Online Teacher Professional Development: A Statewide Initiative

e-Read Ohio, through a grant awarded to The University of Akron from the Ohio Department of Education, is building a menu of online professional development courses around effective reading instruction. These online courses are disseminated systematically statewide through a regional system. In an effort to improve teacher education, the online courses reflect reading research in action and are highly interactive with avatars, audio, video, discussion boards and other media. The courses are built by individual assets so that each course can be used in its entirety or each asset can be accessed through a search in our digital library. This level of granularity allows the trained professional developer to search and select individual assets from the library and place them on a virtual “workbench” to plan precise professional development for a school, based on data information.