



Subject Matter Expert

Evan B. Lefsky, Ph.D.

Evan Lefsky, Ph.D. is Director of Response to Intervention (RtI) and Leadership Services and a manager at PCG Education. He works jointly with the firm's regional offices on EdPlan™ student success planning projects. Dr. Lefsky has worked in the education field for 20 years and has taught at both the K-12 and college levels. Currently, he provides implementation and leadership support for large-scale RtI initiatives in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and Wake County Schools in North Carolina, Miami-Dade Public Schools in Florida, and Fulton County Schools in Georgia. He is also Project Director for two Race to the Top grants from the Florida Department of Education. The first project provides leadership development to school board members, superintendents, senior district leadership, and principals from turnaround schools across the state. The second project provides Common Core State Standards (CCSS) implementation support for more than 630 charter schools across the state.

Expertise

- Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
- Adolescent literacy
- Content/disciplinary literacy
- Instructional leadership
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)/Response to Intervention (RtI)
- Teacher professional development
- Instructional coaching
- Education policy
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) literacy
- Writing instruction

Experience

Prior to joining PCG in 2011, Dr. Lefsky was the School Improvement Grant (SIG) Turnaround Leader and Director of Secondary Education with Lake County Schools in Florida. As Turnaround Leader, he was responsible for the day-to-day management of turnaround efforts at a persistently lowest-achieving high school, with a focus on implementation of an RtI framework. In his role as Director of Secondary Education, he coordinated curriculum and instruction for 17 middle and high schools in the 19th largest school district in Florida with more than 41,000 students. He was responsible for federal grants for Title II, Part A and Smaller Learning Communities (SLC). Dr. Lefsky was also District Director for the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) grant, funded by the College Board and focused on closing the achievement gap and increasing the college-going rate for students from low income and minority families.

Dr. Lefsky is the former Executive Director of Just Read, Florida!, the statewide content and policy office in the area of reading and literacy. He managed the federal Reading First grant totaling more than \$300 million, a \$130 million state reading budget, and ten grant programs to a variety of private organizations and public state agencies. He was responsible for creating and assisting in the implementation of policies carried out through State Board of Education rule and Florida statute, including implementation of a comprehensive statewide RtI initiative. Prior to leaving the Department, Dr. Lefsky led the two-year development and deployment of the Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR). This Web-based assessment system provides teachers with screening, diagnostic, and progress monitoring information that is essential to guiding instruction for nearly two million students annually. Evan has previously served as a District Director for the National Writing Project, an instructional coach, a reading interventionist in grades K-12, and an English teacher in grades 6-12.

Associations and Publications

Dr. Lefsky frequently serves on state and federal commissions and task forces focused on issues pertaining to adolescent literacy and education policy. He has worked with the National Governors Association (NGA), Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE), the Carnegie Corporation and the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). Dr. Lefsky has coauthored several education articles, including most recently *Reading First in Florida: Five Years of Improvement*, published in the *Journal of Literacy Research*.

Education

Dr. Lefsky earned a Ph. D. in Curriculum and Instruction and an Educational Specialist degree in Reading at the University of Florida. He received a Master of Education degree in English Language Arts Education from the University of Central Florida and a Bachelor of Science in English Education from Florida State University.