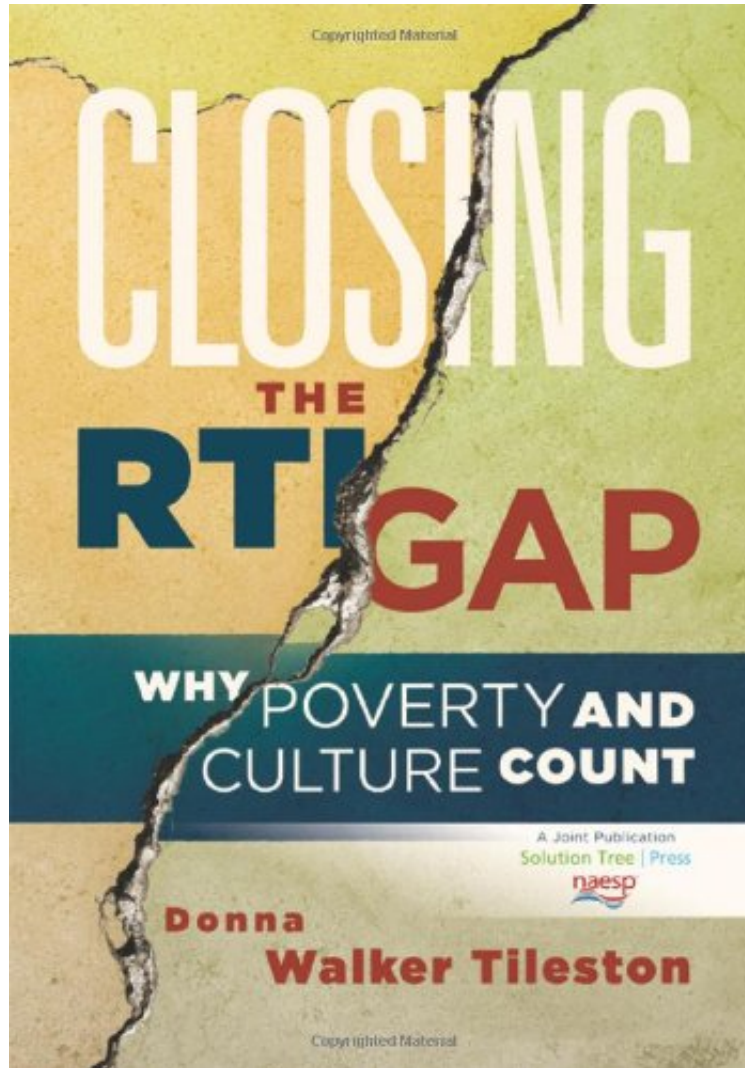


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Closing the RTI Gap: Why Poverty and Culture Count

Donna Walker Tileston

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Donna Walker Tileston : Closing the RTI Gap: Why Poverty and Culture Count before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Closing the RTI Gap: Why Poverty and Culture Count:

In Closing the RTI Gap: Why Poverty and Culture Count, Donna Walker Tileston not only explains to readers why RTI is so important (defining key terms along the way), but also shows how they can achieve successful implementation in their own schools, particularly in the context of poverty and culture. All children should have equal access to highly qualified teachers, a strong curriculum, and research-based instructional methods. RTI can make that

hope a reality. Why should teachers implement a response to intervention (RTI) model? Rather than wait for students to fail, misidentify students with special needs, or disproportionately represent certain ethnic groups, RTI offers schools a chance to ensure that all students achieve high levels of learning. The influence of culture and poverty cannot be overestimated; students facing such hurdles will often experience inequality in education. Response to intervention, when implemented correctly, provides these students the chance they need to succeed. However, RTI is only as strong as the planning and research that go into developing individual school plans.

The author raises the important, critical questions educators should consider to maximize powerful RTI strategies in helping to close the achievement gap for children in poverty and from different cultures, and she provides practical, hands-on solutions for doing so. Additionally, she demonstrates how RTI strategies can become an integral component of school improvement. This book provides a useful blueprint for all educators in implementing RTI as a means to helping all children including our most vulnerable youngsters learn. --Gail Connelly, Executive Director, National Association of Elementary School Principals

About the Author
Donna Walker Tileston, EdD, is the founder and president of Strategic Teaching and Learning in Dallas, Texas. A recognized leader in education, Dr. Walker Tileston has extensive experience in teaching, administration, research, writing, software development, and national consulting. Her administrative service includes curriculum development, management, technology, finance, grants management, public relations, and drug abuse prevention programs. Dr. Walker Tileston has been involved in brain research and the factors that inhibit learning or increase the brain's ability to put information into long-term memory. Dr. Walker Tileston wrote the award-winning, best-selling series *What Every Teacher Should Know* and coauthored *Why Culture Counts: Teaching Children of Poverty*. She has presented at international, national, and state conferences to thousands of educators.