

From the President

Terry Rogers



Dear CRA Members,

I want to begin by thanking you for being a CRA member and for taking on the task of opening a world of opportunities for students through your passion and commitment to lifelong learning and literacy development. The ability to read, write, and communicate empowers students to achieve things they never thought was possible. Thank you for partnering with CRA in this endeavor.

If you did not attend CRA's 50th Professional Development Institute in the City of Industry, you missed an opportunity to be inspired with your practice enriched by some dynamic speakers and authors.

Joanne Billingsley delivered a powerful message. "Smart is something you get, not just something you are; we all have the potential to grow in intelligence and build a better brain."

Danny Brassell got the audience pumped-up about reading by reminding those in attendance of their importance in the every day reading development of their students and the importance of laughing, singing, dancing, playing and reading great books in order to bring the joy back into education.

As we begin a new year, I would like to challenge you to get more involved in your local council by participating in council functions and volunteering in a leadership capacity. The local council supports classroom teachers and take the lead role in making a difference day in and day out. Without a doubt, local councils are the heart of CRA.

In the coming year your CRA Board will be taking a close look at how the organization can better support local councils, better develop leadership and provide professional development to better ourselves as individual educators. My personal goal for the CRA is for it to be the expert and supreme voice regarding literacy in the state, both advocating for and in support of teachers, students, families and communities in the shared pursuit of advancing literacy for all. We can't do it without you. Your particular voice is important and the board would like to hear from you. What support do you need to be better prepared and empowered to meet the challenges you face in today's learning environment? Please take the time to e-mail me personally, another board member, or your local area director.

Wishing you a joyful and happy 2018.

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