



Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin

Promoting, providing, and developing literacy opportunities to serve children, adults, and their families in Northern Wisconsin.

What we do:

- Provide tutoring for struggling children and adults
- Train reading tutors using scientifically research-based methods
- Utilize explicit, systematic, multi-sensory strategies
- Give talks about literacy to area agencies, organizations, and schools
- Raise money for training scholarships and resource materials for parents and teachers

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From the President's Desk

Dear Friends of Literacy,

What a summer we're having! It's been

perfect weather for curling up with a good book in a hammock, on a boat, on a lawn chair or wherever. But what if that wasn't possible because the words were too difficult to read or if reading was just too frustrating to be fun? That is where the Literacy Task Force comes in.

The Task Force has been offering literacy training through Nicolet College to individuals who want to learn or improve their skills in teaching reading since 2005. Over 150 individuals have been trained who have in turn gone on to tutor/teach struggling readers in a structured, systematic, multi sensory approach to reading.

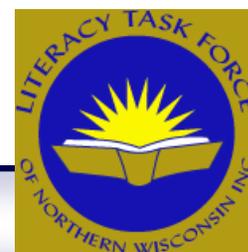
The Literacy Task Force is a non-profit organization that is totally run by volunteers. Therefore, we are dependent on the generosity of organizations and individuals like yourself to keep us going.

Please consider donating to our organization so that we may continue the important work of helping those children and adults.

Please see the attached donation/membership form or go on line to www.literacytaskforce.org

With warm regards,

Peggy Steber, President
Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin,



Twitter: @LiteracyMission

Check us out on the Web!
www.literacytaskforce.org



Prestigious Kohl Award Recipient

The Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping families and individuals in northern Wisconsin who struggle with reading and spelling. We are parents, educators and concerned citizens. We partner with the Wisconsin Branch of International Dyslexia Association (WIBIDA), Wisconsin Literacy, Inc., American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Nicolet Area Technical College.

Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin

PO BOX 574
Minocqua, WI 54548
(715) 277-2019
www.literacytaskforce.org
Twitter: @LiteracyMission

We work closely with the Wisconsin Branch of the International Dyslexia Association in promoting awareness of dyslexia and related difficulties.

The Task Force is a member of Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. a state-wide Coalition that supports volunteer adult and family literacy services.

Donna Hejtmanek, past president of the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin (2008-2011) was recently awarded the Herb Kohl Education Fellowship for 2016. Donna is currently employed by the Northland Pines School District and is the reading specialist at St. Germain Elementary School.

Each year, 100 educators are chosen for this prestigious award. The fellowships are awarded based on the teacher's superior ability to inspire love of learning in students, ability to move others, and leadership and service within and outside of the classroom.

Each recipient received a \$3,000 fellowship and the recipient's school received a matching \$3,000 grant. These awards also place educators in the



running for the Teacher of the Year Awards.

Congratulations to Donna and St. Germain Elementary School.

OPEN MEETING

Thursday, October 6, 2017—5:30

All are welcome to attend the Annual Open Meeting with discussion around our *Books on the Bus* project.

A light meal being provided free of charge.



The Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin relies solely upon donations to support literacy needs in northern Wisconsin. Your \$20 per person membership and other donations are used for workshops and presentations, informational literature, tutor training scholarships, tutoring materials and to support operating expenses for the organization. See website for more information.

Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin Board of Directors

PRESIDENTIAL TEAM

President

Peggy Steber

Peggy is a retired school counselor after twenty-eight years at MHLT Elementary School, Minocqua. She taught third, fourth, and fifth grades in West Allis and Menomonie, Wisconsin. Peggy taught Title I reading for seven years in corrections at Lincoln Hills School in Irma, Wisconsin. Peggy completed Orton Gillingham training in Duluth, Minnesota in 1977 and again at Nicolet College in 2005. She received a BS in School Counseling from UW-Stout. Then Peggy worked part time for Nicolet College as a GED/HSED tester.
(H) 715-277-2019 (C)715-367-2090 ste@newnorth.net

Secretary

Karen Demers

Karen graduated from UW-Madison with a BS in Elementary Education and taught middle school reading, language arts, and social studies before moving to the Northwoods. More recently she has taught general and physical sciences and anatomy, grammar, and writing in area schools. She privately tutors four students. Karen was a participant in the 2015 literacy training course and currently works part-time in the Lac du Flambeau school district as a substitute teacher and learning interventionist.

Treasurer

Connie Hicks

Connie is the Applied Technology instructor at Gogebic Community College where she also teaches developmental English and math. She has a degrees in Technical Accounting from Nicolet; a BS in Natural Science from Northland College, and Masters of Science and Mathematics with computer emphasis from the University of Wisconsin, River Falls. Connie completed both the beginning and advanced level literacy trainings in 2007. (W) 906-932-4231; (H) 715-762-3574; email (school year only): connie.hicks@gogebic.edu

BOARD MEMBERS

Julie Hagstrom

Julie is an [adult basic education](#) instructor with Academic Success at Nicolet Area Technical College as well as the site coordinator for UW-Madison's Information Technology Academy-Tribal Technology Institute program in Lac du Flambeau. She has tutored students in Nicolet's Disability Support Services program and has been a [private tutor](#) for children and adults. Formerly a research technician at the Forestry Sciences Lab in Rhinelander, Julie holds a [degree in](#) Bacteriology from UW-Madison. She took the literacy training course in 2009.
julie17@frontiernet.net



Holly Dionne

Holly is a recent retiree from the Verona Area Public Schools where she served 22 years as a high school English teacher, resource and testing coordinator, and reading specialist. She worked extensively with curriculum development and innovative programming for striving readers, grades 9-12. Disciplinary literacy and text-based comprehension strategies continue to be key areas of interest for her. Holly holds BS and MA degrees from UW-Stevens Point and completed her reading teacher and specialist training through Viterbo University. She has spent the last ten years as an instructor and graduate research advisor for K-12 reading teacher and specialist candidates at Cardinal Stritch University. (H) 715-356-2863
holly.dionne@gmail.com

Jan Evans

Jan is a retired teacher of students with learning disabilities and a member of the Wisconsin Branch of The International Dyslexia Association for many years. She has tutored students and trained in O/G, Project Read, Lindamood Bell, and Wilson overview. Jan has two years of service as a master teacher for the Literacy Task Force. 715-385-2318 (summer); 608-868-3695 (winter); davejanevans@gmail.com

Carol Lorbetske

Carol is a retired elementary school teacher from the Three Lakes School District. She completed the literacy training course in 2010. In the past she has tutored both children and adults. She volunteers reading help to elementary school children.

Bonnie Margitan

Bonnie is a retired elementary teacher from MHLT Elementary School in Minocqua. She completed the beginning level literacy training in 2005, the advanced level training in 2007, and tutors students in the Minocqua area. In April '06 Bonnie was hired under grant monies to assist with the coordination of the task force, with a primary focus on training/services for adults.
(H) 715-356-6889 bmargitan@gmail.com

Bob Steber

Bob is a recently retired faculty member and case manager for Nicolet Area Technical College's Disability Student Services. Bob has worked as a transition specialist for high school students with disabilities for over twenty-four years.
715-277-2019 ste@newnorth.net

Community-Based Organization Representatives

Kathleen Marshall

Kathleen is the Rhinelander-Northwoods Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) representative on the Task Force. AAUW helps with fundraising for the Task Force. (H) 715-277-2664
kathleenamars@gmail.com

Lisa Young

Community-based organization from Nicolet Area Technical College (NATC).



Health Literacy - Let's Talk Medicines

Upcoming Meetings

LOCATION:
Minocqua Public Library

TIME:
5:30 PM

World Dyslexia Day
October 6, 2016
THURSDAY

January 5, 2017
THURSDAY



This summer, Connie Hicks, treasurer of the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin presented the "Let's Talk Medicines"

program to senior citizen groups in northern Wisconsin.

The program, developed by Wisconsin Health Literacy and supported by Se-

curity Health Plan, focuses on helping people read and understand their prescription labels properly.

This Health Literacy informational presentation, has been favorably received and appreciated by groups throughout Wisconsin.

If you'd like more information on bringing this presentation or its information to your group, please contact Connie through the Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin.

Eagle River Elementary Recognized for High Reading Achievement Growth

This past school year, Eagle River Elementary School within the Northland Pines School District, was identified as one of 18 schools in the state that has demonstrated high reading achievement growth for students with disabilities. The Department of Public Instruction conducted a rigorous review of data, based on numerous statistical, geographic and demographic factors.

As a result of this recognition, Sara Adamovich, former Vice Present of the Literacy Task Force and Special Education Teacher of students with Learning Disabilities, and regular education 1st and 2nd grade looping teacher, Jessica Adamovich, were invited to participate as members of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's *Promising Practices Workgroup*.

Both teachers were chosen to become members of

the workgroup because of their contributions that have had an impact on increasing outcomes in reading achievement for students with disabilities. The workgroup was formed in direct response to requests from stakeholders regarding the identification of improvement strategies that could support improvement of literacy outcomes for students with disabilities.

The *Promising Practices Workgroup*, aligned with Dr. Tony Evers' College and Career Readiness and Agenda 2017, examined and recommended examples of practices/strategies to increase literacy outcomes for students with disabilities; developed resources for Wisconsin educators working to increase literacy outcomes for students with disabilities; and contributed to final resources highlighting promising practices that will be shared statewide.

Summer Training Highlights with Tammy Tillotson

The Task Force was pleased to have doctoral candidate Tammy Tillotson, a reading specialist with the Children's Dyslexia Center of Upper Wisconsin in Eau Claire and the president of the International Dyslexia Association Wisconsin



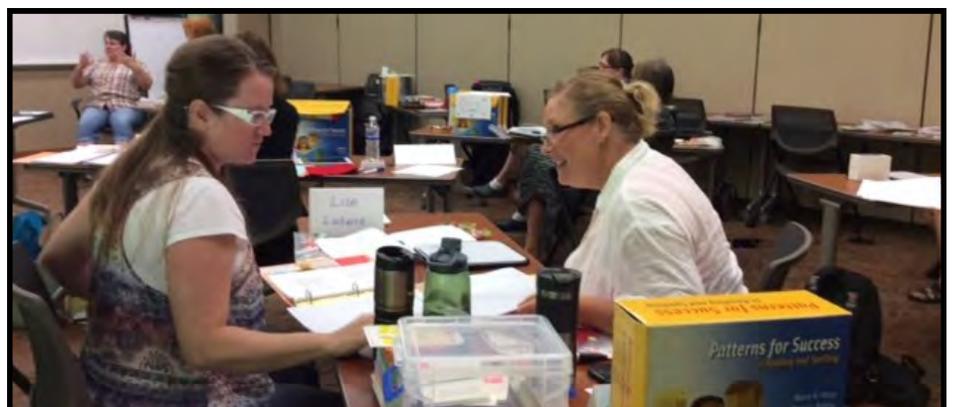
Branch for our instructor this year. Her background and expertise proved to be a good combination for a very successful *Introductory Literacy Training* which was held July 25th-28th at Nicolet College in the Northwoods Center.

We had 13 participants with varying backgrounds. Some of them were in education and some were not. The combination made for a very exuberant and enthusiastic class. Tammy used a lot of the time with hands-on activities and preparation of lessons, which was much appreciated by the students. The *Patterns for Success in Reading and Spelling* by Dr. Marcia Henry was used for the teaching kit allowing all those who participated to be able to leave the class feeling comfortable using the kit to help struggling readers and spellers in whatever setting they were to be used.

Thanks to your financial commitment for this year we were able to offer this course at the very af-

fordable rate of \$125 plus materials. People over 62 years of age could take the course for \$47.96. And if you needed 2 college credits you could get them for an additional \$220.

Your donations definitely made a difference. Thank you so much.





Tutoring Success Story

I have 4 children that receive tutoring once a week through a reading tutor from the Literacy Task Force. I have been very pleased with the results of the tutoring! My children look forward to their time with Karen and each have gained a new confidence in their reading skills.

All of the children, ages 9, 11, 13 & 14, have made great improvements in reading fluency, decoding skills and reading comprehension. I appreciate the personal approach and the one-on-one instruction time.

Each of my children were asked about their tutoring experience. Here are their replies:

- *"I can read so much faster now."*
- *"I understand what I'm reading better."*
- *"I like reading the books together and the silent e is fun."*
- *"The white board helped me spell words too."*



Before tutoring began, each child was evaluated to see what level he/she was at and areas of struggles were identified. The reading program Karen used incorporated different approaches using hands on activities too. As a family, we would also check out books from our library during the week. I am very happy that my children have had such a positive experience and we hope to continue with the tutoring program in the future!

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month

Ways to Raise Dyslexia Awareness in October:

- Change your social media profile picture: <http://twibbon.com/Support/dyslexia-awareness-month-2>
- Print dyslexia fact sheets for your school, library or other public space
- Share Dyslexia Facts
- Attend a Dyslexia Awareness Event
- Wear **RED** on October 6, 2016—World Dyslexia Day
- Give Back—volunteer your time or money to an organization such as the Literacy Task Force

Fundraising Fun



Once again the Literacy Task Force had two brat sales for fund raisers at Trig's grocery store and at the suggestion of Kathleen Marshall (coordinator) we added bakery for a donation and made considerably more money.



Both days were successful and fun for all who participated. It's always good to spread the word about our mission for the community.



ANNUAL DONATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM

September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017

WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF THE LITERACY TASK FORCE OF NORTHERN WISCONSIN? The Literacy Task Force promotes, provides, and develops literacy opportunities to serve children, adults, and their families in North Central Wisconsin. Your annual \$20 membership (per person) is used to provide literacy instruction and support operating expenses, such as copying materials for workshops and presentations, mailings, and purchasing supplies for the organization.

Name:	Phone:
Mailing Address:	Cell Phone:
City, State, Zip:	Email:

Check categories that best describe your interest in/relationship with the Task Force:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of child in Tutoring Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former Board Consultant | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of child interested in Tutoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of child who has received O/G |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prospective Board consultant | <input type="checkbox"/> Press Release Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prospective Tutor | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor, individual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop Master Teacher/Instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor, nonprofit organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor, church | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor, business | <input type="checkbox"/> School Contact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |
-

- Enclosed is my check for \$20.00 to join the Literacy Task Force.
- Enclosed is a donation towards scholarships and resource materials: \$_____

For PayPal donations/payment use our Web Site: www.literacytaskforce.org

Return this **ANNUAL DONATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM** in envelope to:

Literacy Tasks Force of Northern Wisconsin, P.O. Box 574, Minocqua, WI 54548



Literacy Task Force of Northern Wisconsin
PO Box 574
Minocqua, WI 54548

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