



Hello IDA-WI Members

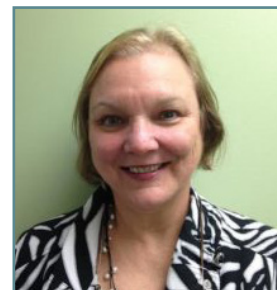
A Message from our Presidents

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Hello IDA-WI Members! 2019 has begun with some monumental changes on our board.

The board has welcomed new members recently: Dorothy Morrison, April Kaiser as Head of the Communication Committee, and Donna Hejtmanek as Head of the Legislative Committee. Please see their impressive biographies in this newsletter. The board is still looking to recruit a treasurer to replace our current treasurer, Kimberley Chan who must, according to our by-laws, “fall off” the board after serving 2 terms. Please consider applying to be a member of the board if interested in filling this important position.



Ann Malone
Co-President



Michele Raasch
Vice/Co-President

Our tireless and talented leader, Tammy Tillotson, Ph.D. will take on a new role as “Past President” and mentor to new co-presidents, Michele Raasch and Ann Malone. Notice it took two of us to walk in Tammy’s shoes and continue the good work of IDA-WI! Tammy’s leadership has helped to move our branch forward in many ways.

- She suggested that IDA develop a uniform format for our branches websites and letterhead and branch names. We changed from WIBIDA to IDA-WI. The new name, logo and format have helped all the branches present themselves as a coherent part of IDA.
- Under her leadership, our branch has moved forward and built upon the past success of the previous IDA-WI boards with continued annual conferences, dyslexia awareness activities and a significant role in the recent Wisconsin State Joint Legislative Study Committee on Dyslexia.

To create a future for all individuals who struggle with dyslexia and other related reading differences so that they may have richer, more robust lives and access to the tools and resources they need.

A message from our Presidents, continued

- Tammy has also been instrumental in building the current board membership. In fact, our board membership is nearly full at this time! The branch board is now made up of ----- vibrant, passionate, knowledgeable, professionals. Whereas keeping the number of members on the board to a workable number is important but membership involvement is even more important! PLEASE consider joining one of our standing committees and get involved with this powerhouse organization.

2019, after years of work and building on the efforts of so many before us, we are at the tipping point! YOUR VOICE will be needed to convince our representatives. Please be ready to be called upon to fill the gallery at the state capitol. Also, write letters, emails and make phone calls now to your Wisconsin Senators and Representatives in support of LRB-0383/3 and LRB-0368/2.

After the tireless efforts of previous IDA-WI members and other dyslexia support groups, we have a chance to move Wisconsin forward with positive legislative changes for our students with dyslexia! We are on the cusp of real change at the legislative level. Please Support: LRB-0383/3 Dyslexia Guidebook & LRB-0368/2 Dyslexia Specialist.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Malone and Michele Raasch, Co-Presidents IDA-WI

Ann Malone Michele M. Raasch

IDA-Wisconsin Branch Board Members



Front Row Left to Right: Loucricia Carson, Ann Malone, Tammy Tillotson, Michele Raasch, Dorothy Morrison, Mary Brod; Second Row Left to Right: Dara Atandare, Kimberly Chan, Kelly Steinke, Nicole Schubert; (Absent: Brigid Ryan, Libby Wallace, Reanee Luetschwager, April Kaiser, Donna Hejzmanek)

Board of Directors

Ann Malone, *Co-President*

Michele Raasch,
Vice/Co-President

Dr. Tammy Tillotson,
Past President

Kimberly Chan, *Treasurer*

Mary Brod, *Secretary*

Libby Wallace, *Director*

Loucricia Carson, *Director*

Brigid Ryan, *Director*

Dorothy Morrison, *Director*

Nicole Schubert, *Director*

Kelly Steinke, *Director*

Reanee Luetschwager,
Director

Dara Atandare, *Director*

April Kaiser, *Director*

Donna Hejzmanek, *Director*

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Legislative Report

In January 2019, Joint Legislative Council's Study Committee on the Identification and Management of Dyslexia has proposed two pieces of legislation: LRB-0383/3 (Guidebook) and LRB-0368/2 (Dyslexia Specialist)

FIRST: Our Action Needed Right Now

PLEASE write, email, and call the members of the Joint Legislative Council to voice your support for : LRB-0383/3 (Guidebook) and LRB-0368/2 (Dyslexia Specialist)

On Wednesday, February 13, 2019, the Joint Legislative Committee will review and vote to approve or 'kill' these two proposals. The meeting is held at the Capitol Building, Room 411 South, beginning at 8:30. If these bills pass, they will move on to the full legislature.

SECOND: Action Needed Soon- "Pack the Gallery" on the day of the full Legislative Vote

If the Joint Legislative Council votes to approve and send these two bills forward to the full legislature, the next step will be vitally important. We will be called on to show support by filling the gallery of the state capitol when the full legislature votes Yes or No to the two proposed Bills. We will call on you, our membership, to show support at a moment's notice. Nothing convinces Legislators to vote 'YES' more than a packed gallery of Wisconsinites in favor of the proposed legislation. Please be ready.

The Wisconsin State Reading Association (WSRA) has loudly voiced their opinion and opposition to the dyslexia specialist. They are supporting the handbook. During the dyslexia legislative study, WSRA had a paid lobbyist attending all of the sessions. WSRA membership is over 2,500 and they have a strong support by the Department of Public Instruction. It is imperative that Wisconsin's students with dyslexia and related conditions be given the best possible education. That will only happen if you speak up.

THANK YOU for all your years of interest and ongoing support. Dyslexia Warriors are my heroes!

Ann Malone and Donna Hetjmanek

Joint Legislative Council Current Membership

[Representative Brooks](#)
(Co-Chair)

[Senator Roth](#)

[Senator Fitzgerald](#)

[Senator Darling](#)

[Senator Marklein](#)

[Senator Petrowski](#)

[Senator Olsen](#)

[Senator Jacque](#)

[Senator Shilling](#)

[Senator Erpenbach](#)

[Senator Risser](#)

[Senator Miller](#)

[Representative Steineke](#)

[Representative August](#)

[Representative Nygren](#)

[Representative Ballweg](#)

[Representative Spiros](#)

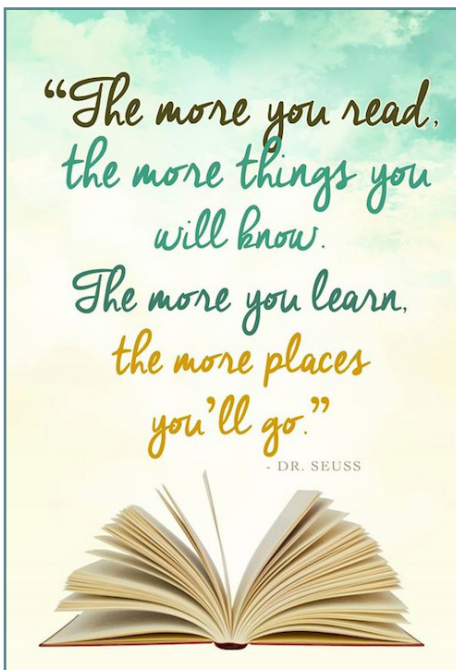
[Representative Vos](#)

[Representative Hintz](#)

[Representative Hesselbein](#)

[Representative Billings](#)

[Representative C. Taylor](#)





Support the Legislative Committee on Dyslexia

Write about your support and your story

The joint legislative council will be voting to bring forth the recommendations from the study committee on dyslexia on Feb. 13th in room 411 at 8:30. Letter writing is important. Send your letter to one of the members of the committee listed on page 3 or from this link to the committee website.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/committees/joint/1971>

Possible email or letter:

“I am writing to register my support of LRB-0383/3 and LRB-0368/2, which were drafted by the Joint Legislative Council’s Study Committee on Identification and Management of Dyslexia. If made into law, these bills would be instrumental in building awareness of dyslexia and in creating a path forward to remediate the reading deficiencies in dyslexic children.”

The Dyslexia Guidebook

A Guidebook on Dyslexia and Related Conditions will inform and guide parents, teachers and school districts to become aware of assessment tools and interventions. A guidebook will help parents seek out resources to remediate their child’s reading deficiencies. Many other states have such a document in place.

The Dyslexia Specialist

A Dyslexia Specialist would increase professional awareness in schools and improve instructional competencies of teachers through teacher training and developing implementation guidance for comprehensive, scientifically based reading instruction practices, strategies and accommodations. Far too many of our devoted, hard working teachers at present do not know what dyslexia is. Thus, when faced with a student in whom a screening has made an early identification of probable dyslexia or a potential risk of dyslexia, the teacher does not know how to remediate that student’s struggles.. Please support the Bills : LRB-0383/3 (Guidebook) and LRB-0368/2 (Dyslexia Specialist)

Support IDA-WI while you Shop

It’s as easy as going to smile.amazon.com. If you do not have a charity selected, it will prompt you to select a charity. Just search for **International Dyslexia Association - Wisconsin Branch**. If you already have a charity selected, you can change it by clicking the supporting link under the search bar.

Every time you shop on AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to IDA-WI. By shopping you are helping spread awareness of dyslexia and methods that work for a dyslexic learner.



May the Force be with You in Moving Literacy Forward

IDA-WI State Conference 2019

A conference for parents, teachers, administrators and those dedicated to improving reading in Wisconsin. Hosted by the International Dyslexia Association Wisconsin Branch.

For more information, email WIBIDA@gmail.com or check out wi.dyslexiaida.org.

Saturday, May 4, 2019

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

*Optional Academic Language Therapy Association Exam at 8:00 am**

Historic Masonic Building
Children's Dyslexia Center of Upper Wisconsin
616 Graham Ave, Eau Claire WI

Registration:

Early Bird by March 1, 2019

Member	\$ 85
Non-Member	\$110

After March 1, 2019

Member	\$125
Non-Member	\$150

Everyone who registers PRIOR to March 1, 2019, will be entered into a drawing for reimbursement of their registration fee.

Presenters include:

Deborah Lynham - *Director of Partnerships & Engagement at AIM Institute for Learning & Research and board member for the National Center on Improving Literacy's Family Engagement Advisory Board*

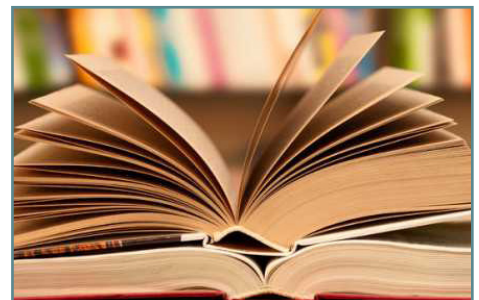
Rachel Berger - *Microsoft Representative, Founder and Chair of Decoding Dyslexia Minnesota, and Founding Director at I am Dyslexia*

Jennifer Hasser - *Executive Director of Kendore Learning and Syllables Learning Center*

Consider Joining a Committee

Did you know any member of IDA-WI can join a committee? There are many committees to choose from. Whether it's the Legislative Committee or

the Conference and Education Committee and everything in between, there is a committee for everyone. Email wibida@gmail.com for more information.



**Preregistration required at ALTAreading.org*

Welcome New Board Members

Donna Hejtmanek, Director



Donna is a retired educator (2018) with 41 years in education. She is a former special education

resource teacher, transition specialist, and reading specialist certified in Level I Wilson Reading Systems. In 2004, Donna and her family moved from suburban Chicago to central Wisconsin. Since then, she has served as a board member and president of the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin, served on the Read to Lead Council (4 years) and most recently on the Legislative Council Study Committee on the Identification and Management of Dyslexia. Donna is committed to helping ALL teachers and students in Wisconsin learn to read using the science of reading pedagogy and looks forward to working with the talented and committed board members of IDA-WI.

April Kaiser, Director



April is a mom of three sons, one of which was diagnosed with dyslexia in July of 2018. Through

the process of getting her son diagnosed she became passionate to learn more about dyslexia so she could help her son through his

struggles at school. April joined the IDA-WI branch to help grow her knowledge on this very important topic and to try and make a difference. She wants parents and their children to know they are not alone and there is help out there for them. April graduated from Carroll College with a degree in graphic communications and from UW-Oshkosh with an MBA.

Reanee Luetschwager, Director



Reanee has been a Learning Disabilities teacher for over 20 years. She is very passionate about helping

students learn to read and improve their skills. When Reanee graduated from college in 1994 with a major in Elementary Education and a minor in Special Education, she realized how little she knew about teaching reading to struggling learners, and that she was going to have to seek out resources, strategies, and methods from those who truly understood reading. Reanee was fortunate enough to learn OG methods through training and certification in The Wilson Reading System Level I. She continues to embrace her training and seek out research-based reading knowledge and techniques to improve her teaching skills. Reanee received her Masters Degree in School Counseling in 2005 and her

Wisconsin Reading Teacher License in 2017. Reanee is honored to be a part of the IDA-Wisconsin Branch, and looks forward to learning and making positive changes in the area of dyslexia.

Dyslexia Awareness Films and Training

Made by Dyslexia has partnered with Microsoft to provide free tools to help every dyslexic reach their potential. They are excited to share their New Dyslexia Awareness Films and Teacher Training.

These films have been incorporated into five Dyslexia Awareness Training modules designed to help teachers, educators and parents understand dyslexia, both its strengths and challenges, and gain essential knowledge in how to recognize and support it.

To watch all of the films, go to [Dyslexia Awareness Films](#) or to watch them as part of the training modules, go to [Dyslexia Awareness Course with Microsoft Education](#).

Thank you Made for Dyslexia!