

# Dyslexia Talk Fall Schedule

**Tuesday, September 9, 2014 – 10am PST**

Talking about Teaching Orthography

Gina Cooke



Gina Cooke is a Ph.D. Candidate in English Studies at Illinois State University and the principal of LEX: Linguist~Educator Exchange, dedicated to bringing language science to the language arts. Cooke received her Master's degree in linguistics from the University of Chicago, where she was a Century Fellow, and she studied literature, languages, and logic at Smith College for her Bachelor's degree. As a linguist in education, she has taught students about language from preschool to grad school, and has consulted in a variety of professional capacities with language, literacy, and educational organizations. Cooke was the founding director of the Children's

Dyslexia Center of Peoria; she has trained and certified hundreds of teachers in a nationally accredited structured language education program and has supervised the instruction of hundreds of students receiving free, state-of-the-art clinical interventions. Her research has been presented at state and national conferences, and she has published several manuscripts for the International Dyslexia Association and served on the editorial team for two national academic journals. Her popular TED-Ed videos about how English words work have received hundreds of thousands of hits and have been flipped into classroom lessons in the

U.S. and abroad. Her live and online courses welcome participants from all over the globe, and her deep understanding of English is transforming the field of structured language education in the U.S. Because she knows the best teaching doesn't always happen in classrooms, Cooke also actively volunteers with charitable, advocacy, and community organizations. She has been recognized for her volunteer work, and her studies at ISU have been recognized with seven distinctive awards over five years. Her proudest affiliation of all is the informal community of scholars on six continents who together study orthography and who are continually captivated by the compelling stories of how English writes its words.

**September 30, 2014 - 10am PST**

**When the School Says No, How to Get to Yes**

**Vaughn Lauer**

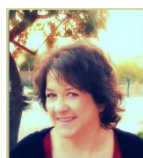


Dr. Vaughn K. Lauer has thirty years of experience, Pre-K through post-secondary, as a teacher, professor, and building, district and state administrator of special education and various private organization directorships in professional development and test development. His latest work includes a book on collaborative IEP development called *When the School Says No...How to Get the Yes!*, parent presentations, regional, state, national and international conferences and articles published in parent magazines and the web.

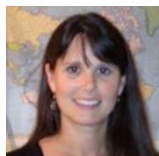
**October 14, 2014 - 10am PST**

**Learning Ally Tells Us about their Services and Upcoming Events**

**Deborah Lynam & Jennifer Biang**



Jennifer Biang is a Parent Support Specialist for Learning Ally. She lives in California and is the founding member of Decoding Dyslexia CA. She is also on the board of her local IDA and is married and has two children. When she found out her daughter was dyslexic, she was surprised that there were no services available to teach her how to read. Back in the early 70's Jennifer was taught to read with a special program, it worked so well that she never realized she had a problem. It was hard to believe that these services were not available for her daughter. Once she learned more about neurodiversity she realized over half of the people in her family had alternative wiring. The biggest surprise was, she too is dyslexic.



Deborah Lynam is currently the Director of Parent Community Engagement at Learning Ally. She is a newly appointed member of NJ DOE's State Special Education Advisory Council. She is an active participant in the growing network of statewide parent-led grassroots movements called Decoding Dyslexia. She is a former Family Resource and Parent Group Specialist for NJ's Parent Training and Information Center, SPAN; as well as, a volunteer tutor for The Reading Assist Institute. Two of her three children are dyslexic and receiving services through their local public school district.

**October 28, 2014 - 10am PST**

**Understood and Resources from the National Center for Learning Disabilities**

**Lyn Pollard**

Lyn Pollard is the Parent Advocacy Manager at National Center for Learning Disabilities, a freelance writer, parent advocate, and the mother of two kids who learn and play differently. A former journalist and change management consultant, Lyn writes, talks, and tweets about advocacy, literacy, and safe schools for kids with learning disabilities and special needs.