

The CRA Outstanding Reading Educator Award recognizes an individual who holds certification in reading and demonstrates leadership by keeping well-informed of and promoting new developments in curriculum, instruction and research. The individual demonstrates a contribution to the profession characterized by exceptional service at the school, local or state level.

***This award is presented to Dr. Andrea Ricci,
Primary Literacy Consultant at Deep River Elementary School.***

Andrea was nominated by Angela Hruska, Kindergarten teacher at Deep River.

It is with my highest recommendation that I nominate Dr. Andrea Ricci for the CRA Outstanding Reading Educator Award. For the past three years, Dr. Ricci has been the Primary Literacy Consultant at the Deep River Elementary School. She has not only received her Master's, and 6th year, but has currently received a Doctorate Degree. From the first day Dr. Ricci joined the DRES community, she was a team player. Daily, she goes out of her way to help teachers, staff, and student. Dr. Ricci does this selflessly, and with her whole heart. She truly loves her job, and wants to see children succeed. She is organized, efficient, and professional. She takes her job seriously, and works well with all members of the school team. She is respected by both students and staff.

Dr. Ricci is a wealth of information. She is continuously researching lessons, anchor charts, and student responses to share with teachers. She not only makes these accessible on the Google drive, but prints out color copies for each team member. She is familiar with the workshop model, and shares lessons with teachers which support this model. Dr. Ricci also uses her knowledge from the Teacher's College and Lucy Calkin's Units to support both teachers and students. She integrates anchor charts and lessons into her small groups, and provides teachers with resources to implement the lessons in their classrooms.

For example, for our school's Read Across America week, Dr. Ricci organized activities for students to complete each day. She planned literacy centers for students during their library time related to Dr. Seuss. Each student was given a Cat in the Hat hat, and a map of the activities in the library. The library was transformed into Seussville for the students to get the full experience. She provided teachers with activities to incorporate high frequency words, rhyming, and story elements to support the Dr. Seuss books. All materials were clearly labeled and presented in an eye-catching basket. Dr. Ricci went out (using her own money) to buy books and prizes for a culminating activity for Read Across America week. Dr. Ricci is also an important player in the Kindergarten Parent night. She creates organized, eye-catching, and informative packets for incoming kindergarten families and presents with the team at the information night. This gives new families a positive experience from the very beginning. She also shares about the Literacy program during our kindergarten visits, educating the families about what Reading and Writing look like at DRES.

Furthermore, Dr. Ricci provides small group and individual lessons to both Tier II and Tier III students. She supports teachers in classrooms, and assists students with writing lessons. Dr. Ricci meets with teachers monthly both as a team and individually to assess student needs.

Additionally, Dr. Ricci has given districtwide Professional Development to both teachers and paraeducators. She makes sure all teachers have the resources necessary to implement the program with fidelity. Her staff development is focused on student success and engagement. The resources she shares can be implemented the following day, and are engaging, enriching, and appropriate for young learners.

Each day Dr. Ricci comes to school early, tirelessly preparing for her own lessons and sharing materials with teachers. She always has a smile on her face, and is there to help anyone in need whether it be with an educational resource, or helping a teacher who is out unexpectedly. Dr. Ricci is an asset to the DRES faculty, staff, students, and

school community. She is a talented professional who sees the whole picture. She takes on all tasks with her full effort and dedication. She is a phenomenal team member, who has contributed not only to the professional learning at DRES, but the overall morale. Her knowledge of literacy and teaching, compassionate nature, and dedication not only make her a standout educator, but a remarkable person.

Please congratulate Dr. Andrea Ricci, recipient of the **CRA Outstanding Reading Educator Award!**