



The **Connection**

October 2008

A Letter from the President

Welcome Back to School SIRC Members,

Now that school is underway, hopefully, everyone has settled into a routine. The back to school rush sometimes seems overwhelming but as educators I know you all handled everything perfectly.

SIRC's back to school mini-conference in August was very successful. The presenters had some wonderful ideas to help rejuvenate and inspire great things to happen in our classrooms this coming year.

Our organization wants to be a resource for you and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming event on October 28th at Unity Point School. This event is FREE for SIRC members. The flyer is attached.

SIRC board members thank you so much for all your time and effort into making SIRC a successful organization with promoting literacy. I would also like to welcome two new board members: Vicki Bundy and Glenda Ryan. We look forward to working with you.

Have a great school year!

Cindy Pender
SIRC President

Fall Dessert Meeting

"Books to Ignite Your Classroom" is the theme for the fall dessert meeting hosted by SIRC. Come join fellow teachers on **October 28th** at 6:30pm at Unity Point School in Carbondale for some exciting ideas on picture books for all ages. Share some of your favorite ideas and books, walk away with some new ideas, and enjoy some sweet desserts as well!

Check out the attached flyer for more information.

SIRC to Present Student Teacher Scholarship

The Southern Illinois Reading Council will be presenting a scholarship to an SIUC student teacher doing his/her student teaching this school year. For more information please contact Pam Gawrych at pamelagawrych@charter.net.



READ. READ. READ!





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How can SIRC help you?

Eventhough we're educators, often times there are things we just need a little help with.

SIRC would like to help you out! If you have a question, we'll do our best to get you an answer. Let us be a resource for you. Anything from finding a good book to use in the classroom to questions about RTI. Please feel free to contact us. If we don't know the answer, we can sure point you in the right direction or find someone who does.

We'd also love to know what you'd like to see in our newsletter. Your ideas and input are very important to us.

After all, we are all teaching for the same reason- the kids!

Book Donation

SIRC purchased \$200 in books to donate to a local health clinic. These books will be used in waiting rooms as well as in examination rooms for children of all ages to enjoy.

SIRC Mini-Conference

SIRC's annual mini-conference was held on August 6th at John A. Logan College. Many speakers presented on a variety of topics and attendees had a wonderful selection of books to choose from at the 1/2 price book fair. Thanks to all of those who presented and those of you who attended. We look forward to seeing you at next year's mini-conference.

Spring Celebration

Mark your calendars! SIRC will be hosting the annual Spring Celebration on April 21, 2009 at the Carbondale Civic Center. Young authors from Southern Illinois will have the opportunity to submit short stories for judging. Winners will be chosen and honored at the annual Spring Celebration.
*More information to come!

"Teachers teach because they care. Teaching young people is what they do best. It requires long hours, patience, and care.

-Horace Mann