

MID-State Reading Council

An Illinois Reading Council Affiliate

Fall Edition

Volume 4, Issue 2

President's Message

"If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail."
Abraham Maslow

Membership in the Illinois Reading Council and MID-State Reading Council could easily be placed in the hammer and nail comparison in relationship to the Danielson Evaluation Framework. Being a member in IRC/MID-State absolutely relates to Domain 4: Professional Responsibilities, but it is so much more!

Christy Ziller, IRC's Director of Membership, created a flow chart that aligns each domain in the Danielson Framework to some of the ways in which IRC supports teacher growth in that area. These include:

 Domain 1: Planning and Preparation

 Illinois Reads Project

 IRC Awards and Grants

 Raise a Reader Program

 Domain 2: Classroom Environment

 IRC Book Club - The

Book Whisperer by Donalynn Miller and Teach

Like a Pirate by Dave Burgess

 Domain 3: Instruction

 Wired Wednesday

Webinars (free clock hours for members)

 IRC Professional Development Series

 IRC Library (books to loan to members)

 Literacy Links

 Domain 4: Professional Responsibilities

 IRC Conference with Authors and Researchers

 Professional Networking

 IRC Journal

 IRC Communicator

MID-State Reading Council likewise benefits you by:

 Offering conferences with authors, educators, and researchers

 Holding mini-workshops

 Hosting Carnival of Reading and various book

studies

 Providing bookshelves and books for Habitat for Humanity house blessings

 Sharing book titles and a relaxing evening at Wine-a-Read

 Helping with Book Showers for Literacy at the Salvation Army before Christmas

MID-State's board is grateful you are a member and will continue to work to support you on your journey as an educator.

We invite you to encourage another person to join to enjoy some of the benefits MID-State offers.

We look forward to seeing you at our events and growing professionally. MID-State and IRC are indeed more than one tool conquering a variety of challenges; we are a toolbox with a variety of tools for your students' and your success.

Sincerely,

Mary Current

Meet the 2015 MID-State Board & Officers

Officers:

President:
Mary Current

Past President:
Janel Sebeny

Vice President:
Christa Hoder

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Gail McDermott

Treasurer:
Carol Owles

Membership:
Jenny Snyder

Committees:

Barnes & Noble Liaison:
Becky Harris

Community Literacy:
Liz Leuring/Jenny Snyder

Family Literacy:
Teresa Arendell/Christa Hoder

Grants:
Trisha Warner

Hospitality:
Claire Current

International Projects:
Carol Owles

Normal Library Liaison:
Katrina Pollitt

Publicity/Newsletter:
Anne Atteberry

School Library Liaison:
Michelle Glatt

Student Membership/ University Liaison:
Sherry Sanden

From Passports to Opportunities: the IRC Annual Conference Delivers

By Janel Sebeny, Past President, IRC 2016 Conference Chair

The first time I heard about IRC was when I was a teaching assistant about a month after graduation. I was assisting a classroom teacher who served on the MID-State Reading Council board. She showed me her photo album filled with children's authors and literacy professionals with whom she had met. Her face beamed as she excitedly told me all about what she learned from these inspiring individuals at the IRC Annual Conference. I knew this organization was the one for me. I soon discovered this conference was an event many educators looked forward to year after year.

As we continue to learn and grow in our profession, I would argue it is just as important to be inspired by our profession. Teachers, librarians, and administrators attend conferences for professional development, but it is more than that. The caliber of authors, researchers in the field, and consultants nationwide are asked to present to thousands of educators each year. The message is always clear: to inspire. Many preach on the power of story, giving students time in our classrooms to read, and how to motivate young authors in writer's workshop. They speak of their

own inspiration for their books and practices so that we can become empowered by their message as we reenter the classroom the following week. Let's face it, this job can be exhausting at times. IRC's Annual Conference allows us to become energized with fresh ideas, to feel validated in best practices, and to encourage us to keep sharing the love of literature to generation after generation.

Being in a room with Penny Kittle, Donalyn Miller, Cris Tovani, and Steven Layne as they shared their practice was amazing. The words in the books my cohorts and I read came to life. Not to mention the fact that they too have had difficult students. How do we handle them? What do we do when we feel defeated at this role as teacher? We received practical ideas and research-based strategies to use in our own classrooms. Then, listening to James Howe, Dav Pilkey, Louis Sachar, and Jane Yolen read aloud from their work while networking with other teachers as we waited for autographs was downright awesome. Needless to say, there was a waiting list for *The Misfits* in my classroom the following week. The 2015 IRC Annual Conference, "Passports to Possibil-

ities" lived up to my expectations. Reviewing the evaluations from attendees, it lived up to their expectations too.

We have taken that feedback as we move forward with our 2016 IRC Annual Conference "Reading: Unlocking Opportunities!" plans. We have worked out the kinks of moving to Peoria; and will have more signage, longer time between sessions, and bigger rooms for our speakers. While we are still working on some of our presenters contracts, I can share some of the featured speakers on the schedule for next year: Kelly Gallagher, Laurie Halse Anderson, Andrew Clements, Debbie Diller, Kylee Beers & Robert E. Probst, Carol Jago, Joan Bauer, Tim Green, and Jordan Sonnenblick. Be sure to check out the IRC Conference Preview for more of our speakers including their bios. If you've never considered attending our Annual Conference, I encourage you to do so. It is unlike any other professional development I have ever had. In fact, now I have my own little collection of photos I share proudly.

Check out the preview for Illinois Reading Council's 2016 Fall conference today! Registration begins April 15, 2016.

<http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/conference.html>

MID-STATE READING COUNCIL & ILLINOIS TITLE I ASSOCIATION PRESENT:
A BOOK STUDY OF *PROJECTING POSSIBILITIES FOR WRITERS*
BY MATT GLOVER & MARY ALICE BERRY

NOTED AUTHOR AND EDUCATOR, MATT GLOVER, IS SCHEDULED TO BE OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT OUR SUMMER CONFERENCE ON JUNE 7, 2016, AT NORMAL WEST HIGH SCHOOL. IN PREPARATION FOR THIS, MID-STATE READING COUNCIL & ILLINOIS TITLE I ASSOCIATION ARE HOSTING A FREE BOOK STUDY USING THE BOOK *PROJECTING POSSIBILITIES FOR WRITERS* BY MATT GLOVER & MARY ALICE BERRY. THIS BOOK FOCUSES ON HELPING YOU LEARN TO TEACH UNITS OF WRITING WITH PARAMETERS INSTEAD OF STRICT SETS OF INSTRUCTIONS. THIS TYPE OF TEACHING WILL ENABLE YOU TO BE A MORE RESPONSIVE TEACHER AND STILL MEET IMPORTANT WRITING STANDARDS.

BRING YOUR COPY OF THE BOOK & JOIN US @ BARNES & NOBLE, IN BLOOMINGTON, ON:

- ☆ WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 AT 4:30 -5:30 P.M.
- ☆ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 AT 4:30 -5:30 P.M.
- ☆ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AT 4:30 -5:30 P.M.
- ☆ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 AT 4:30 -5:30 P.M.

CLOCK HOURS WILL BE DETERMINED AT A LATER DATE.

EMAIL QUESTIONS TO MARY CURRENT: MID-STATE@ILLINOISREADINGCOUNCIL.ORG.

SEND REGISTRATION TO:

MARY CURRENT
54 PRENZLER DRIVE
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61704

RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION TO SECURE YOUR SPOT IN THIS EXCITING BOOK STUDY!

A BOOK STUDY— *PROJECTING POSSIBILITIES FOR WRITERS* (REGISTRATION FORM)

REGISTRANT'S NAME _____

REGISTRANT'S EMAIL ADDRESS _____

REGISTRANT'S PHONE NUMBER _____

Upcoming Literacy Events from Around the State

November 13-14, 2015: Secondary Reading League will host the 39th Day of Reading with Mary Ehrenworth and Matt de La Pena at the Tinley Park Convention Center, 18451 Covention Center Drive, Tinley Park, Illinois. For more information, please visit- www.dayofreading.org.

December 3, 2015: Macon County Reading Council will host Everything I Learned About Life and Literacy, I Learned from Dr. Suess from 4:00-5:30 p.m. at the Decatur Public Library, 130 N. Franklin, Decatur, Illinois. This is a FREE event!

February 13, 2016: Chicago Area Reading Association (CARA) will host Linking Literacy Assessment and Instruction from 8:30 am- Noon at Northeastern Illinois University's Center for College Access and Success.

February 13, 2016: Illini Reading Council will host The Elements and Applications of Close Reading featuring Tracy

Tarasuik from 9:00 am-Noon at Mellon Administrative Building, located at 703 South New Street in Champaign, Illinois 61820. Admission is \$12.

February 23, 2016: Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA) will host Vocabulary Instruction featuring Camille Blachowicz and Charlene Cobb from 4:00-8:00 pm at Chippewa Middle School located at 123 N. 8th Street in Des Plaines, Illinois. Admission is \$50 for members.

March 4, 2016: MID-State Reading Council will host it's annual Carnival of Reading for local families in Normal, Illinois. Admission is free!

March 12, 2016: Illinois Valley Reading Council will host App It: How to Integrate Apps into Reading Instruction for the Student and Teacher with Moira Arzich and Beth Herrig at 9:00 am at Advent Lutheran Church in Morton, Illinois. Admission is free!

April 21, 2016: MID-State Reading Council will host Wine-a-Read in Carlock, Illinois. Come enjoy some time with colleagues and learn about new titles that you will enjoy in both your personal and professional lives! Admission is free!

May 14, 2016: Illinois Language and Literacy Council (ILLC) will host the 42nd Annual Young Author's Conference from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois. For more information, please contact Leslie Forsman.

June 2016: MID-State Reading Council will host a conference with renowned author, Matt Glover, in Normal, Illinois. Details are forthcoming.

June 23 and 24, 2016: Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA) will host Close Reading featuring Kate Roberts and Chris Lehman from 8:00 am- 3:00 pm at Skokie Holiday Inn located at 5300 W Touhy Ave in Skokie, Illinois. Admission is \$220 for members.

MID-State Reading Council Carnival Update!

Have you, have you heard the news? Carnival of Reading is on the move!

In past Novembers, great times were had.
This year we'll meet in Spring instead.

March 4th is the day that we'll be meeting.

Dr. Seuss' birthday we'll be celebrating.

So get your calendar; save the date.

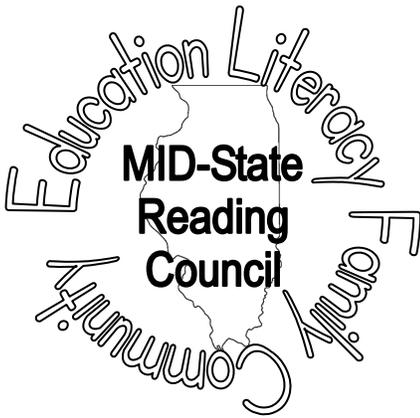
We'll see you there! It will be great!



VISIT BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL'S LOCAL LIBRARIES FOR FUN, INFORMATIVE EVENTS! CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITES BELOW!

[HTTP://WWW.BLOOMINGTONLIBRARY.ORG](http://www.bloomingtonlibrary.org)

[HTTP://WWW.NORMALPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG](http://www.normalpubliclibrary.org)



MID-State Reading Council is your local chapter of the Illinois Reading Council. It is a productive organization that works to raise awareness of literacy and its uses throughout the area. It was founded 58 years ago and has a strong membership base. MID-State Reading Council sponsors literacy events for teachers, children, and their families in many different ways.

Please check out our webpage at

<http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/localcouncils/midstate.html> for more information. The council is also on facebook and has a blog. Get involved today!

MID-State Reading Council

Email: mid-state@illinoisreadingcouncil.org



This grant can help your classroom!

MID-State Reading Council offers the Carol Berry Memorial Grant each year. This year you may receive up to \$250.00 for your proposal. If you would like more information, please email mid-state@illinoisreadingcouncil.org.

