WHO IS WSRA?

WSRA MEMBERSHIP

• The Wisconsin State Reading Association (WSRA) is a professional organization that averages 2200 members annually. Membership is $39 per year.
• One-third of WSRA is comprised of reading specialists/reading teachers/interventionists/coaches.
• One-third: classroom teachers ranging from 4K through high school.
• One-third: college professors, full-time undergraduate students, retired educators, librarians, gifted & talented educators, special education educators, ELL educators, and adults/technical educators.

WSRA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

• 25 local reading councils covering every part of Wisconsin
• 19 Committees including: Advocacy, Children's Literature, Digital Literacies, Early Childhood Literacy, Early Intervention, Elementary, Families and Literacy, Intellectual Freedom, International Partnership, High School, Legislative, Membership, Middle Level, Preservice Teachers, Publications, Reading Specialists, Research, Title I, & Young Authors Workshops
• Task Force: ESEA/RtI/Assessment Task Force
• Wisconsin Professors of Reading Special Interest Council
• WSRA’s Board of Directors

WSRA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Expertise matters

Twitter @WSRAliteracy  www.facebook.com/WSRAread
Focus on literacy professional development
- Annual conference averaging 2000 attendees
- Topical workshops/institutes around the state
- Webinars
- Professional publications such as WSRA Journal, Update, RtI at the Crossroads monograph
- Supporting teachers in their licensure process, PI34
- Local council meetings
- Professional study groups
- Position statements on critical issues
- Read It Forward (professional book study groups)
- Online Literacy Learning Academy – coming soon!

WSRA PARTNERSHIPS: Literacy requires a comprehensive approach
- Support the Wisconsin Literacy Research Symposium through the UW System
- Network with CESAs, Wisconsin Education Innovations, Association of Wisconsin School Administrators, Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators, University System, content organizations to provide workshops and institutes
- Work with legislators and DPI to promote and develop legislation and policies supporting effective literacy practices
  - Read to Lead Task Force with the focus on teacher expertise
  - PI 34
  - Teacher Preparation programs
  - Kindergarten Screener
  - District Reading Specialist
  - Maximizing the use of highly qualified reading specialists/reading teachers/literacy coaches/in classrooms
- Special initiatives:
  - Development of Families and Literacy DVD for parents of children from birth through age 5
  - Support Little Free Libraries in park campgrounds.

WSRA RESEARCH: Research grounds us
- Promote and disseminate research supporting effective literacy practices
- Provide education about research, its strengths and limitations
- Award research scholarship: Pat Bricker Memorial Research Scholarship
- Provide research strands at conferences
- Research effective practices, for example:
  - Promoted Kindergarten screeners and intervention
  - Provided professional development on the Response to Intervention as part of the IDEA Law
  - Shared ways to implement the State Standards in English Language Arts