

October 2018

President's Message

Carol Paul

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/mrj>

Recommended Citation

Paul, Carol (2018) "President's Message," *Michigan Reading Journal*: Vol. 51 : Iss. 1 , Article 3.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/mrj/vol51/iss1/3>

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Michigan Reading Journal by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gvsu.edu.

President's Message...

by Carol Paul, MRA President 2018-2019

The fall issue of the *Michigan Reading Journal* is the indication that a new school year is upon us. Each year, teachers arrange classrooms for new students; they plan lessons, pace curriculum, and review class lists. Teachers organize their personal, professional, and classroom libraries in preparation for a fresh start. We, at the Michigan Reading Association, are also preparing for new beginnings. In the fall 2017 edition of the *Michigan Reading Journal*, Elizabeth Gates announced, "Michigan Reading Association is changing its relationship with the International Literacy Association as ILA undergoes transformation." She further explained, "We plan to apply for our own nonprofit 501(c)(3) status..."



Carol Paul

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year the organization worked diligently under the direction of past President, Elizabeth Gates and is in the process of becoming its own 501(c)(3), while maintaining a limited affiliation with the International Literacy Association. Being a 501(c)(3) organization means that the Michigan Reading Association has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt, charitable organization. The MRA has always maintained the standing of being a nonprofit organization due to our articles of incorporation. Please, be assured that this change in status will not effect you negatively. Your membership, the Annual Conference, the *Michigan Reading Journal*, and other provided supports will not change. In fact, you may see some enhancements and benefits to your membership! One exciting result of our 501(c)(3) status is the expansion of our competitive grant program to Michigan-based organizations and individual classroom teachers. In the past, individual educators could not apply for the Michigan Reading Association's competitive grants, however with our new status, this is a possibility!

Overall, the Michigan Reading Association's journey to obtain 501(c)(3) status has uncovered opportunities and created new beginnings. As the 2018-2019 president, I am looking forward to staying true to the mission, vision, and strategic plan of the literacy association, all while embracing transformation.

Happy Reading!

Carol Paul, *MRA President 2018-2019*

Carol Paul is the 2018-2019 president of the Michigan Reading Association. Carol is a MI Excel ELA Coach. As an English Language Arts Coach, she primarily works with Educational Improvement teams to enhance instructional practices, provide professional development and instructional coaching to staff with the goal of raising student achievement. Mrs. Paul is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University (B.S.), University of Michigan-Dearborn (M.A.), and Wayne State University (Ed.S). She is currently enrolled at Capella University seeking a Doctorate of Philosophy in Education, specializing in curriculum and instruction. She can be reached at capaul0813@gmail.com.