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From the President

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From the President

by Jerri Hansen

The Michigan Reading Association is a growing organization of over 4,000 members. Its innovative and vital work has inspired educators in Michigan to become informed and involved. For many years, Michigan has been a leader in the field of reading. MRA continues to strive to improve the quality of reading instruction and to promote programs which help develop lifetime reading habits. We are committed to encouraging reading research, reading instruction, reading interest and enjoyment. As the State Council, Michigan Reading Association coordinates and assists local and special interest councils with stipends, conferences, seminars, workshops and publications.

The Michigan Reading Association's Board of Directors have thoughtfully reviewed the Report of the Evaluation Committee, 1988 Membership Survey. These are important to members:

1. Legislative issues
2. Professional standards
3. Secondary reading
4. Teacher training
5. Elementary reading

The Association has made plans to address these issues in several ways this year. A legislative reception gives the MRA Board an opportunity to meet legislators and to discuss issues with them; "Standards in Reading," a new publication, has been mailed to school districts, ISD's, legislators, and others; the Secondary Reading Committee

is evaluating the last position paper written on Secondary Reading to determine needed revisions: Teacher training institutions have discussed curriculum changes as our committees continue to work together cooperatively; and finally, information in all areas of elementary reading -- philosophy, research, strategies, general knowledge, will continue to be provided to members in new materials and at the annual conference.

The Reading/Writing Connection is a committee new to MRA this year, as is the committee for Compensatory Education. Adult Education has become a part of the Secondary Reading Committee, and we have added a Special Interest Council Liaison person to develop an effective and supportive relationship with other professional organizations.

I look forward to assuming the duties and challenges of the President of the Michigan Reading Association, 1988-89. I also need your support and involvement so that this, too, can be another outstanding year for Reading in Michigan.

