TSR! Beat* with information highlighting our efforts to support oral language development in our Texas pre-kindergarten classrooms.

In this issue, we will introduce you to a new training being provided to coordinators and mentors to address the state center's growing concern around oral language. There is a nice article by Dr. Guttentag about meeting the needs of English Language Learners in Texas through the adaptation of the TEEM/TSR model for limited English proficient learners through the Pre-K LEP Project. And, we know you will celebrate along with the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas as you read the article about their achievement of Texas School Ready! certification. Be sure you meet the successful TSR teachers featured in this issue as you read the *Mentoring Matters* and *Buzzworthy* sections this month.

As you continue to show a strong commitment supporting quality preschool education for all children, we know you will continue to see successful and positive teacher change, high quality project implementation, and tremendous results in children's progress.

Thank you for the ongoing support you provide teachers and for the attention you are giving to the Texas School Readiness Certification System. The Facility Report should be available to you to begin on February 15. And, progress monitoring results should be complete across all vendor systems by the end of February. Note we have extended the progress monitoring window until February 26. With these results and the new training opportunity provided to support the field staff, we are hopeful for improved language results by the end of year screening.

Enjoy this issue of the *TSR Beat*!