

August/September 2018

Hello Wyoming State Literacy Association (WSLA) members,



I hope everyone was able to take some time off, learn something new, have an adventure, and find some time to truly relax this summer! Now we're at the kick off of another school year. It's exciting as we prepare our classrooms for the arrival of students.

As most of you know, over the past year, the WSLA has been restructuring our affiliation with the ILA. At our summer leadership meeting in June in Laramie, we discussed some of the changes of restructuring.

One change that local councils need to be aware of is the handling of monies. *This applies ONLY to local councils who have bank accounts.* Local councils will need to use the WSLA's E.I.N. number to continue a tax-exempt status. Local councils will need to file a 990N postcard and check "discontinue" to get rid of their local E.I.N. number. The WSLA will then give you the state E.I.N. number to use with your bank account. This change is due to new IRS rules governing non-profit organizations. If your local council uses a bank account, please contact me and I'll help you know exactly what to do. You can email me at: wyoingsla@gmail.com
Another change is that we no longer have to have ILA recognize new local councils. The establishment of new local councils is now done through the WSLA.

As part of our restructuring, the WSLA board discussed procedures to help local councils and the WSLA organize information and communicate better. See procedures below. These can also be found on the website: www.wyomingliteracy.org

The WSLA needs board members! My term expires June 2019 and at present we don't have a replacement. We are all volunteers and we **share** the workload. It's not just one person doing the work. This is an EXCELLENT way to build your resume if you're so inclined. It is also tremendously rewarding to be part of a group who is passionate about literacy. If you are at all interested or know of someone who would like to be part of WSLA leadership, please contact any board member. 😊

Please keep in mind: (more info. on the website: www.wyomingliteracy.org – Please note new web address

*Young Authors statewide celebration – Sept. 29th, 1:00PM at the Casper Public Library

*January 31st is again the cut off date for membership in order to be eligible to submit entries to the 2019 Young Author's Contest

*Contact Chris Galagan: cgalagan@park6.org with questions about getting the international quilt to your council

*Contact Teresa Decker: tdecker@park6.org with questions about scholarships and grants offered

*Winter leadership meeting in Jan. – date and time to come

Thanks to everyone for continuing to promote literacy with students and adults across Wyoming!
Sincerely,

Becky Davis
Wyoming State Literacy Association, *chair*

Procedures for Local Reading Councils

1. All local councils must have at least three members, who are members of the Wyoming State Literacy Association (WSLA), to be recognized as a local council and to be eligible to submit entries into the Young Authors' Writing Contest.

*All local councils must submit the Local Council Information Form (below) with the names/officers and contact info. of at least three members. This form needs to be submitted to the WSLA by **February 15th every year**. These forms are to help with communication between local councils and the state council. Forms can also be found on the website. (wyomingreadingcouncil.org)

2. Local councils are asked to provide or participate in at least two community events promoting literacy. Young Authors can be one of the events, but this is not a requirement. The WSLA has a lot of ideas for events/activities that you can use to promote literacy in your community.

3. *If* your local council has a bank account, then you'll need to send an end-of-year financial report to the WSLA treasurer. This can be your annual budget or end-of-year bank statement. (This keeps us compliant with IRS non-profit rules). Please email it to wyoingsla@gmail.com

Local Council Information Form –

Please complete and email to Wyoming State Literacy Association by Feb. 15th

Email: wyoinglsa@gmail.com

1. Name of local council: _____

2. Contact info. for three members/officers:

member 1: _____
(name)

(email address)

member 2: _____
(name)

(email address)

member 3: _____
(name)

(email address)

3. What community events has your local council participated in or plan to participate in this year?
(Young Authors can be one of these events.)
