

THE WORD ON

Washington State Literacy Association Newsletter

June 2018

What WaSLA has Given Me

Well over a decade ago, I attended my very first WaSLA (then WORD) Membership meeting. I am not going to lie...I was out of my comfort zone. I remember the current president at the time going on about all these literacy gurus: Kelly Gallagher, Smokey Daniels, Nancie Atwell, Ellin Oliver Keene, and the list continued. I had no idea who these people were and even more perplexing was how in the world these teachers had time to read professional development books. I was barely keeping my head above water in my sixth grade classroom.

Then it happened, I got involved in Snohomish Reading Council and I was hooked. I loved getting together with teachers from all over my county to talk literacy and learn so many useful strategies. After a long day, week, or even month, I could attend an event and rejuvenate my passion for learning. I then got involved at the state level and it has truly changed my life as a teacher.

Never in a million years did I think I would not only be meeting Donalyn Miller, my reading idol, but actually conversing in a car with her from the airport. Nor did I ever think that I would attend the ILA Conference in Boston, St. Louis, and this summer, Houston. Being on WaSLA's board has made this a reality for me. I have had the opportunity to not only meet these literacy legends, but I have been their students and learned from them that directly which keeps thirsty for more.

Thank you to all our members who have supported us over the years. It has been an honor to lead this group for the past two years. I urge you to get involved in your local council. The load is much easier to carry with many hands and many local councils, as well as our state board, are struggling to find people to take lend that helping literacy hand to keep the opportunities coming to you. You won't regret it!

Thank you again for joining us on so many journeys over the years. We hope to continue to provide relevant, meaningful events but we need you to volunteer to help us out. Better yet, grab a colleague or two and bring them along for the ride. Who knows where you might end up around the country! If you would like to know how to get involved, email me at waslaliteracy@gmail.com.

With Appreciation,

Alysia White



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So Little Time, So Many Books

At our end-of-the-year Membership Meeting, our members shared a book that is on their summer reading list. There is such a variety of books shown here. Which book catches your eye? Maybe two?



Free Admission to Fall Conference!

WaSLA is looking for educators from around the state who would like to share their love of literacy at our Fall Conference with Pernille Ripp on November 3, 2018. If your session is chosen, you receive free admission to the conference! The break out session is one hour long. If you are interested in filling out a submission form, it is attached to this email. If you have questions, email Lois at lec2910@comcast.net.

Membership Renewal for 2018-2019 is now available! Benefits to joining:

- **Access to events all over the state**
- **Discounted price to Fall Conference**
- **Access to this year's Virtual Book Club**
- **Evidence for TPEP Evaluation-Criterion 8**
- **Leadership opportunities in local councils for those working on National Boards or Master's Degree**
- **Networking with educators from all over the state**

Renew your membership now by clicking [here](#).





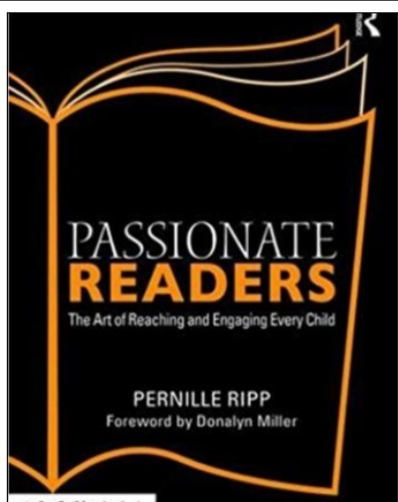
WaSLA invites you to attend
"Building a Literate World"

**Keynote-Passionate Readers Prevail
with Pernille Ripp**

Based on the book *Passionate Readers: The Art of Reaching and Engaging Every Child*, seventh grade teacher Pernille Ripp will help you re-discover the keys of creating a community of readers, no matter the constricts facing your time. Focusing on teacher reading identity, classroom environment and library, as well as student reading identity, this is a session sure to inspire. -From Pernille's website pernillesripp.com



November 3, 2018 8:00am—3:15pm
Evergreen Middle School in Everett, WA



Conference Registration:

WaSLA Members: \$75

Associate WaSLA Members: \$45

Everett SD WaSLA Members: \$65

Non-Members: \$130

Clock hours & Lunch will be available for purchase too!

Registration opens on July 1st!!
www.signmeup.com/pernilleripp
Find us on Facebook or at washingtonliteracy.org

Registration has opened early! [Click here to sign up.](http://www.signmeup.com/pernilleripp)



The following WaSLA members won a \$50 Easy Grant to spend in their class-room next year!

Shana H.

Tracy S.

Amy R.

Carmen B.

Donna R.

Andrea R.

Jarucia J.

Riley F.

Carlie S.

Jenna L.

Paula H.



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