

## Together We Can Close the Reading Gap



There are more than 850,000 students in Maryland's public schools and more than half of them are failing to become proficient readers and writers. It's a crisis that is being played out in schools across the state. There are answers but in order to change the outcome, we need our community to work together.

### Thanks to:



### Decoding Dyslexia Maryland

- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/decodingdyslexiamd/>
- Website: <http://www.decodingdyslexiamd.weebly.com>
- Email: [DecodingDyslexiaMD@gmail.com](mailto:DecodingDyslexiaMD@gmail.com)

# Town Hall Meeting



## How To Close The Reading Gap

# 2015

Presented By:

## Decoding Dyslexia MD

October 10, 2015

# Program



## Schedule

Saturday, October 10, 2015

- 2:45-3:30 Refreshments & Resources  
3:30-3:40 Lisa Blottenberger: Decoding Dyslexia Maryland Welcome  
3:40-3:45 **Dr. Fran Levin Bowman**, Bowman Educational Services, Inc.,  
Keynote introduction  
3:45-4:00 Keynote Speaker: **Deborah Weiner**, News Anchor, WBAL 11  
News, Baltimore – **The Gift of Dyslexia**  
4:00-4:10 **Katharina Boser**, Glenelg Country School, Moderator: Panelist  
Introductions  
4:10-5:30 Panelist Questions  
5:30-5:45 Audience Questions and Answers  
5:45-6:00 Closing Remarks: DD-MD Call to Action

## Please Welcome

Our Keynote Speaker: **Deborah Weiner**, *The Gift of Dyslexia*  
News Anchor, WBAL 11, Baltimore

## Panelists

### How to Close the Reading Gap: The Problems

Student with dyslexia: **Paul Nebel**, St. Mary's County Public Schools

Parent of student with dyslexia: **Christine Belotti**, Montgomery County

Teacher of students with reading struggles and dyslexia: **Lavaunda Roundtree**, Special Educator, Anne Arundel County Public Schools

# Program

## Panelists

### How to Close the Reading Gap: The Solutions

#### *The Neurological Underpinnings of Reading*

**Dr. Donald Bolger**, Associate Professor in the Department of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology at the University of Maryland

#### *How to Identify and Provide Effective Instruction to Struggling Readers*

**Marilyn Zecher**, Certified Academic Language Therapist and President of DC-Capital Area Branch of the International Dyslexia Association

**Amy Siracusano**, Teacher/ Vice Principal/ Teacher Trainer, Calvert County Public Schools

#### *What Teachers Need to Know to Teach Reading to all Students*

**Mary Stowe**, Reading, Adjunct Professor, College of William and Mary, School of Education, Training and Technical Assistance

## Did You Know?

58% of MD 8<sup>th</sup> graders are reading below proficient

76% of MD 4<sup>th</sup> grade low-income students read below proficient

82% of 4<sup>th</sup> fourth grade MD ELL read below proficient

83% of students with disabilities in MD read below proficient

(NAEP, 2013)

Prevalence of dyslexia is one in five or 15% to 20% with only 5% identified

(Shaywitz, M.D., 2004)