Moving Literacy Forward
Until Everyone Can Read

A Word from the Branch President

As members of IDA, we believe that reading is a civil right and as leaders of IDA, we will continue to put forth efforts in supporting you UNTIL EVERYONE CAN READ! We have strived to reinforce this message in all the work we do as an organization. In this newsletter, you will find even more examples of how you can contribute to making this a reality in Wisconsin. IDA is taking steps, not only in Wisconsin but across the country, to better inform, support, and advocate for those who struggle needlessly. I hope you will take the time to read through this newsletter and then step up and use your voice to help make positive changes! On behalf of our Board of Directors, we are grateful for your involvement and are excited about the future are helping to create.

WE NEED YOU!

Wisconsin Legislation has a committee designated to investigating reading in Wisconsin. This committee needs letters, personal experiences, comments, recommendations, and more! Send to: committee chair Rep. Bob Kulp (Rep.Kulp@legis.wisconsin.gov), vice-chair Sen. Patty Schachtner (Sen.Schachtner@legis.wisconsin.gov), your own assembly person/senator (https://legis.wisconsin.gov) to locate your representatives. MORE DETAILS ON PAGE 3
Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.

~ Frederick Douglass ~

WI LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE SEEKS INFO

Despite the written and oral testimony of many concerned stakeholders around the state, the legislature's Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules made no changes to the PI-34 teacher licensing rule that was submitted by the Department of Public Instruction. As a result, graduates of any teacher preparation program (along with other categories of potential teachers) who fail to pass the Foundations of Reading Test may nevertheless become teachers of record in grades K-5 and special education, or may serve as a reading teacher or reading specialist. This move essentially eliminates the protection for beginning and struggling readers that was provided by section 118.19(14)(a).

The potential impact that this has is that school district administrators may now hire whomever they want to teach beginning and struggling readers, and educator preparation programs will feel even less pressure to teach the foundations of reading to future teachers.

For parents who are concerned about the quality of their child's reading education this means you will need to check with your school or district to find out if your child’s teacher has a tier I license that does not require passing the Foundations of Reading Test. If this is the case, and you feel it jeopardizes your child's education, you are urged to contact your district administration and school board to express your concern.

Undoubtedly, this will be one area of discussion for the LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMITTEE ON THE IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF DYSLEXIA, which will have its second meeting on August 29th, with DPI-provided testimony. The public is invited to provide written testimony prior to August 29th on this topic or any other topic that provides additional support and information about the current state of reading instruction in Wisconsin. We encourage you take the time to write about your personal experiences, whether good or bad, and share them with committee chair Rep. Bob Kulp (Rep.Kulp@legis.wisconsin.gov), committee vice-chair Sen. Patty Schachtner (Sen.Schachtner@legis.wisconsin.gov), and your assembly person and senator (see https://legis.wisconsin.gov to locate your representatives).

BE A VOICE FOR CHANGE IN WISCONSIN READING!

Information shared from committee member, Ann Malone and the Wisconsin Reading Coalition
IDA-WI Representation
You are represented well across the state of Wisconsin. Currently, your board members also serve on the following committees and work to represent you.
- Wisconsin Read to Lead Council
- Wisconsin Joint Legislative Committee
- IDA Publishing Committee
- Academic Language Therapy Association Board of Directors
You are also represented by fellow members who are actively involved with the following organizations.
- Wisconsin reading Coalition
- Decoding Dyslexia Wisconsin
- International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council
- Children’s Dyslexia Centers, Inc
How will you get involved? How will you use your gifts and talents?

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NEW CERI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Center for Effective Reading Instruction (CERI) is pleased to announce the hiring of a new executive director, Ms. Tameka Brown. Tameka holds a master’s degree in non-profit management from Notre Dame of Maryland University and a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Morgan State. Tameka has a successful record of managing multiple large-scale educational projects, and has specialized training in non-profit law and ethics, marketing, program evaluation, and fundraising.

Tameka will be working closely with IDA’s chief academic officer to ensure close alignment of initiatives. Presently, she is busy advancing a CERI Certified Educator Provider Directory, expected to be available to certified professionals in mid-September. In addition, Tameka will be collaborating with the CERI board of directors to develop an exclusive webinar series for certified professionals who hold a three-year certification. You can contact her by emailing TBrown@DyslexiaIDA.org

WELCOME NEW IDA-WI BOARD MEMBERS

We are excited to announce the addition of
Brigid Ryan and Reanee Luetschwager

To our IDA-WI Board of Directors. If you or someone you know would be a great addition to the board, please visit our website or contact a current board member to get more information. We currently have two vacancies and will have two more after the first of the year. Of particular interest for the board is individuals with expertise in accounting, marketing, publicity, fundraising, and law.
IDA is increasing membership fees by $5.00, but members can stay at the lower fee if they sign up for two years. Members who have received renewal notices with the previous price can renew at that rate through the date of the membership expiration. Please contact Paul Ellis if you have any questions by emailing PEllis@DyslexiaIDA.org

Silver Moon Spelling Rules is the perfect companion for Orton Gillingham/Structured Literacy based reading instruction. This product is now available. View demo videos and learn more at: http://readlearningservices.com/products/silver-moon-introduction/