

Illinois Reading Council



**Empowering
Lives
Through
Literacy**

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2024-2025

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and join us on Facebook!

IRC Board of Directors Meetings

2024-2025

July 11, 2024

**Board of Directors Meeting
at the 2024 IRC Leadership Retreat**

September 7, 2024

**Board of Directors Meeting
Held online using the IRC Zoom Service**

November 2, 2024

**Board of Directors Meeting
Held online using the IRC Zoom Service**

January 25, 2025

**Board of Directors Meeting
Held online using the IRC Zoom Service**

March 14, 2025

**Membership Meeting
Springfield, IL (at the 2025 IRC Conference)**

April 12, 2025

**Board of Directors Meeting
ISU Alumni Center, 1101 N Main St, Normal, Illinois**

IRC Leadership

July 11, 2024

ISU Alumni Center, 1101 N Main St, Normal, Illinois

2024-2025

Illinois Reading Council

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Northwestern Illinois Reading Council
Sauk Valley Reading Council
Starved Rock Reading Council

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Chicago Area Reading Association (CARA)
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Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA)

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Fox Valley Reading Council
Prairie Area Reading Council
West Suburban Reading Council

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Region 4

Black Hawk Reading Council
Illinois Valley Reading Council
Mississippi Valley Reading Council
Western Illinois Reading Council

Director: Lynn Keck (Term 2022-2025)

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Two Rivers Reading Council
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Region 6

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MID-State Reading Council

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Regions of the Illinois Reading Council

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Illini Reading Council
Vermilion Valley Reading Council

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Region 8

Lewis & Clark Reading Council
National Road Reading Council

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Region 9

South Eastern Reading Council
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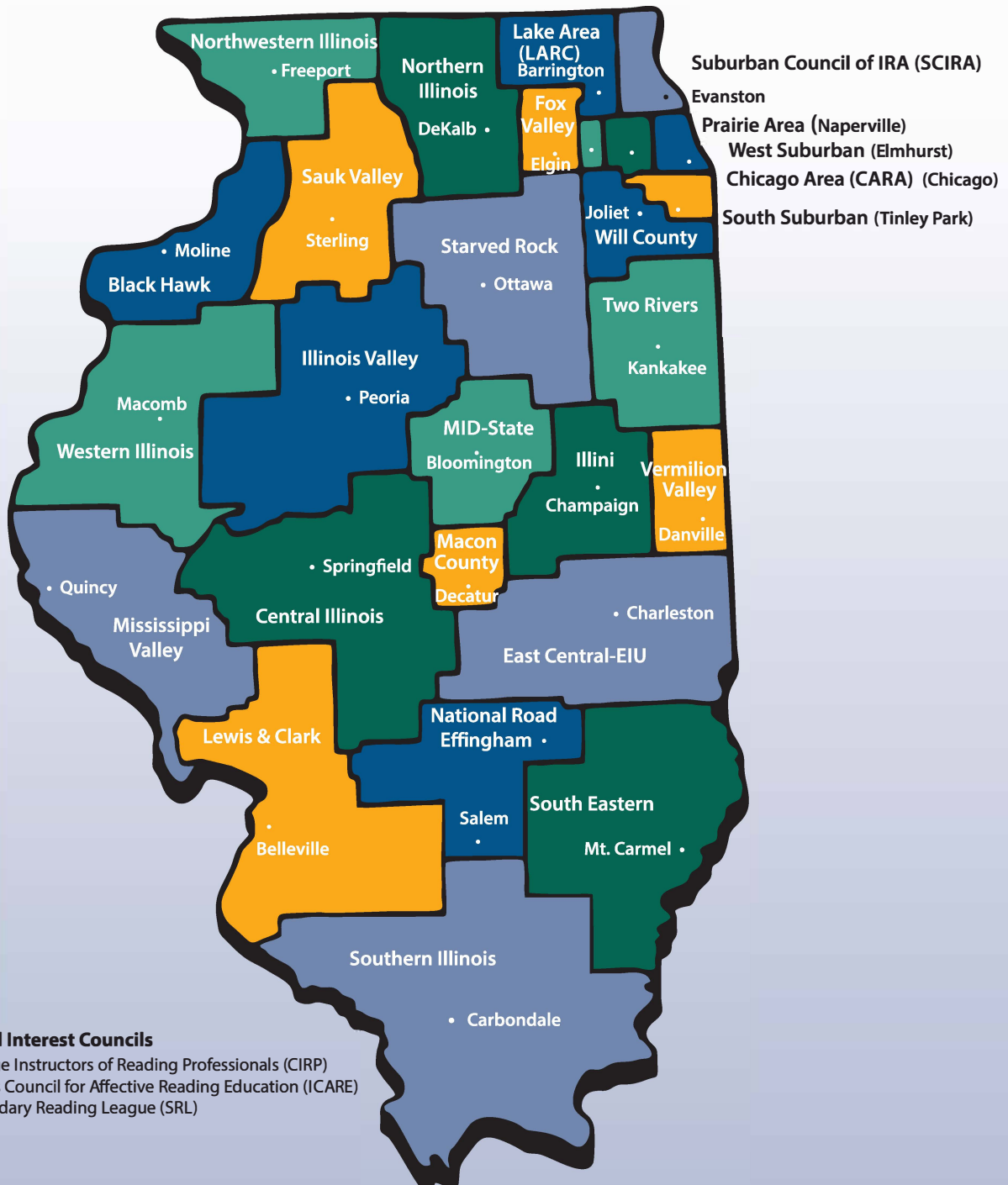
Region 10

College Instructors of Reading Professionals
(CIRP)
Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education
(ICARE)
Secondary Reading League (SRL)

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Council Map



For more information, go to www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org!

Illinois Reading Council

Local and Special Interest Councils

<u>Council Name</u>	<u>IRC Number</u>	<u>IRS Number</u>
Illinois Reading Council		23-7026824

Local Councils

Black Hawk Reading Council	0301	23-7344539
Central Illinois Reading Council	0401	23-7068154
Chicago Area Reading Association (CARA)	0201	36-6134972
East Central-EIU Reading Council	0503	37-6061737
Fox Valley Reading Council	0101	23-7091761
Illini Reading Council	0501	23-7057794
Illinois Valley Reading Council	0402	23-7008981
Lake Area Reading Council	0207	36-4210876
Lewis and Clark Reading Council	0602	37-6053589
Macon County Reading Council	0504	23-7015511
MID-State Reading Council	0403	37-6053590
Mississippi Valley Reading Council	0603	23-7289575
National Road Reading Council	0506	37-1283791
Northern Illinois Reading Council	0102	36-6134970
Northwestern Illinois Reading Council	0103	36-6134969
Prairie Area Reading Council	0105	36-3806754
Sauk Valley Reading Council	0303	23-7660172
South Eastern Reading Council	0606	26-0050190
South Suburban Reading Council	0203	23-7253406
Southern Illinois Reading Council	0604	37-6053591
Starved Rock Reading Council	0304	23-7261170
Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA)	0204	23-7261171
Two Rivers Reading Council	0205	23-7253407
Vermilion Valley Reading Council	0505	37-1028485
West Suburban Reading Council	0104	37-6053592
Western Illinois Reading Council	0305	37-6053593
Will County Reading Council	0206	36-6134980

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College Instructors of Reading Professionals (CIRP)	0701	23-7358469
Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education (ICARE)	0705	36-3565361
Secondary Reading League (SRL)	0202	23-7022415

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Region 1 Director

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Suburban Council of IRA (SCIRA)

EIN: 23-7261171

President

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Scira123@gmail.com
scira@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

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Two Rivers

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President

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vermilionvalley@illinoisreadingcouncil.org

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Region 3 Director

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President

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Board of Directors 2024-2025

Executive Committee

President	Melissa Stinnett
President-Elect	Cindi Koudelka
Vice President	Deb Augsburger
Past President	Julie Hoffman
Recording Secretary	Melissa Wheeler
Treasurer	Diana Wilkie
Membership	Donna Herman
ILA State Coordinator	Amy Davis

Regional Directors

Region 1	Alaina Weatherford
Region 2	Becky McTague
Region 3	Sherry Sejnost
Region 4	Lynn Keck
Region 5	Pat Braun
Region 6	Katie Russell
Region 7	Melissa Wheeler
Region 8	Amy Hewing
Region 9	Teresa Burdin
Region 10	Camille Lutz

Standing Committee Chairs

Budget, Finance, Strategic	Melissa Stinnett
Bylaws, Policies/Procedures	Deb Augsburger
Conference	Julie Hoffman
District PD	Cindi Koudelka
Membership	Julie Hoffman
Nominating	Donna Herman
Organization/Council Bylaws	Julie Hoffman
Personnel and Grievance	Amy Davis
	Melissa Stinnett

Special Committee Chairs

Advocacy	Jennifer Martin
Book Club	Stephanie Benson
Educational Media	Sheila Ruh
Family Literacy	Barbara Ashton
ILA Exemplary Reading	Diana Wilkie
Illinois Reads	Sherry Sejnost
International Projects	Carol Owles
Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year	Melissa Wheeler
Literacy Support Grants	Teresa Burdin
Obama Literacy Fund	Jena Kent
Prairie State Award	Cindy Wilson
Professional Learning	Laura Beltchenko
Publicity and Publications	Sherry Sejnost

Other Voting Members

IRC Communicator Editor	Marjorie Henseler
IRC Journal Editor	Roxanne Owens

Council Presidents

Black Hawk	Michael Carton
Central Illinois	Andrea Trexler
Chicago Area (CARA)	Miyoshi Brown
East Central-EIU	Melissa Wheeler
Fox Valley	Camille Lutz
Illini	Elizabeth Goldsmith-Conley
Illinois Valley	Kelli Ballard
Lake Area	Stacie Noisey
Lewis and Clark	Andy Mayer
Macon County	Cara Burkhardt
MID-State	Elana Heinonen
Mississippi Valley	Leslie Forsman
National Road	Amy Hewing
Northern Illinois	Jacqueline Cleven
Northwestern	None
Prairie Area	Sheila Ruh, Sherry Sejnost
Sauk Valley	Kimberly Bork
South Eastern	Tambree Krouse
South Suburban	Terri Campos
Southern Illinois	Teresa Burdin
Starved Rock	Alaina Weatherford
Suburban Council (SCIRA)	Buffy Stauffer
Two Rivers	Sherry Silva
Vermilion Valley	Lynette Evans
West Suburban	Kari Pawl
Western Illinois	Jennifer Young
Will County	Donna Herman
CIRP	Shadrack Msengi
ICARE	Roxanne Owens
SRL	Kimberly Hollis

Ex Officio Non-Voting Chairs & Representatives

ISBE Liaison	Kimberly Johnson
AISLE Liaison	Leslie Forsman
Rebecca Caudill	Ruth Gheysen

Ex Officio Non-Voting Staff

Executive Director	Carrie Sheridan
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Illinois Reading Council Past President

1968-1969 William Powell – deceased	1984-1985 Nancy Venegoni	2000-2001 Marsha Strader	2017-2018 Janel Sebeny
1969-1970 Mary Serra – deceased	1985-1986 Anna Sanford - deceased	2001-2002 Mike Ellerman	2018-2019 Priscilla Dwyer
1970-1971 Mary Ellen Batinich	1986-1987 Sharon Neste	2002-2003 Beth Arthur	2019-2021 Stephanie Benson
1971-1972 David Bear – deceased	1987-1988 Mrs. Jean Clem Bailey	2003-2004 Barb Vines	2021-2022 Katie Russell
1972-1973 Wilson Stone - deceased	1988-1989 Gene Cramer – deceased	2004-2005 Ronda Gray	2022-2023 Leslie Forsman
1973-1974 David Rhoads	1989-1990 Linda Fuller Farruggia	2005-2006 Steve Layne	2023-2024 Julie Hoffman
1974-1975 Kathryn Ransom	1990-1991 Kathleen Sweeney	2006-2007 Pam Nelson	
1975-1976 Sister Cor Marie	1991-1992 Lorri Davis	2007-2008 Donna Monti	
1976-1977 Robin Carr	1992-1993 John Logan – deceased	2008-2009 Roxanne Owens	
1977-1978 Agnita Wright	1993-1994 Paula Jensen	2009-2010 Chris Moen	
1978-1979 Gene Blair - deceased	1994-1995 Susan Hanks	2010-2011 Susan Cisna	
1979-1980 Donna Ogle	1995-1996 Jeff Hildreth	2011-2012 Cindy Wilson	
1980-1981 Lawrence Pennie - deceased	1996-1997 Susan Davis Lenski	2012-2013 Patricia Braun	
1981-1982 Jerry Johns	1997-1998 Claudia Anne Katz	2013-2014 Tammy Potts	
1982-1983 James Coe	1998-1999 Barb Haas Bender	2014-2015 Cindy Gerwin	
1983-1984 Dale Downs	1999-2000 Hattie Spires - deceased	2015-2016 Louis Ferroli	
		2016-2017 Patricia Tylka	

Past ILA State Coordinators

1969-1975

Carol Winkley

1996-2002

Lynette Mehall

1975-1976

David Rhoads

2002-2005

Susan Moon

1976-1977

Don Meints

2005-2008

Susan Cisna

1977-1979

Anna Sanford - deceased

2008-2017

Roberta Sejnost

1979-1981

Gene Blair - deceased

2017-2020

April Flood

1981-1987

Kathleen Sweeney

2020-2023

Cindi Koudelka

1987-1990

Dale Downs

1990-1996

Linda Fuller Faruggia

Please notify the current ILA State Coordinator if there is a change in any of the past state coordinators' addresses.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2024-2025

Illinois Reading Council

July

July 1	All IRC officers take office
July 10	Executive Committee Meeting
July 11	Board of Directors Meeting
July 11	IRC Leadership Workshop (IRC Council of Excellence Award Requirement)
July 20	Councils – Submit Great Membership Idea
	• Mail summer issue of <i>IRC Journal</i>

August

August 1	Councils – Submit Council Calendar
August 1	Councils – Council Audit Form Deadline (Office will then file the Council's e-Postcard)
August 1	Councils – Review Bylaws Checklist and Revision Schedule
August 1	Councils – Submit a PL&D Padlet Resource
August 1	Committee Chairs – Submit Committee Chair Report with goals, budget requests and committee members' information to IRC Office
August 1	Professional Learning Committee Consultant Application with a Rolling Due Date
August 9-18	Illinois Reads at the Secretary of State Tent at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield

September

September 1	Councils – IRC Membership Grant with a Rolling Due Date until June 15th
September 1	Councils – Order supplies for Illinois Reads Family Reading Night
September 1	Program Proposals due for the IRC Conference
September 8	International Literacy Day
September 6	Executive Committee Meeting
September 7	Board of Directors Meeting held online via Zoom Webinar

October

October 1	Councils – Submit Council of Excellence Award Requirements to ILA State Coordinator
October 1	Nominations for IRC Officers due to Nominating Chair
October 15	Registration due for the online IRC Book Club
	• Mail fall issue of <i>IRC Journal</i>
	• Send IRC Preliminary Conference Program to IRC members and all schools in the state

November

November 1	Committee Chairs – Submit Committee Chair Report to the IRC Office
November 1	Deadline for IRC Service and Hall of Fame Award
November 1	Deadline for Barack Obama Library Award
November 1	Deadline for Family Literacy Award
November 1	Deadline for Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award
November 1	Executive Committee Meeting
November 2	Board of Directors Meeting held online via Zoom Webinar
November 21	Illinois Family Reading Night – Illinois State Library and Center for the Book <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present slate of officers for January Ballot• Committees select all award recipients and announce in IRC Communicator

December

December 31	Councils – Submit ILA Honor Council materials electronically to ILA
December 31	Submit ILA Local Council Community Service Award
December 31	ILA Exemplary Reading Program Award Deadline <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mail winter issue of <i>IRC Journal</i>

January

January 15	Committee Chairs – Submit Committee Chair Report to IRC Office
January 15	Ballots mailed to members
January 15	Registration due for the online IRC Book Club
January 15	Deadline for Static Stick Decal Contest application
January 24	Executive Committee Meeting
January 25	Board of Directors Meeting held online via Zoom Webinar

February

February 15	Ballots must be returned to IRC Office
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March

March 1	IRC Officers, Committee Chairs, Regional Directors – Submit Officer, Committee Chair and Director reports for Annual Meeting to IRC Office
March 1	Councils – Sign up for Hall of Councils display at IRC Conference
March 13-14	56th Annual IRC Conference in Springfield
March 14	Annual Membership Meeting, Springfield
March 14	Announce election results
March 15	Registration due for the online IRC Book Club

April

April 1	Committee Chairs - Submit Committee Chair Report to the IRC Office
April 11	Executive Committee Meeting
April 12	Board of Directors Meeting held at ISU Alumni Center, 1101 N Main St, Normal, IL
April 15	Councils – Submit Council Officer and Committee Representatives for 2025-2026
April 26	Tentative Date & Location for the Illinois Reads Book Festival in Jacksonville, Illinois <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appoint IRC Committee Chairs for 2025-2026• Mail spring issue of <i>IRC Journal</i>

May

May 1	Deadline for IRC Literacy Support Grant applications
May 1	Deadline for IRC International Literacy Grant applications
May 1	Deadline for IRC Early Career Teacher Recruitment Program

June

June 15	Deadline for submitting Prairie State Award nominations
June 15	Registration due for the online IRC Book Club

July

July 9	Executive Committee Meeting
July 10	Board of Directors Meeting
July 10	IRC Leadership Workshop (IRC Council of Excellence Award Requirement) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mail summer issue of <i>IRC Journal</i>

IRC Leadership Handbook Contents

*(The contents of the IRC Leadership Handbook are also available online at the IRC Website. From the IRC Homepage, sign onto your **IRC Membership Account**. You will need your username/email and your own password.)*

IRC Operations & Resources

[IRC Directory 2024-2025](#)

[IRC Bylaws](#)

[IRC Policies & Procedures](#)

[IRC Parliamentary Guide](#) – A Guide For Effective Meetings

[IRC Strategic Plans](#)

[IRC Webinars](#)

[IRC Centralized Membership Handout](#)

[IRC Membership Form](#)

[IRC Membership Incentive Award](#)

[IRC Photo Release Form](#)

[IRC Payment Voucher Form](#)

[IRC Publications Order Form](#)

[Conference Merchandise Form](#)

[Council PD Clock Hour Application](#)

[IRC Regional Director Application](#)

[Request for Membership on IRC Standing and Special Committees](#)

[IRC Speakers Bureau Application Form](#)

[IRC Speakers Bureau Council Request Form](#)

[IRC Speakers Bureau Payment Request](#)

[2024-2025 IRC Speakers Bureau](#)

[IRC International Project - Guatemala Teacher Fund](#)

[IRC PL&D Consulting Services Protocol](#)

[IRC PL&D Consulting Services Timesheet](#)

[IRC PL&D Consulting Services Travel Reimbursement Form](#)

[IRC PL&D Consulting Services Workshop Evaluation Form](#)

[ILA General, Student Membership, and Emeritus Forms](#)

[ILA Request for Membership Brochures, Publications, and Membership Lists](#)

[ILA Awards and Grants](#)

[ILA Celebrate Literacy Award](#)

July

[List of all Board of Directors Meetings and IRC Leadership Retreat](#) (July 11, 2024)

[Great Membership Idea](#) (July 20, 2024)

August

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Council Calendar Information Sheet](#) (August 1, 2024)

[IRC Council Audit Form](#) (August 1, 2024 – Office will file Council's IRS e-Postcard)

[IRC PL&D Consultant Application](#) – (August 1, 2024 with a rolling due date)

[IRC PL&D Council Share Resource](#) – (August 1, 2024 with a rolling due date)

[IRC Council Bylaws Checklist](#) and [Council Bylaws Revision Schedule](#)

[Committee Chair Report](#) (August 1, 2024)

[Illinois Reads at the Illinois Reads State Fair](#) (August 11-13 and 19-20, 2024)

September

[IRC Membership Grant](#) (September 1, 2024 with a rolling due date)
[Illinois Reads Family Reading Night](#) (September 1, 2024)
[Program Proposal for IRC Conference](#) (September 1, 2024)
[Board of Directors Meeting](#) (September 7, 2024)

October

[IRC Council of Excellence Award](#) (October 1, 2024 and October 1, 2025)
[Nominations for IRC Officers](#) (October 1, 2024)
[IRC Book Club](#) (October 15, 2024)

November

[IRC Hall of Fame](#) (November 1, 2024)
[IRC Service Award](#) (November 1, 2024)
[IRC Barack Obama Library Award](#) (November 1, 2024)
[IRC Family Literacy Award](#) (November 1, 2024)
[IRC Jerry Johns Reading Educator of the Year Award](#) (November 1, 2024)
[Board of Directors Meeting](#) (November 7, 2024)

December

[ILA Honor Council Program](#) (December 15, 2024)
[ILA Local Community Service Award](#) (December 15, 2024)
[ILA Exemplary Reading Program](#) (December 15, 2024)

January

[IRC Book Club](#) (January 15, 2025)
[Static Stick Decal Contest](#) (January 15, 2025)
[Board of Directors Meeting](#) (January 25, 2025)

February

March

[Hall of Councils Guidelines and Rubric](#) and [Sign up for Hall of Councils](#) (February 15, 2025)
[IRC Conference and Membership Meeting](#) (March 13-14, 2025)
[IRC Book Club](#) (March 15, 2025)

April

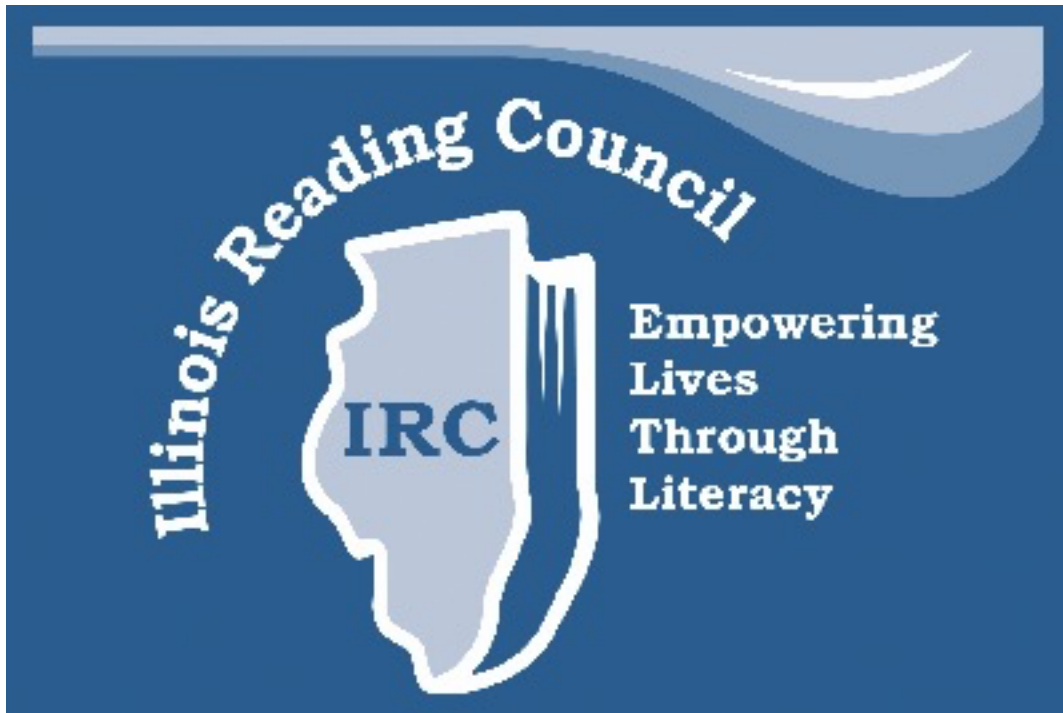
[Board of Directors Meeting](#) (April 12, 2025)
[IRC Report of Officers and Committee Chairs](#) (April 15, 2025)
[Illinois Reads Book Festival](#) (April 26, 2025)

May

[IRC Literacy Support Grant](#) (May 1, 2025)
[IRC International Grant](#) (May 1, 2025)
[IRC Early Career Teacher Recruitment Program](#) (May 1, 2025)

June

[IRC Prairie State Award](#) (June 15, 2025)
[IRC Book Club](#) (June 15, 2025)



Committee Directory

2024-2025

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2024-2025

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Lake Area Reading Council

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Lewis & Clark Reading Council

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Macon County Reading Council

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National Road Reading Council

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Northwestern Reading Council

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Sauk Valley Reading Council

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Starved Rock Reading Council

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Two Rivers Reading Council

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Vermilion Valley Reading Council

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West Suburban

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Western Illinois Reading Council

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Melissa Wheeler

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*2026 Conference Chair and
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Meal Tickets Co-Chair

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Preservice Pizza Party Chair

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Student Helpers Co-Chair

Joy Towner
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Student Helpers Co-Chair

Alaina Weatherford
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Signs Assistant Chair

Melissa Wheeler
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Meal Tickets Co-Chair

Jennifer Young
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Special Events Chair

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2024-2025

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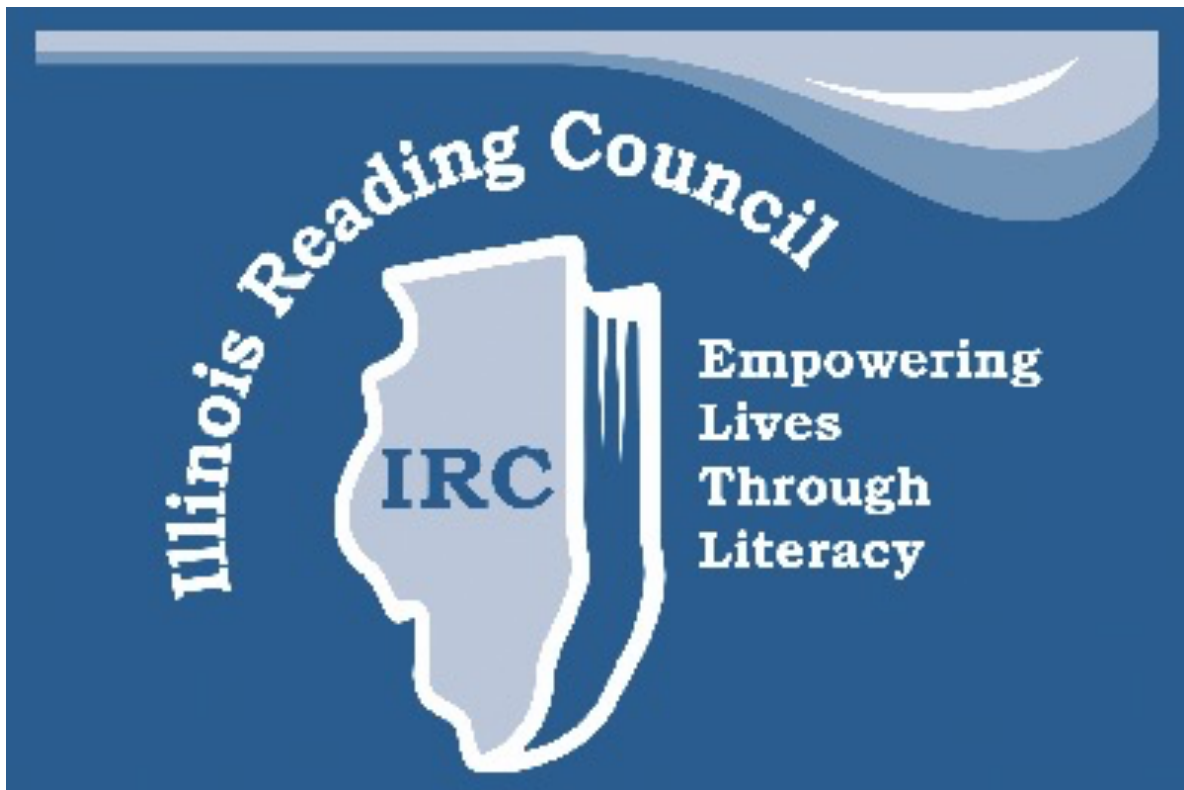
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MISSION

The mission of the Illinois Reading Council is to provide support and leadership to all who promote and teach lifelong literacy.

VISION

The Illinois Reading Council advocates for high-quality literacy opportunities that empower all learners. As a leading literacy organization, the IRC provides access to research, materials, and methodologies to teach literacy and promote lifelong learning. As an active well-organized system of local and special interest councils and state committees, the IRC provides a supportive network for grassroots involvement and the exchange of information for a diverse membership.