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President's Message...

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Michigan Reading Association

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President's Message...

by **Liz Lietz, MRA President**

Another school year brings fresh opportunities to learn, for students and educators alike. Our school communities are rich with possibilities to share new strategies, as well as time-tested techniques.

This year's conference theme, "Read it In, Write it Out," reminds me to pay close attention to how literacy learning is happening in my environment.

At home, I am delighted to ask my children what they are reading. A trip to our local library gets us talking about books we've enjoyed, and which books we might love next. Stacks of books on bedside tables hold potential for great conversations between me and my family.

Professionally, I schedule time to read the latest issues of professional journals to which I subscribe. Colleagues recommend books or podcasts, and I add them to my list! I feel I am in good company with you, readers, when I say I'm not sure I'll ever get to the end of this list; I continue to marvel at how life seems to bring the right article across my path at just the right time. Connecting to this research, literature, and conversation challenges my thinking and grows my skills.

A personal goal I set for this year is to make sure I share my own learning with my communities. For me, this looks like submitting a proposal for the MRA spring conference or drafting an article to submit to the *Michigan Reading Journal*. When we share our collective understanding, we can only become stronger as a community of literacy educators.

This year, I challenge MRA's members to also set aside some time to nourish your own curiosity, learning more about your own literacy practices, and sharing what you discover with both your personal and professional circles.

I look forward to a year of learning together!

Liz Lietz
MRA President



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