



Wyoming State Reading Council

10/11/17

Hello WSRC Members,

As you know, the Wyoming State Reading Council and its local organizations have been in limbo with our affiliation with the International Literacy Association (ILA). After several meetings with ILA, the WSRC board is happy to announce that we are able to CONTINUE our affiliation.

Due to changes with the IRS and its relationships with non-profit organizations, ILA was required to restructure how it affiliates with its state-level non-profit affiliates. Last spring, ILA presented our state council with very high requirements including an annual state organization dues of \$3000.00 to stay fully affiliated.

At our WSRC summer meeting, we were hoping to make a decision. Instead we had a great discussion, but several more questions that needed answers from ILA before we could make an informed decision.

At the same time, state reading councils across the nation were also displeased with the new ILA requirements and began voicing concerns to ILA Leadership. Many state councils are quite a bit larger than us and sought advice of lawyers. State councils shared this information through emails so everyone could see and benefit from what each council was contemplating. Due to the concerns raised by state councils, ILA quickly determined that they were trying to fit all councils into the same type of affiliation, which was not going to work as needs and situations were so different. ILA then began working with individual state councils who exhibited low membership numbers and income in developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that would allow the state council to stay fully affiliated with ILA while also supporting strategic planning so councils can grow and be sustained.

After visiting with a lawyer and holding a couple more meetings with ILA, our board decided that continuing our affiliation and developing a MOU would allow us to continue as a community of literacy professionals, maintain our wonderful statewide initiatives, and hopefully broaden our reach across the state to support the literacy teaching and learning of our educators and students.

Thank you to all members for your patience and your emails with input on your thoughts and feelings about this issue. We shared everyone's input at our summer leadership meeting. As soon as we meet again with ILA and have our MOU in place, we'll send out an update.

Our webmaster is getting our website current again. Please keep checking for information: <http://wyomingreadingcouncil.org/> Also, like us on Facebook. The new Young Author's info was sent out, but there were some incorrect dates. PLEASE check the website for correct dates and watch for new info. coming to your councils. ☺

Please contact any board member with questions. Looking forward to a GREAT year and some new ideas as we begin working more closely with ILA.

Thanks,

Becky Davis, WSRC- president
WSRC – Members of the Board