

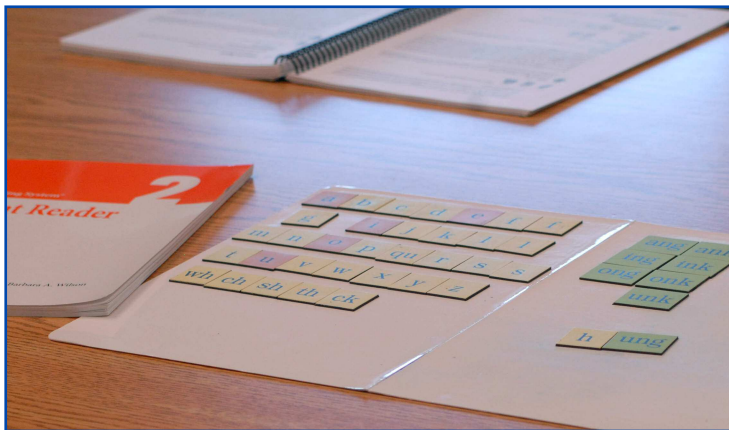


★ Wilson Reading System® Level I Certification

Groves Academy is pleased to announce that it has partnered with Wilson Language Training® and will offer Level I certification training in the Wilson Reading System® (WRS). The WRS is a highly structured multisensory language program based on Orton-Gillingham principles for teaching reading and spelling. The WRS curriculum presents English language concepts in a cumulative and developmental manner. Continuous assessment and progress monitoring allow teachers to use diagnostic techniques to meet the needs of their students. Educators who participate in Level I certification learn:

- How to use multisensory teaching strategies
- The structure of the English language
- How to plan and implement a Wilson lesson based on the needs of each student
- How to teach the WRS with fidelity so that students can make sustainable progress in reading and spelling

The WRS is successful with students who have a language-based learning disability, as well as those students who are reading below grade level because they have a word level deficit. WRS Level I certification provides teachers with in-depth knowledge of the speech sound system and the ways in which written language represents spoken English.



Instruction and Training

Ellen Engstrom, M.A. is the Director of Teacher Training at Groves Academy. She is certified to offer training in the WRS Levels I and II, Foundations®, and Just Words®. Ellen was the Director of the Lower/Middle School at Groves before leaving in 1999 to join the faculty of Landmark College, a school specifically for students with learning disabilities and attention disorders. She was an associate professor at the college and a Lead Education Specialist in the Landmark Institute for Research and Training. Ellen has given many workshops and courses for educators on the Wilson Reading System®, reading comprehension, writing, study skills, assistive technology, Universal Design for Learning, and executive function challenges.

Mission

The mission of Groves Academy is to enable people with learning, attention and language disorders to achieve success in school and in life.

As a school, we provide small classes and specialized staff to teach students the skills needed to learn independently, engage in self-advocacy, and develop social competence.

As an outreach center, we contribute to the understanding of learning difficulties through programs and services for families, educators and other professionals.

As a learning community, we value our differences and provide a responsive and respectful environment.



Groves
A C A D E M Y



Settings Appropriate for the WRS

The Wilson Reading System® is used in a variety of educational settings – wherever there are students who are falling behind in reading. It is ideal for special education classrooms, resource rooms, literacy centers, and adult basic education. The WRS can be taught successfully to groups of students as well as individuals. Many large school districts have successfully implemented the WRS, as have smaller public and private schools. The structured curriculum and the progress monitoring tools make it possible to maintain instructional continuity over multiple school years.

Evidence of Effectiveness

The Wilson Reading System® is aligned with the most current scientific reading research, which has been validated by the Florida Center for Reading Research.

(<http://www.fcrr.org/FCRRReports/PDF/WilsonReadingSystem.pdf>)

Other evidence may be found on the Wilson® website at

http://www.wilsonlanguage.com/FS_ABOUT_EvidenceEffective.htm.



Components of WRS Level I Certification

The Groves Academy training program will cover several areas necessary for certification including:

- A self-paced online course (approximately 90 hours)
- A 1:1 practicum with a minimum of 60 lessons
- Observation, demonstration, and feedback from a Wilson trainer five times throughout the course of the practicum

Trainees must complete a WRS Introductory Applied Methods Workshop as a prerequisite to the Level I training. This workshop is offered through Groves Academy's professional development program and is available for an additional fee. Level I training typically lasts for one school year, depending on the frequency of the 1:1 practicum lessons. Trainees are expected to complete the program within 15 months. Individuals who successfully complete all requirements of the certification training are well qualified to deliver the WRS to students.



Program Cost

The total cost for Level I certification is \$1350 per person. This fee includes the WRS Steps 1-6 online course and five observations with a Wilson trainer. A site-based fee is available for schools or other organizations who want to train groups of teachers. Training can take place at Groves Academy or on site. Expenses for trainer travel are in addition to the certification course fee.

Contact Information

For more information on the Wilson Reading System® and other Wilson Language Training, please contact:

Ellen Engstrom, M.A., *Director of Teacher Training*

952-915-4247 or engstrome@grovesacademy.org

★ About Groves

As a pioneer in Twin Cities special education, Groves Academy was founded in 1972 to serve children who have learning disabilities. At that time, learning disabilities were not widely understood, and there was a real need in the community for the kind of expertise that would support students who struggle in traditional classrooms. For over 30 years Groves Academy has provided full-day and outreach programs for students who have learning disabilities and attention disorders.

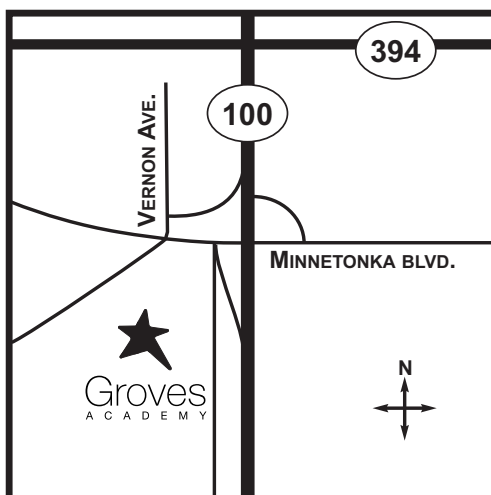
The full-day program, accredited through ISACS, enrolls over 200 students in grades 1-12. Average class sizes of eight, research-based instruction, and a supportive, personalized environment enable each student to have a positive school experience and achieve academic success. Some students graduate from Groves; others transition to a school where they can successfully apply the skills and strategies they learned at Groves.

The curriculum at Groves is designed to support students who are capable of learning but need a different way to learn. One core component of the curriculum is the Wilson Reading System, an Orton-Gillingham based program that teaches the structure of words directly and systematically so that students master the coding system for reading and spelling. The Learning Strategies Curriculum, developed by the Institute for Research in Learning Disabilities at the University of Kansas, equips students with explicit strategies that foster independent learning.

“After five years at Groves our son has become a confident and optimistic young man with a lifetime of opportunities ahead. Dyslexia does not limit him, define him, or depress him anymore.”



★ Directions



From the north: Take Highway 100 South and exit at Minnetonka Boulevard. Go left at the stop sign (Vernon Avenue). Go left at the stop light (Minnetonka Blvd.). Go right as if going back onto Highway 100 South but stay to the right on the service road. Groves Academy is on the right.

From the south: Take Highway 100 North and exit at Minnetonka Boulevard. Go right at the stop light (Minnetonka Blvd.). Go left as if going onto Highway 100 South but stay to the right on the service road. Groves Academy is on the right.

Groves Outreach is the community outreach arm of Groves Academy, providing learning disability resources to families and educators.

Outreach programs and services, all open to the public, include:

- Summer School
- Tutoring
- Diagnostic Testing
- Workshops
- Public School Literacy Partnerships

For Additional Information
About Groves Outreach:

Colee Bean

Outreach Coordinator

952.915.4297 or

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Groves
ACADEMY

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