Forsyth County Reading Association Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2020 5:00 pm

Zoom Meeting due to COVID-19 Quarantine

FCRA President Sabrina Secrest called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm.

Sabrina welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Icebreaker: Members and guest (speaker Janie Bass) shared their favorite Thanksgiving side

dishes.

Secretary’s Report—Jeannie Evans

Membership Updates—Jeannie

As of this meeting, we have 22 members.

She encouraged members to invite their friends and colleagues to join FCRA and reminded

everyone about the two-step registration process.

20 in 2020 Professional Development Opportunities--Jeannie

NC Reading Association chapters across the state are offering virtual access to their speaker

presentations.

List of presentations being offered: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HksUMrOPcCTLxcurD72Oh1CWtARTziJm3FDGlJt8D0/edit?usp=sharing>

Treasurer’s Report—Laura Brock

Our starting balance for October was $853.71.

After paying the speaker honorarium and reimbursement for door prizes and receiving our

portion of dues money from NC Reading Association, our current balance is $938.71.

Sabrina reminded everyone about this year’s service projects.

Read Write Spell Book Donations

**We have three ways to donate books that ReadWS will put in the hands of**

**children in Forsyth County:**

1. Bring gently used children’s books to any of our in-person meetings.
2. Purchase books from ReadWS’s wish list at Bookmarks using this link: <https://www.bookmarksnc.org/wishlist/151>

In the notes, say that these books are a donation for ReadWS, and Bookmarks will make sure they get to them.

1. Purchase books from ReadWS’s wish list on Amazon using this link: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1C8K1YMXEPB6B/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex>

**Incentives for book donations:**

1. 1 extra door prize ticket per book purchased from online wish lists--must

complete [Google form](https://forms.gle/6T1eFeJciLXkkXXx6) for documentation

1. 1 extra door prize ticket for every 3 gently used books donated

Ronald McDonald House

Members can bring soda pop tabs for our in-person meetings.

Young Authors Project

Sabrina encouraged teachers that there was still time to get their students to submit entries.

Please contact her ([sabrinafsecrest@gmail.com](mailto:sabrinafsecrest@gmail.com) or [sfsecrest@wsfcs.k12.nc.us](mailto:sfsecrest@wsfcs.k12.nc.us)) if you can’t get

entries to her by November 20.

North Carolina Reading Conference this year will be online. Details will be coming soon.

Cheryl Key introduced Janie Bass, Redeemer School Roots Learning Resource Coordinator, as our speaker. Janie works with teachers and students at Redeemer to make sure students’ learning needs are being met and modifications are being implemented. She also works as a learning specialist at Reynolda House .

Janie shared a presentation about teaching reading comprehension, which is linked here: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_ctQqoFVM9aGMojjs8LsIFdlcs5L3WfMhE5T3GQeYLw/edit?usp=sharing>

**These are some of the highlights of Janie’s presentation:**

Reading = thinking

Literacyhow.org = a great resource for graphics, academic phrases to teach, and much more.

Comprehension is making meaning.

Comprehension requires metacognitive skills, vocabulary, background knowledge, and verbal

reasoning skills.

Comprehension is largely based on learning relationships between ideas—especially between

what is written on the page and other ideas.

It is very important to help students learn how to process texts even before they are fluent

readers themselves.

Can do this by reading aloud to them, providing audiobooks, and using technology like

Our Learning Ally (chunks words into phrases)

Can let students dictate their thoughts and summaries to a scribe

Teachers need to observe how their students construct thinking systems within their heads

and adjust instruction accordingly.

Comprehension involves the processes of thinking, talking, and writing

It’s important to think, talk, and write about reading before, during, and after doing it.

Reading Comprehension Instruction Cycle: Observe students, reflect on what you see, and

plan how to help them understand better.

Help students think within, beyond, and about the text they are reading by giving them tools for

doing this. Teaching these skills is a process that happens over time—not

instantly!

Thinking **within** text: Solve words, Monitor accuracy, Search for & use information,

Maintain fluency (phrasing, pausing, appropriate stress on words), Adjust reading as needed, and Summarize what was read.

Thinking **beyond** text: Predict (What might happen?), Infer (What does the writer mean

but has not explicitly stated?), Make connections (Connect the text to personal/world knowledge as well as other text)

Thinking **about** text: Analyze (Notice aspects of writer’s craft) and Critique (Think

critically about the text, ask questions—This is where making meaning

happens!)

Scarborough’s Rope graphic—reminds us that word recognition and language comprehension

are both essential for skilled reading.

Importance of Reading Comprehension

It helps foster a love of learning.

If you understand what you read, you are more apt to read🡪This opens the world for

students.

Sabrina drew two numbers to win $10 gift certificates.

John Brock and Laura Brock each won a $10 Teachers Pay Teachers gift certificate.

The gift certificates will be mailed to the winners.

We will not meet in December or January. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 18, 2021.

Tonnye Fletcher will be talking about ways to integrate music, art, and reading.

The meeting was adjourned at about 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jeannie Evans, Secretary