

The Appalachian Reading Center, Inc.

429 3rd Avenue

South Charleston, WV 25303

304/744-8188

Dear Parent,

As you look at tutoring programs for your child, there are many factors to consider:

quality of programs offered, your feelings towards staff, appropriate match of environment to your child’s needs, scheduling options, cost, and cancellation/make-up policies.

As the Director of The Appalachian Reading Center, Inc., I have a masters degree in Special Education and am certified in The Wilson Reading System (WRS). Wilson is based on the work of Samuel T. Orton, a neurologist who developed a system of teaching sounds and mastering syllables in the 1920s. Orton-Gillingham based methods such as WRS are recommended by The International Dyslexia Association (interdys.org), and in publications such as Overcoming Dyslexia, by Dr. Sally Shaywitz, and Parenting a Struggling Reader, by Louisa Moats and Susan Hall. I also offer instruction using Handwriting Without Tears materials.

If your child has a language-based learning disability, diagnosed or undiagnosed, instruction will be effective when it is consistent and frequent. Over time, your child will make marked improvements in reading and spelling. I do not promise a “quick fix” to reading problems, nor I claim to “cure” reading problems or dyslexia. With appropriate instruction, hard work and support from highly trained teachers and family, individuals with reading problems can succeed in school and later in life.

Tutoring sessions are 50 minutes long, and can be scheduled during the day (frequently done for home schooled or college students), afternoons, evenings and Saturdays. I offer both individual and small group tutoring. Students must schedule at least two sessions per week. I offer more intensive instruction during the summer months.

The first step, after reviewing all tutoring options in the area, is to decide whether or not The Center is right for your child. If after reading this information and talking with me, you decide that this is the best option available, return the enclosed Student Information Form. Once I receive your form and intake fee, I will call to schedule an intake appointment with your child and a follow-up meeting with parent(s). At the intake appointment, which generally takes about an hour, I will administer a variety of screening tools to determine strengths and weaknesses. The intake is done in a non-threatening, supportive manner and is not treated as a “test” or something to be feared. At the follow-up meeting, I will explain the screening tools that were used, and discuss tutoring options with parent(s).

I have enclosed a Student Information Form and a checklist of items for you to read. Please feel free to call with any questions.

Best wishes,

Lori Dubrawka, Director