Advanced Precision Teaching

Richard West, K. Richard Young, Susan Fister, and Janet Freston

Beyond the basics, this workshop was conducted by a group of veteran Precision Teachers for experienced practitioners. Included in the discussion were innovative applications of Precision Teaching, unique Standard Celeration Charts, use of Precision with unique populations, and training and management issues. Practical difficulties in implementing Precision Teaching in various organizations were expressed by participants. The team of experts and participants addressed these implementation issues with possible solutions from their experience. Advanced issues such as pinpointing, determining aims, counting and charting procedures, and data-based decision making were discussed.

Teaching Children to Chart

Michael Maloney

Classrooms in which Standard Celeration Charts are kept by the children yield the highest rate of learning. It seems obvious that to promote excellence in classrooms and to encourage teachers to maintain their own charting behavior, the Charts should be placed in the hands of children. Many years of Precision Teaching have also demonstrated that children can learn to monitor their own behavior and to make their own data-based decisions using established rules.

Especially for novice Precision Teachers, the notion of teaching students to chart is scary. Through a Direct Instruction teaching methodology, participants enhanced their knowledge of the Standard Celeration Chart and learned procedures to teach others—including young children—to chart.

Dr. Richard West is affiliated with Utah State University’s Exceptional Child Center, while Dr. K. Richard Young is affiliated with the Department of Special Education at Utah State University. In addition to coordinating the program of the 10th Annual International Precision Teaching Conference, Susan Fister is affiliated with the Utah Learning Resource Center, 2290 E. 4500 South, Suite 220, Salt Lake City, UT 84117.

Dr. Michael Maloney founded The Learning Center, a private school combining Direct Instruction with Precision Teaching. He can be contacted at 28 Isabel Street, Belleville, Ontario, Canada K8N 5A5.