



MUIRLAND LITERACY COUNCIL

WINTER NEWS LETTER HIGHLIGHTS

TOPIC:

Trivia and Treats

Mindfully Implementing Research Based Practice

Community Service Project

WSRA Conference (February 9-11)

Listening to Our Past, Embracing Our Present,
Speaking to Our Future

Muirland Program of Events

Recommended Books

WSRA Book Study

Upcoming Scheduled Events

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2022-2023

TRIVIA AND TREATS

Muirland Literacy Council invites you for a night of collaboration and fun!
January 19, 2023 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Come join your fellow educators for a night of stress free camaraderie. Please bring a donation for our birthday/ bedtime bag service project. We need cake mixes, canned frosting, birthday candles, toothpaste, tooth brushes, washcloths and new or gently used books. We will play a rousing round of Trivia and share in delicacies from the Monk's fabulous menu. Should you want dinner, you can order off the menu at your own cost.

Cost is \$10 for current MLC members or members of other reading councils to cover the cost of the treats. It's easy to join.

Just follow this link. <https://wsra.memberclicks.net/mlc-home>

Bring a friend and you'll be entered into a drawing for a Barnes and Noble gift card.

We're looking forward to spending time sharing stories, pictures, Trivia expertise, and laughs. See you there!!
at Monks 33 Hillman Rd, Lake Delton, WI 53940



MINDFULLY IMPLEMENTING RESEARCH BASED PRACTICE



On October 6, we had the privilege to listen to Deb Zarling speak about to how educators are bombarded with information on what is the “BEST” way to teach our students. As literacy educators and leaders, we make decisions that impact our students learning and lives on a daily basis.

Deb spoke on how we are supposed to use “research based practices”, and make data driven decisions, but what does that really mean and how do we know. How do we make decisions and activate these decisions with others?

Deb Zarling provided an abundant amount of information which allowed us to both reflect and collaborate. on what we are currently expected to do and how to advocate to provide what’s effective high quality instruction and assessments to help our students work to their full potential.



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT UPDATE:



The purpose of the Muirland Literacy Council community service project is to provide Birthday Book Bags and Bedtime Book Bags to community children. Muirland Literacy Council members desire to get books and essential items into the hands of kids experiencing transition or economic challenges. Book bags are donated to local food pantries within the Muirland area and distributed by pantry volunteers. Many families have experienced hardships due to COVID-19 so it is our hope that these book bags can positively impact community families. We are targeting preschoolers through teenagers who may be in need of essential items and would enjoy a new book. It is the goal of Muirland to fill a need within the community and promote the love of reading.

The Muirland Community *Birthday Book Bags* and *Bedtime Book Bags Project* has been an exciting endeavor for seven years. Members have contributed books, essential items, pillowcases and time in order to make the project a success. In May 2022, Muirland donated a total of 76 book bags to the Hillsboro Food and the Baraboo Food Pantries. This year, Muirland Literacy Council will donate book bags to the Wisconsin Dells and Mauston Food Pantries.



DONATIONS: Will you join us on our quest to collect items to donate as a part of our book bag project? Please consider donating an item or two during any of our meetings or feel free to contact us and we could make arrangements to pick donations up.

Muirland Community Book Bag Project Wish List of Items

Cake mix

Cake frosting

Birthday candles

Toothpaste

Toothbrushes

New or gently used books



Birthday Bags



Barboo Food Pantry



Bedtime Bags

WSRA 2023 CONFERENCE

WSRA's 2023 Conference, *Listening to our past, Embracing our present, Speaking to our future*, will occur Feb 9-11 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee. This year, the keynote speakers will include, Carol Lee, Decoteau Irby and Nawal Qarooni.

To find out more about the conference, please check out the [conference information link](#). There will be an online version of the conference brochure coming soon as well.

If you decide to join us at the 2023 conference, do you want to earn some money for your local reading council? If you fill out the form to volunteer you earn \$10 for your council.

There are links for registration as well as volunteering to introduce speakers. If you introduce speakers, or help out at the registration desk, Muirland will receive money to support bringing in speakers or our community service projects.

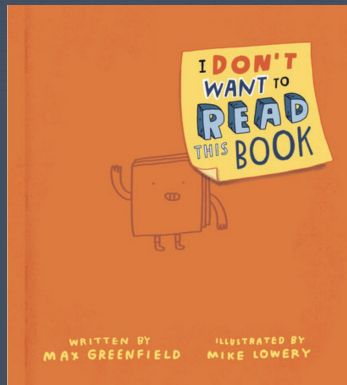
Register at wsra.org #wsra2023 \$100 off Early Bird Registration



Elementary Book Recommendations

Forest by Brendan Kearney

Fisherman Finn and his dog, Skip, are out enjoying the beautiful rainforests of central America, when they discover that a lot of the trees seem to be missing. The next morning, they wake up to find several animals in their camp looking for food. Finn and Skip start to wonder what is going on and set off to uncover the truth. This lighthearted story with an important message is a wonderful introduction for little readers on the devastating effects of deforestation and how they can work to protect the environment around them.



I Don't Want to READ this Book by Max Greenfield

A reluctant reader sets out to read a book; the only problem is that the reader (who is the story's narrator) DOES NOT want to read the book. Why read a book when you already know what's going to happen? You could eat cake instead. Or watch YouTube. Or do both at the same time. Filled with punchy typography and zany graphics, this humorous book is ideal for enthusiastic and hesitant readers alike.



UPPER ELEMENTARY 3-5 BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

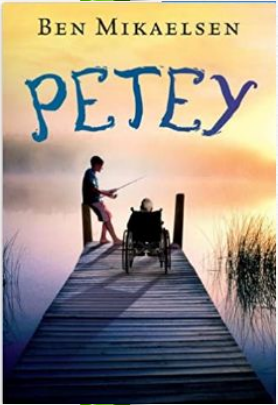
The Vanderbeekers to the Rescue by Karina Yan Glaser

Mama receives exciting news! Perch Magazine wants to feature her bakery business. However, an unexpected visit from the city inspector threatens to dismantle everything Mama has worked to build! The five Vanderbeeker children whose ages range from 6 to 13, band together to save their mother's bakery business. This endearing story is sure to give readers a glimpse of urban life in Harlem and entertain them with the family's antics and adventures.



Petey by Ben Mikaelson

In Bozeman, Montana on a spring day, wet snow covers the ground. Kids are walking home from school, playfully tossing slushy snowballs at each other. An unusual squealing sound pierces the air. Petey Corbin, an older man in a wheelchair, curls up in order to shield himself from the snowball attack. Petey was born with severe cerebral palsy and is unable to speak clearly or protect himself. Trevor Ladd, an eighth grader commands the bullies to stop while shielding Petey with his body. The eighth grade boys proceed to pelt Trevor with snow. Just as the boys rush off, a nurse demands Trevor to get away from Petey. Trevor explains the situation to the unconvinced nurse. An unlikely friendship develops between Petey and Trevor. This story provides valuable lessons to foster empathy and compassion for others.



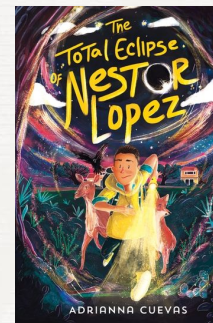
MIDDLE SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Finding Junie Kim is a combination of realistic and historical fiction. Present-day themes of growing up, friendship, and discrimination are interwoven with stories of survival during the Korean War. Junie's school is struck with racist graffiti and Junie herself deals with a racist bully on a daily basis. When she begins to interview her grandparents for a school project, she learns of the strength her family needed during the war and it helps her find her voice in the present day. (released on 5/21)



Mascot is a realistic fiction book about moving forward. Noah survives a car crash that kills his father but his injuries require the use of a wheelchair. He used to be known for baseball and now he isn't sure what his identity is. He's mad about his lack of control over his current situation, but it isn't until his friends and neighbors recruit him to help them out that he realizes the power that he still has. (released 9/18)

The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez is a fantasy novel with themes of helpfulness and trust. Nestor has the ability to speak to animals, but he tries desperately to keep this to himself and fit in as he moves around the country with his military family. With his dad on deployment he doesn't want to give his mother anything more to worry about. The family's latest move is to live with Nestor's grandmother, in his dad's childhood home. When strange things start happening to the local animals and his grandmother comes under suspicion, Nestor must decide whether he can trust his friends and share his secret to save the day. (released 5/20)



HIGH SCHOOL & ADULT BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

The Firekeeper's Daughter - Angeline Boulley

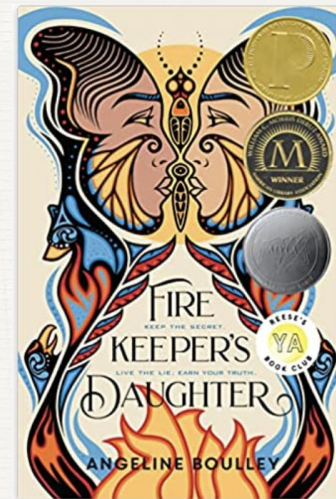
This YA book is one of the best I've read in a bit. It's a lengthy read, but well worth the time. I read this book as an audiobook and thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it.

The book follows an 18 year-old girl named Daunis. Daunis lives in two cultures. Her mother is white and comes from a very wealthy family. Daunis's dad was Native American, and although he has passed, Daunis spends a significant amount of time with her aunt and other Native American members of her tribe.

Both her tribal community and the non-tribal community are struggling with the effects of the production and sale of Meth in their community. In fact, Daunis's uncle, her mother's brother, has recently passed away of an apparent overdose.

Daunis is approached by the FBI to become a confidential informant to try to end the hold that meth has on their community.

This book is part romance, part mystery, and part exploration of Native American culture. You will leave this story having learned so many things about Native American culture; it will definitely show you many things you didn't know before.





Shifting the Balance

6 Ways to Bring the Science of Reading into the Balanced Literacy Classroom

In this leading-edge book, authors Jan Burkins and Kari Yates address the tension around how to teach young children to read. They offer a critical opportunity to look closely at the research, reevaluate current practices, and embrace new possibilities for an even stronger enactment of balanced literacy in light of this research.

From phonological processing to brain research to orthographic mapping to self-teaching hypothesis, *Shifting the Balance* cuts through the rhetoric to offer readers a practical guide to decision-making. The authors honor the balanced literacy perspective while highlighting common practices to reconsider and revise while keeping what's best for students at the forefront.

EVENTS AROUND THE SOUTHWEST ZONE



January 19, 2023

Muirland - Trivia and Treats 5:00-7:00
Come join your fellow educators for a night
of stress free camaraderie.

Lake Delton

Monks Restuarant
33 Hillman Road



March 2, 2023

Lauren from UWW Diverse Books

TBD Possibly Goodman



March 4, 2023

SKMRC - Interpretive Reading Contest
Council Competition



April 20, 2023

SKMRC - What's New in Children's
Literature With Mary Lou Manske

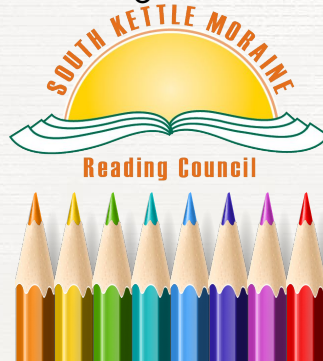
Waunakee



TBA

SKMRC - Book Tasting

East Elementary



Thanks!



Any questions?

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