

ILLINOIS READING COUNCIL



President's Message

Welcome to the first edition of our newly revised newsletter for the East Central/EIU Reading Council! I hope that your school year is going well, and that you and your students are looking forward to the cooler fall weather that is on its way. Soon we will be experiencing one of the most beautiful seasons of the year.

Please take a look at the column by Lauren Covington to check out the top five reasons to join East Central/EIU Reading Council. We are excited about our events and this school year. We want to be your reading council. We want to provide you with professional development opportunities that are most relevant to you.

Our next event is on October 18th, entitled "Dominating the Danielson: Understanding Teacher Evaluation." We hope you will be able to join us. We have other events scheduled; you can find them on our calendar. If you have any suggestions for other professional development opportunities you would like for us to offer, please contact me or one of the other board members and let us know what you would like to see offered.

I love to read and love to share books with children. So for the president's message I will recommend some books appropriate for the season. For autumn, I enjoy the books by James Howe, including *Howliday Inn*, and *The Celery Stalks at Midnight*, or my favorite by Dav Pilkey, *The Hallowiener* (it's hilarious). Happy Reading!



mark your calendars!

Wired Wednesday Webinar: Formative Assessment – October 12th, 7:00 pm {Online}

Dominating the Danielson – October 18th, 6:00 pm {Buzzard Auditorium}

Wired Wednesday Webinar: Family Literacy – November 9th, 7:00 pm {Online}

Engaging Your Students in Reading – December 1st, 7:00 pm {Buzzard Hall, room TBA}

Wired Wednesday Webinar: How the Brain Learns to Read – December 14th, 7:00 pm {Online}

Literacy & Learning Conference – February 25th, 8:00 am {Buzzard Hall}

top 5 reasons to JOIN us!



1. Free professional development opportunities
2. Meet various domains of the Danielson evaluation framework
3. Access to IRC journal, monthly webinar, and IRC conference
4. Networking opportunities with area teachers
5. Free giveaways at meetings

site spotLight



Check out the Literacy Shed for a wide range of visual resources to support literacy instruction! Video clips are arranged into various “sheds” or categories for learning and are accompanied by lesson plan ideas. Incorporating videos into reading, writing, and language instruction is a great way to engage and motivate learners of all ages!

<http://literacyshed.com>



ILLINOIS Reads

Come join Illinois Reads on a journey through books! We will be unlocking adventures from birth through adulthood as we open doors to new discoveries and activities.

Let's begin our first trip through *Good Night, Gorilla* by Peggy Rathman (birth through 4 years old). In this adventure, a very tired zookeeper says good night to several animals. However, little does the zookeeper know that a wakeful gorilla takes the keys from his back pocket. The kids will giggle with delight as the zookeeper AND the animals all snuggle up for bed. After reading this story, have your students sequence the pictures of the animals behind the zookeeper. You and your students can also discuss their own bedtime routines.

Our next journey will be with the kindergarten through 2nd graders. In *Winnie: The True Story of the Bear That Inspired Winnie the Pooh*, Sally Walkers explains how Harry Colebourn, a WW I vet and veterinarian, purchases a bear at a train station. The bear, named Winnie, becomes the mascot for Harry's regiment. But we all know that bears can not go onto the battle field. What was Harry going to do? After reading this charming story, have students take turns taking a stuffed animal bear home to care for it. Students can write in a journal what they did and how they took care of the bear.

Stay tuned for more adventures next month!