



Newsletter

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Fall 2017

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CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, Capital Reading Council Members! We hope that all of you had a wonderful start to fall and a new school year. CRC started the fall with a wonderful professional development presentation entitled "Quality Talk" by Dr. Karen Murphy. This event kicked off what promises to be a great year of events!

CRC is working with our fellow Region IV Local Councils and area universities to offer quality professional development opportunities throughout our region. Please check out our calendar of events included in this newsletter to save the dates for all our upcoming events!!

In the current climate of education, change is the name of the game. This requires educators to navigate all of the demands of standards and curriculum requirements, increasing technologies, mandated assessments, all while meeting the individual needs of their students. Wow, what a challenge! But your CRC leaders know that you will meet these demands and challenges as you always have— with determination, hard work, and your caring focus on the children in your classrooms.

Jill McPherson

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 6, 2017—There's still time to join!!

- Book study with KSRA keynote presenter, Every Child A Super Reader by Pam Allyn

November 28, 2017 4:00-9:00

- Friendly's Community Service/ Fundraiser volunteers needed

December 11 and 13, 2017 7:00-10:00

- Gift wrapping for UCP volunteers needed

January - date TBD

- Online webinar - 1 - 2 hours topic TBD

Winter book study the author is to be determined

March 11, 2018 - 5:00

Hershey Bears Game community service book give away/fundraiser

March 24, 2018 Shippensburg Literacy Event

- Who's Doing the Work? by Kim Yaris and Jan Burkins

April 21, 2018 8:30 - 12:30 Regional Conference Elizabethtown College

- Janet Wong - Keynote speaker

- Authors panel: Frank Murphy, Ginnie Brown, Adam Lehrhaupt,

Jan Cheripka

CALLING ALL GIFT WRAPPERS

Capital Reading Council will be wrapping gifts at the Capital City Mall for the second year. The monies donated from the gift wrapping will benefit the early learning centers of United Cerebral Palsy in the Capital Region.

If you have fun wrapping, please join us for a fun evening. Come either December 11 or 13 from 7-10pm. All supplies are provided.

Please email Emily Reed at flyingicesticks@gmail.com ASAP if you are able to help out.

AWARD WINNING 'INSPIRE YOUNG MINDS' PROJECT

Capital Reading Council is excited to once again sponsor our "Inspire Young Minds" Community Service project. Last year CRC won 3rd place nationally in the International Literacy Association's local council service award. This was quite an honor for our council!

We are pleased that this year we will be serving 20 centers in Dauphin and Cumberland counties. The Keystone to Reading preschool book sets will be delivered to the centers from mid October 2017 through February 2018. Once all 8 books in the set are read to the children, they vote on their favorite book. Their votes are then tallied and sent to KSRA in March to be included in the count for the Preschool Level "Keystone To Reading Book Award". We are very proud to help put quality literature into the hands of the preschool teachers and children in our area!

CAPITAL READING COUNCIL PRESENTED 'QUALITY TALK'

Capital Reading Council and Penn State University Harrisburg co-sponsored an event on September 21, 2017 entitled "Quality Talk" presented by Dr. P. Karen Murphy Professor of Education (Educational Psychology) at Penn State Harrisburg and Marion Eberly, Faculty Fellow.

Dr. Murphy outlined the research and explained the components of "Quality Talk". "Quality Talk" involves teacher facilitation of student lead small group discussions involving deep level questioning and conversations about shared texts. There were 52 attendees including teachers, PSU students, and retired educators who enjoyed Dr. Murphy's sense of humor as well as receiving all of the information on "Quality Talk". The partnership with the university was very valuable in helping CRC with this high quality professional development presentation.

Here's what some of the attendees had to say about the event:

"This is useful and could be implemented in my classroom." - J.I.

"Loved all of the information. Her disposition was great and appreciated after a long day!" - S.K.

"This was very enjoyable. I would love to read more about this." - E.B.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT—DONNA SPENCE



One of our newest members, Donna Spence, joined our professional family in October. I asked her to share a little about her work, and it struck me that her challenges and rewarding moments are the same for all of us. We truly are a community of literacy professionals but also humans who need to feel connected and heard. We hope this newsletter helps each of you know that we all share in the same endeavor, to improve the lives of both young and adult learners one mini-lesson, one good book, one shared resource, one encouraging hug at a time. Welcome to Donna and our other new members and thank you for each day that you give so much of yourself in the name of literacy!

Donna has been teaching in the Upper Adams School District for 11 years. For 10 of those years, she taught first grade. This is her first year in the role as a literacy coach. She works with students across all levels, K- 3. Her biggest challenge this year is keeping track of the all of the paperwork for Title 1 and gathering all of the data she needs to share with parents. “It seems like there is never enough time in the day to teach the students in my groups and also progress monitor. However, after gathering and analyzing data, I find it very rewarding that my students are making slow, but measurable gains. We always have to celebrate growth, no matter how little it is! “

She decided to join KSRA/CRC in order to build her knowledge about literacy and become part of a community of educators who are helping to promote literacy development in our schools. Some of her personal interests include cooking, baking, and spending time with family and friends.

CAPITAL READING COUNCIL WINS AWARDS



The Capital Reading Council has once again been honored with awards at the Keystone State Reading Association Conference in Hershey this past October. Our Council has earned the awards:

ILA Honor Council

KSRA Distinguished Council Award

KSRA Leadership Award



We should be proud to receive these honors. All four councils in our region have earned KSRA awards, which demonstrate that our region is focused on literacy, professional development, and community service. Let's keep spreading the love of literacy to all!

CRC SUPPORT SCHOOL HURRICANE RELIEF

The Capital Reading Council will be donating monies towards schools that have been affected by Hurricane Harvey. The monies will be used to replenish classroom libraries, school libraries, or instructional needs.

If you or your school wish to help in this relief effort, please go to the following link for more information from the International Literacy Association and ways you can help provide support. <https://www.literacyworldwide.org/blog/literacy-daily/2017/08/28/here-s-how-you-can-help-libraries-and-schools-affected-by-hurricane-harvey>

CAPITAL AREA WRITING PROJECT

Capital Area Writing Project (CAWP) is trying to reinvigorate the area's teachers of writing at all levels, particularly those who have already become Fellows, through an event on the campus of Penn State Harrisburg November 30, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is a nice opportunity to find out the current and future plans for CAWP, meet the Director and other key leaders, and enjoy a short time of shared writing and talking about writing.

If interested, go to the Eventbrite link to register. All attendees must register.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/capital-area-writing-project-networking-tickets-38876305075> No cost; light refreshments served.