

IRC Professional Learning and Development Committee Protocol for the Local and Special Interest Council Representative

Thank you for your leadership and willingness to support the Illinois Reading Council's Professional Learning and Development (PL&D) Committee 's mission of providing the most current literacy educational resources and instructional pursuits for IRC members throughout the year. As your local council's PL&D Committee representative, you will be charged with the two overarching responsibilities outlined below.

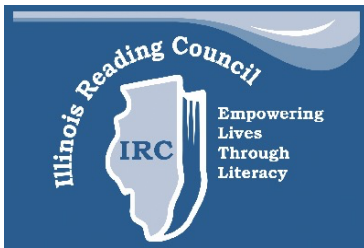
1. The local council representative acts as a conduit between the PL&D Committee Chair, their council and its membership. Although there may be no formal in person Committee meetings during the year, the PL&D Committee Chair may host a virtual meeting as well as regularly communicate with the local council representatives. The intent and purpose of the PL&D Committee is to provide vetted resources on topics of importance for literacy teaching and learning, and updates on national and state educational initiatives. Thus, the PL&D Committee goal is to provide quality instructional pursuits that will be of benefit for your council's membership. Communication is a collaborative effort. With that in mind, each local council representative will be asked to submit topics of interest to our [Literacy Learning Links Padlet](#) or other literacy teaching resources (see next page for options) regarding instructional practices for optimal literacy learning. Local council representatives with the support of their council board or membership will submit literacy learning information that they have found to be beneficial to support students optimal learning. PL&D Committee Chair will gather this and other literacy learning information and share with the local council representative on or around each IRC Board Meeting when other opportunities present themselves. This will provide a "loop" of communication between the local councils and the PL&D Committee Chair. The representative will support the local council and the PL&D Committee in the following ways:
 - notify council membership of updated resources the PL&D Committee Chair and representatives share throughout the year
 - utilize PL&D Committee in seeking answers to questions regarding educational initiatives
 - inform PL&D Committee Chair as new professional literacy learning interests are identified
2. Each council within IRC's 10 statewide regions will make a commitment to provide resources for the PL&D Committee 's Padlet, and/or an article for an issue of the IRC Communicator. Each council will provide a submission during their designated calendar date or at any time valuable literacy learning information becomes available. It is your role, as local council representative, to identify and submit to the PL&D Committee Chair, minimally one of the following: (Specific examples are provided on the accompanying page.)
 - timely resources to share with IRC members on the PL&D Committee's [Literacy Learning Links Padlet](#)
 - a review of a professional trade book for the IRC Communicator
 - an informative literacy article including, but not limited to, topics such as best practice,
 - instructional strategies, current educational initiatives

Please submit resource links through the Google Form. Other submissions will be sent to the PL&D Committee Chair at: pd@illinoisreadingcouncil.org. by the local councils assigned due date or whenever resources become available. This will allow for sharing of new resources at the quarterly IRC board meetings, IRC Communicator, local council newsletters etc. or when appropriate.

Please contact the PL&D Committee Chair if you require further clarification regarding your role on this Committee. Thank you for your continued support of IRC's mission to promote and teach lifelong literacy.

With much respect for all you do for literacy learners,

Laura Beltchenko pd@illinoisreadingcouncil.org
Professional Learning and Development Committee Chair



Resource Submission Options Professional Learning & Development Committee Local Council Representative

Please consider submitting during your obligatory assigned timeframe or whenever a valuable resource presents itself.

1. The [Literacy Learning Links Padlet](#) contains categorized columns leading to websites educators have found to be beneficial in their work implementing educational initiatives. To submit a resource for the Literacy Learning Links Padlet please [complete a brief Google Form](#) that will provide the PL&D Committee Chair with necessary information to include the resource in the Literacy Learning Links. (At this time, Local Council Representatives have been granted permission to submit the form.) The Padlet can be accessed at the following link: <https://padlet.com/lbeltchenko/x90ie3h6hjqlbjs>. In the Padlet, you will notice categorized topics in columns of resources that include but not limited to: Informational Text, Social Emotional Learning, Writing, Assessment, Gifted Education, Culturally Relevant Teaching etc. As you navigate to the right, additional columns will appear. Based on IRC policy, submissions are not to be endorsing a product. Ex. a specific reading program that only those using the product can assess the links.
2. The **IRC Communicator article** is any informational piece written by you or one of your council members for publication in IRC's e-newsletter. Visit www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/irc-communicator for sample articles written by council representatives including:
 - Strategies for Struggling Readers in February 2021,
 - Don't Panic About Time Management in the November 2020,
 - Flipping Out Over Flipgrid in August 2020.

The articles, limited to approximately 300 words, can be written specifically to meet your council's submission requirement. Also consider an article that has already appeared in a current or previous edition of your council's newsletter that other IRC Councils will find of benefit. Please be reminded submitting something written by another author may be infringing on intellectual property or copyright unless permission has been granted. If it is an IRC council member submitting their own work directly to IRC, they are granting their permission to publish.

3. A **Professional Book Review** is a narrative summary of the text intended to guide members to professional titles you or your colleagues have found valuable in the literacy teaching and learning process. Visit www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/irc-communicator to read the book review of *Bored and Brilliant: How spacing out can unlock your most productive and creative self*, Manoush Zomorodi in March 2021, IRC Communicator.

Please remember, this is our collective, collaborative and collegial contribution to support ALL educators in their quest to provide optimal teaching and student learning resources and materials. We are all in this together. L.B.