

Welcome to the 65th WVRA Conference

Back to Our Roots: Fill the Mountains with Literacy

Dear Conferees,

The West Virginia Reading Association (WVRA) began fifty-three years ago. Now in 2021, the Association is celebrating its 53rd year as the oldest professional organization in West Virginia committed to eradicating illiteracy in the Mountain State. In 1968, WVRA's key focus was improving reading instruction for all students. During these fifty-three years, since its founding, WVRA has evolved and made great strides to recognize student achievement in reading and provide professional development for all educators in reading.

Literacy is an all-encompassing term that includes reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students need high-quality instruction in all these areas to be successful in and out of the school environment. Reading and writing are parallel activities and best practices have revealed that teaching the two together is beneficial instructionally for students. Incorporating listening and speaking enhances the entire literacy experience for students.

In a time where students are easily over-stimulated with various technologies, the simplicity of enjoying the written and spoken word can often times be overlooked. West Virginia is known for its rich history of sharing traditions from one generation to the next through the basic processes of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Getting "back to our roots" in the classroom and teaching students through effective literacy instruction will ensure that our students will be successful in life. The keynotes, authors and concurrent workshop presenters are committed to providing exceptional professional development to help us fill the home, school, and the community with literacy.

During the 65th conference you will have an opportunity to find new ways of cultivating a love of reading. Enjoy the keynote speakers, presenters, authors and vendors during the conference. Students from around the state will be featured on Friday with a Literature Fair.

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Conference and WVRA Team



Connie Mundy
President



Dr. Shelly Ratliff
1st Vice-President
Conference Chair



Dr. Angie Curfman
2nd Vice-President



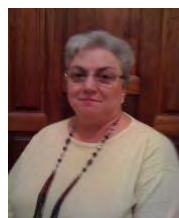
Jeannie Blake
Secretary



Brian Bailey
Membership



Kim Burris
Treasurer



Beverly Kingery
WVRA State Coordinator



Kathy Blue
Host/Hostesses



Francis Horton
Exhibits



Aleda Hileman
Registration



Moke Post
Finance Chair



Teresa Brown
Hospitality



Anna Holst
Evaluations



Samantha Murphy/
Leslie Baughman
Website & Technology



Jone Hersch
Governance



Bruce Neal
Executive Director



Tony Nichols
Strategic Planning



Dr. Mary Marockie
Publications



Tila Boyce
Past President

**West Virginia Reading Association
Local Council Presidents and Contacts
2021-2022**

Barbour County Reading Council – Connie Mundy, President

Brooke County Reading Council – Sharon Cuomo, President

Cabell County Reading Council – Anna Holst, President

Gilmer County – Dr. Shara Curry, Contact

Glenville State College Student Reading Group – Dr. Shelly Ratliff and Connie O’Dell, Advisors

Jefferson County Reading Council - AlvyceAne Moore, President

Marion County Reading Council – Amanda Cayton and Amy Merrill, Co-Presidents

Marshall County Literacy Council – Margaret Blake and Mary Kay Wensyel, Co-Presidents

Marshall University Reading Council – Dr. Stephanie Burdette, President

Mason County Reading Council – Racheal Bailey, President

Mercer County Reading Council – Melissa Boothe, President

Nicholas County Reading Council – Marcy Bragg

Pocahontas County Reading Council – Rebecca Spencer, President

Preston County Reading Council – Brian Bailey, President

West Liberty Student Literacy Group – Dr. Angela Curfman, Contact

Wood County Reading Council – Ashlee Beatty, President

Webster Highlander Reading Council – Kathy Chapman, President

Contact WVRA Coordinator, Beverly Kingery at bevkingery53@gmail.com for information about starting a local council or a group in higher education.

Conference Presiders

Special thanks to Dr. Angie Curfman, WVRA 2nd Vice-President, for securing these session presiders.

Melesa Swartz
Bruce Neal
Shalee Monroe
Jim Absten
Abby Bauer
Mackenzie Boone
Katie Beeman
Aleah Baker
Aubrey Williams
Leslie Markle
Sue Showers
Mary Kay Wensyel
Alyvceana Moore
Kathy Blue
Katie Garner
Nicole Ennis
Beverly Kingery
Kathy Chapman
Brian Bailey

Conference Hosts and Hostesses

Special thanks to Kathy Blue for securing hosts and hostesses.

Jeannie Blake
Alyve Ann Moore

Sue Sours
Kathy Blue

SCHEDULE

Thursday, November 18, 2021

7:30-3:00 Registration and Exhibit Hall
8:30-9:45 Opening Session-Laura Stewart
10:00-10:45 Concurrent Sessions
11:00-11:45 General Session-Lester Laminack
12:00-1:15 Author Luncheon-Anna Smucker
(*tickets required*)
1:30-2:30 General Session-Katie Garner
2:45-4:30 Featured Session-Katie Garner
2:45-4:30 Featured Session-Mike Lockett
7:00-8:00 Evening Story Telling-Mike Lockett

MY CONFERENCE PLANNER-THURSDAY

7:30-3:00 Registration
7:30-3:00 Exhibits and Networking
8:30-9:45 Keynote-Chesapeake Room
10:00-10:45 Session and Location _____
11:00-11:45 Keynote-Chesapeake Room
12:00-1:15 Lunch Plans _____
1:30-2:30 Keynote- Chesapeake Room
2:45-4:30 Featured (Garner)-Chesapeake Room
2:45-4:30 Featured (Lockett)-Governor's Hall
7:00-8:00 Story Telling (Lockett)-Exhibit Hall

SCHEDULE

Friday, November 19, 2021

7:30-1:30 Registration and Exhibit Hall
8:30-9:30 WVRA Awards
9:45-10:30 General Session-Erin Anderson
10:45-11:45 Concurrent Sessions
10:45-11:45 Featured Session-Appalachian Writers
12:00-1:15 Author Luncheon-Katherine Manley (*tickets required*)
1:30-2:15 Featured Session-Barbara Ornstein/Bill Bingman
1:30-2:15 Entertainment-GSC Jazz Band
2:30-3:30 General Session-Dr. Mike Lockett
3:45-4:30 Closing WVRA Delegates Assembly/Door Prizes

MY CONFERENCE PLANNER-FRIDAY

Friday, November 19, 2021

7:30-1:30 Registration
7:30-2:00 Exhibit Hall Open
8:00-8:30 Exhibits and Networking
8:30-9:30 WVRA Awards-Chesapeake Room
10:45-11:45 Session and Location _____
12:00-1:15 Lunch Plans _____
1:30-2:15 Featured Session (Ornstein/Bingman)-Chesapeake Room
1:30-2:15 Featured Session (Appalachian Writers)-Governor's Hall
1:30-2:15 Entertainment-GSC Jazz Band-Exhibit Hall
2:30-3:30 Keynote-Chesapeake Room
3:45-WVRA Delegates Assembly-Chesapeake Room

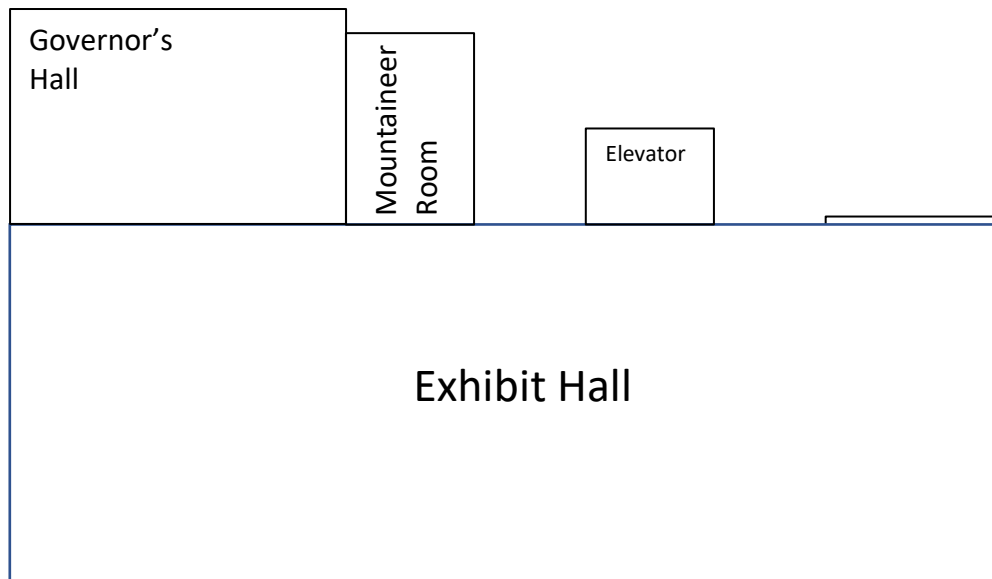
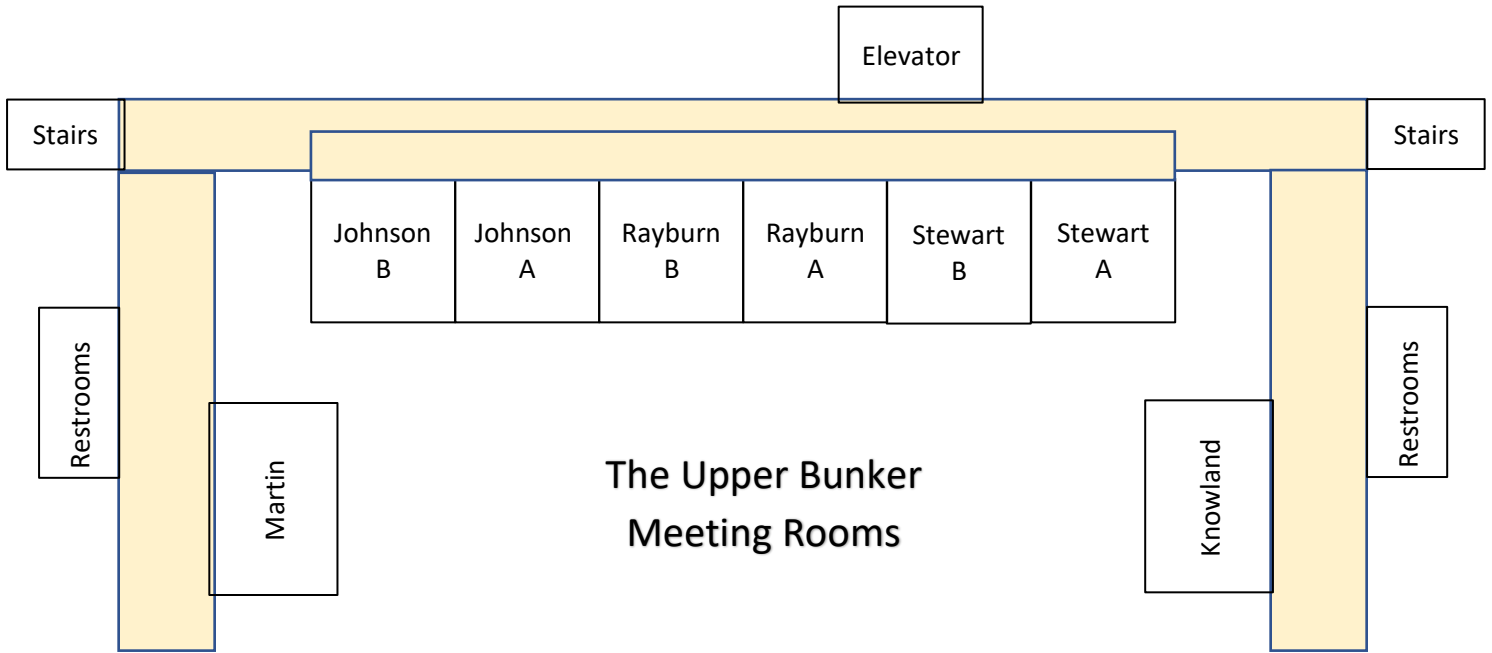
Written Directions to Meeting Rooms by Area

The meeting rooms are divided into three major areas: Upper Bunker Rooms, Bunker Level and Eisenhower Parlors.

<p>Upper Bunker Rooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowland• Martin• Stewart• Johnson• Rayburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take the elevator at the far side of the Exhibit Hall.
<p>Bunker Level Rooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exhibit Hall• Governor's Hall• Mountaineer Room• Culinary Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take the spiral staircase to the second floor or take the elevator. Push the E button.
<p>Eisenhower Parlor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eisenhower A• Eisenhower B• Eisenhower C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take the stairs down from the spiral staircase to the ground level (check in level) or take the elevator down to the ground level.

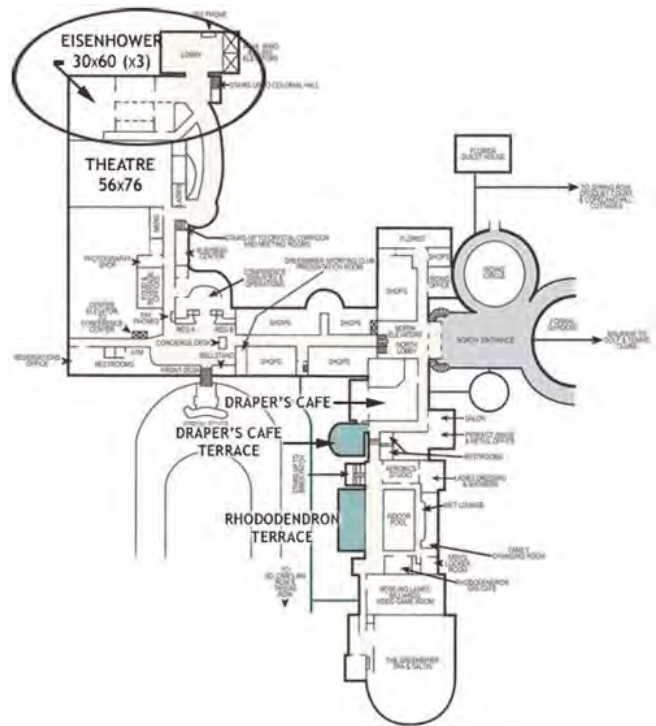
All Keynotes and general assemblies will be held in the Chesapeake Room located at the bottom of the spiral staircases. Author luncheons will be served in the Crystal Room located beside the Chesapeake Room.

Visual Directions-Floor Plan

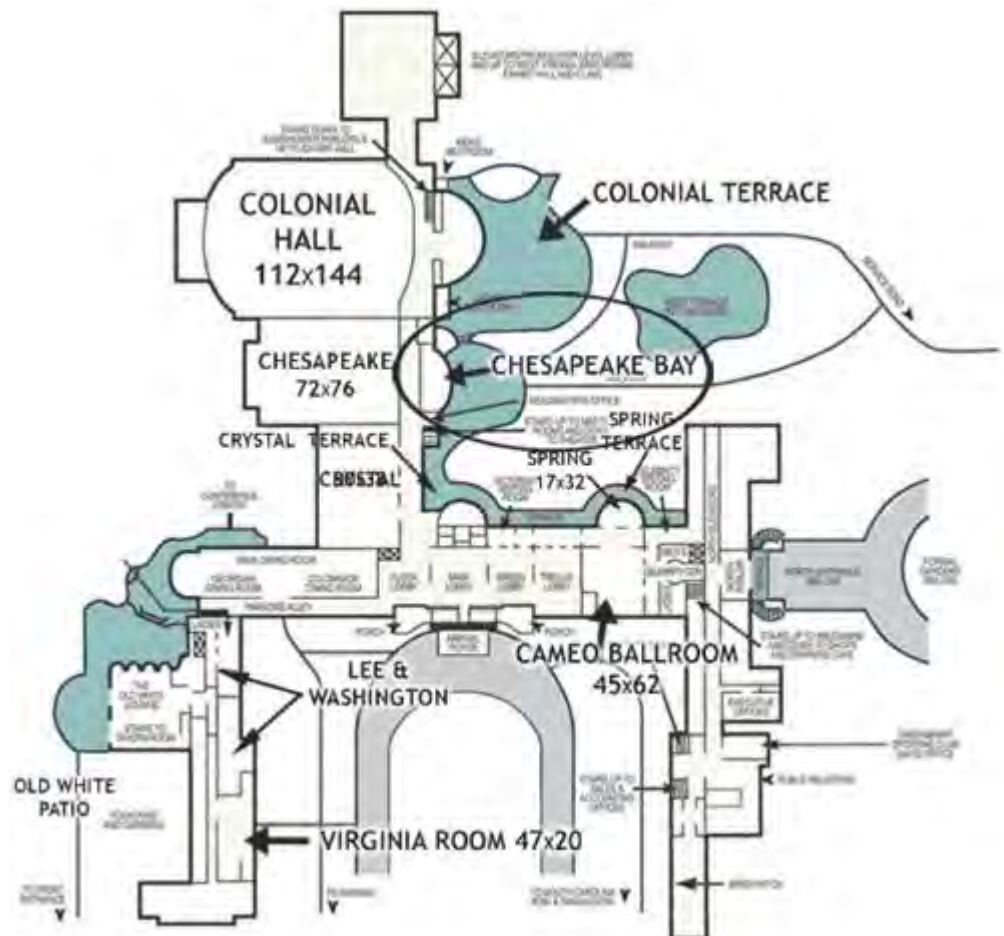


The Bunker Level

Eisenhower Rooms



Chesapeake and Crystal Rooms



Authors on Location

WVRA is honored to feature the following authors at the 2021 WVRA 65th Annual Conference. Please visit their tables in the Exhibit Hall to purchase signed copies or attend their sessions and workshops.

Marc Harshman

Anna Smucker

**Featured author for Thursday's Luncheon*

Ann Pancake

Carter Eaton

Tony Hylton

Katherine Manley

**Featured author for Friday's Luncheon*

Dr. Sabrina Runyon

Natalie Sypolt

Dr. Mike Lockett

**Ticket required for author luncheons*



The Exhibit Hall

Hours: Thursday: 7:30am-3:00pm and Friday 7:00am-2:00pm

Exhibitors

Zaner-Bloser
Four Dolphins Press
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
June Harless Center of Marshall
Amplify Education, Inc.
Renaissance
McGraw Hill
Saavas Learning Co.
Benchmark Education
Achieve 3000
AFT-West Virginia
School Specialty
Learning Squared-Square Panda
Collaborative for Teaching & Learning
Curriculum Associates
Scholastic Education
Carnegie Learning
Hamm's Hobbies
Global Vending Group, Inc.
Education System Solutions
***Lakeshore sent tote bags in lieu of attending*

WVRA appreciates the dedicated vendors who support our conference. Please take time to visit their tables and learn about their resources and tools.

2021 Keynote Speakers

Thursday 8:30 – Opening Session in Chesapeake Room



Laura Stewart

Laura Stewart is an educator and organizational leader. She has served as a classroom teacher, building and district administrator, adjunct professor, and director of numerous professional development initiatives around the country, including directing the Reading First initiative in the state of Wisconsin. She also served as the Vice President of Professional Development for the Rowland Reading Foundation, and was the Chief Academic Officer for Professional Development at Highlights for Children.

Laura's current role as the National Director of The Reading League fits her perfectly, as her passion is empowering educators to positively impact ALL students and ultimately change the course of literacy achievement in this country. She presents nationally and internationally and has written for numerous organizations and publications, including co-authoring *The Everything Guide to Informational Text K-2; Best Texts, Best Practices*.

Thursday 11:00 – General Session in Chesapeake Room

Lester Laminack



Lester L. Laminack is Professor Emeritus, Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina where he received two awards for excellence in teaching. Lester is now a full-time writer and consultant working with schools throughout the United States and abroad. He is an active member of the National Council of Teachers of English and served as co-editor of the NCTE journal *Primary Voices* and as editor of the Children's Book Review Department of the NCTE journal *Language Arts*.

He is the author or co-author of several professional books including *Learning with Zachary* (Scholastic), *Spelling in Use* (NCTE), *Volunteers Working with Young Readers* (NCTE), *The Writing Workshop: Working Through the Hard Parts* (NCTE), *Learning Under the Influence of Language and Literature* (Heinemann), *Reading Aloud Across the Curriculum* (Heinemann), *Climb Inside a Poem* (Heinemann), *Cracking Open the Author's Craft* (Scholastic), *Unwrapping the Read Aloud* (Scholastic), *Bullying Hurts: Teaching Kindness Through Read Aloud and Guided Conversations* (Heinemann), *The Writing Teacher's Troubleshooting Guide* (Heinemann), and *Writers ARE Readers: Flipping Reading Strategies into Writing Instruction* (Heinemann). Lester is also the author of several children's books including: *The Sunsets of Miss Olivia Wiggins*, *Trevor's Wiggly-Wobbly Tooth*, *Saturdays and Tea Cakes*, *Jake's 100th Day of School*, *Snow Day!*, *Three Hens and a Peacock* (2012 Children's Choice K-2 Book of the Year Award), and *The King of Bees*.

Thursday 1:30-General Session in Chesapeake Room



Katie Garner

Katie Garner, M.Ed. is the author of the best-selling book *Secret Stories® Cracking the Reading Code with the Brain in Mind* as well as several other popular teacher resources. As an internationally known keynote speaker, author and literacy consultant with thirty years of experience working in classrooms across the US and Canada, Katie shares her passion for infusing neuroscience into both literacy and learning.

Her “backdoor-to-the-brain” approach to fast-tracking phonics skills for reading (via the social and emotional learning systems) shifts the paradigms associated with early literacy instruction. Katie's fast-paced, dynamic presentations spotlight brain-based strategies for aligning existing reading/phonics curriculum with the science of reading and how our brains learn best. Her practical and proven methods for bringing neuroscience into the forefront of literacy and learning have been shared in both lecture and panel discussions at Harvard University and MIT, and have been the subject of numerous professional journal articles.



Friday 11:00 – General Session in Chesapeake Room



Erin Anderson

West Virginia's Teacher of the Year is 20-year veteran teacher, Erin Anderson. She is a fifth-grade teacher at Tennerton Elementary School in Buckhannon, West Virginia. Anderson earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from West Virginia Wesleyan College and a Master of Arts degree in Reading from West Virginia University. She currently serves as secretary of Faculty Senate, mentor for the mileage club, cooperating teacher for student teachers, member of the superintendent's leadership council, and member of the district's wellness committee. She previously served on the Title I committee, interview committee, and leadership committee at her home school and as adjunct professor at West Virginia Wesleyan College. Anderson served seven years as Director of Membership for the West Virginia Reading Association.

Anderson feels a responsibility to not only prepare her fifth graders for middle school academically, but socially as well. She implements and reinforces the social skills taught in guidance lessons. She takes pride in spending time getting to know her students. Anderson connects with students during Move It Mondays, a mileage club she started at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year. Students stay after school once a week – rain or shine – to walk and/or run alongside her. The time she spends with students outside the classroom both strengthens relationships and encourages lifelong healthy habits.

Friday 2:30-General Session in Chesapeake Room



Dr. Mike Lockett

Dr. Lockett has taken his storytelling and educational messages to over 4000 audiences in schools, libraries, education conferences, festivals and churches. Mike is a teller of traditional tales in a non-traditional manner. He often adds vocal effects and dialects to his audience participation stories. He has been a performing artist in 31 states and 17 countries including 22 tours of Taiwan and 14 in China. In 2016, he was a featured storyteller at the 18th Tehran International Festival in Iran. The laughter from audiences and repeat call-backs serve as evidence that Lockett's programs are popular. Mike always reminds everyone that his programs are always clean and high interest. They are planned on each group's needs and are not "canned" one-size-fits-all programs.

Author's Luncheons

The cost of the luncheon is \$50.00 and must be paid with registration.

Thursday-- 12:00-1:15 in the Crystal Room



Anna Smucker

Anna Egan Smucker is an award-winning author of nine books. *No Star Nights*, her memoir about growing up in the steel mill town of Weirton, WV won the International Reading Association Children's Book Award. *Golden Delicious: A Cinderella Apple Story* and *Brother Giovanni's Little Reward: How the Pretzel Was Born* represented WV at National Book Festivals in D.C. *Fallingwater: The Building of Frank Lloyd Wright's Masterpiece*, co-authored with Marc Harshman, garnered starred reviews and was named an Amazon Nonfiction Book of the Month. Recipient of a WV Arts Commission Artist Fellowship Award, her poems have been published in anthologies and literary journals. Her first chapbook, titled *Rowing Home*, was published in 2019 by Finishing Line Press. Anna makes her home in Bridgeport, West Virginia. In addition to writing, she enjoys doing author presentations and conducting writing workshops for schools, libraries, and at conferences.

Friday--12:00-1:15 in the Crystal Room



Katherine Manley

Katherine Manley, the author of *Don't Tell'em You're Cold: a Memoir of Poverty and Resilience*, lives in southern West Virginia and has been an educator for Logan County Schools for over 35 years. She earned degrees from Marshall University and West Virginia State, and is a National Board Certified Teacher. She is a fellow of the 1995 West Virginia Writing Project directed by Dr. Fran Simone and the 1996 West Virginia Humanities Council Appalachian Seminar directed by Dr. Judy Byers. Her writing has been featured in *Hamilton Stone Review*, *Traditions: A Journal of West Virginia Folk Culture and Educational Awareness*, *The Guyandot Observer*, and *FEARLESS: Women's Journeys to Self-Empowerment*. Her short stories placed in West Virginia Writers Contests, and her memoir was a semi-finalist in William Faulkner's Writing Competition. Katherine has won several prestigious teaching awards including finalist for West Virginia Teacher of the Year, Arch Coal Teacher of the Year, and The Prodigy Foundation Teacher Achievement Award given in memory of the 'Rocket Boys' beloved teacher, Freida J. Riley of Coalwood, West Virginia. She is married and the mother of three adult children and has two precious grandsons. In her spare time, you'll find Katherine hiking the heavenly mountains of West Virginia, reading by a cozy fire, or relaxing at the beach.

At a Glance The schedule for the conference has been carefully designed to help you as you continue to “Fill the Mountains with Literacy.” You will experience many speakers’ ideas and activities to make your students successful in all content areas. From the opening session to the closing meeting, you will discover new ways to “Fill the Mountains with Literacy.” WVRA knows that you will experience both personal and professional growth at the conference.	Thursday November 18, 2021	
	7:30 – 3:00 Registration Exhibits Networking	8:30 – 9:45 Opening Session Keynote – Laura Stewart Chesapeake Room
	10:00 – 10:45 Concurrent Sessions	11:00 – 11:45 Keynote – Lester Laminack Chesapeake Room
	12:00 – 1:15 Lunch Choices Author Luncheon – Anna Smucker Crystal Room Dining Out Experiences	1:30 – 2:30 Keynote-Katie Garner Chesapeake Room
	2:45-4:30 Featured Session-Katie Garner Chesapeake Room Featured Session-Dr. Mike Lockett Governor’s Hall	

2021 Keynote Speaker

Thursday 8:30 – Opening Session in Chesapeake Room

Laura Stewart



The Roots of Reading: Growing Thriving Readers by Following the Science

Teaching children to read is the most pressing educational endeavor of our time. All children deserve equitable access to high-quality, evidence-aligned instruction. Without that instruction, students may fall through the cracks, diminishing their potential to lead rich literate lives. More is known about how to teach reading than ever before, yet often times this evidence base is not provided to teachers nor translated to practice. This session addresses this compelling call to action by supporting teachers in affirming the foundational concepts necessary to guide instruction so that we CAN deliver on the promise of literacy for ALL. This is a no-blame, no-shame zone. We are all in this together, supporting one another in realizing our greatest hope, that all children will learn to read.



Thursday Concurrent Sessions, November 18, 2021

10:00 – 10:45

Mountaineer Room: *A Book in Their Hands and a Spark in Their Hearts*, Mindy Thomas; Audience: K-5; Presider: Bruce Neal

How do you build students' reading fluency and stamina while letting them fall in love with reading? You challenge them! Let me share my reading challenge success with you.

Stewart: *Practice What We Teach: Book Talks to Charge Us Up*, Dawn Miller; Audience: 3rd-12th grades, Presider: Shalee Monroe

Intrinsic motivation. How humans learn. Purpose. Discover powerful books, podcasts and other resources that will inspire and inform—and give teachers and principals strong support for their creative ideas.

Johnson: *Reading and Science Together: FUNonmenal!*, Cynthia Goodman; Audience: K-5; Presider: Jim Absten

"I wished I had more time" is something often heard in elementary classrooms. Explore ways to integrate science into reading, writing and speaking/listening to meet both ELA and Science standards.

Martin: *Visible Thinking Literacy Strategies for Engagement and Comprehension*, Nicole Ennis; Audience: 3rd-12th grades, Title 1, Special Education; Presider: Katie Beeman

This session will focus on current research base of visible thinking strategies to promote metacognition and content area comprehension. Participants will utilize technology tools to understand how visible thinking strategies support content area literacy learning. This session will introduce social text annotation and sketch noting as engaging strategies that make students reading and listening comprehension visible.

Rayburn A: *Finding the Roots of Good Writing*, Sara Dailey; Audience: K-5; Presider: Abby Bauer

Many students find the blank page staring up at them rather daunting. Participants will learn several strategies to help students organize their thoughts prior to writing.

Chesapeake: *Leadership in WVRA*, Beverly Kingery; Audience: ALL

WVRA Local Council Liaison, Beverly Kingery will provide guidance and updates to local council officers and leaders concerning their roles and responsibilities. This session should

be attended by all local council officers and anyone interested in beginning a new local council.

Rayburn B: *The How and Why Behind Effective Phonics Instruction*, Brittany Fike; Audience: K-5, Presider: Mackenzie Boone

This session will discuss the relationship between written letters and the sounds of spoken language and how phonics is vital in providing children with skills to figure out how to read words that they have never seen before. Participants will explore how and why phonics patterns must be addressed sequentially and learn about the connection that phonics instruction has to students' writing. Participants will also explore resources for supporting West Virginia's Phonics and Word Recognition standards.

Governor's Hall: *Growing the Roots: Watering Young Minds with Literacy & STEAM Experiences*, Elizabeth Crawford, Kelcie Blankenship; Audience: K-2; Presider: Melesa Swartz

Introducing STEAM concepts and integrating them into literacy through fun, engaging activities can help students develop skills that will build a strong foundation and prepare them for future success.

Knowland: *Capture the Curriculum Through Engaging Writing Experiences*, Mindy Allenger Prewitt, Mary Frances Williams; Audience: 3rd-12th grades, Special Education; Presider: Angela Curfman

Exciting and engaging writing experiences throughout the day can greatly improve content knowledge and improve reading strategies. We will explore 8-10 different writing activities with student examples and templates for attendees.

Eisenhower A: *Getting Back to our Reading Roots: What Works?*, Camille Bransford-Mills ; Audience: ALL; Presider: Leslie Markle

Reading is essential to all content areas but what instructional methods work the best? Join us to dig up our roots on the research behind the science of reading.

Eisenhower B: *Integrating Reading Strategies in the Math Classroom*, Danielle Irby, Becky Lewis; Audience: K-5, Presider: Aleah Baker

Have you wondered how you continue building on reading strategies in other contents? This session will show you how you can continue those strategies in the math classroom.

Eisenhower C: *Best Practices for Effective Small Group Instruction*, Amber Myers, Samantha Statler; Audience: K-2, Presider: Aubrey Williams

Participants will be introduced to ideas that support effective small group instruction and differentiation.

2021 Keynote Speaker

Thursday 11:00 – General Session in Chesapeake Room

Lester Laminack



Writers ARE Readers: Use Reading Read Aloud Experiences to Nurture More Powerful Readers and Writers

Explore the potential of revisiting a small collection of carefully selected books through focused read aloud experiences across time. Imagine slowing down to explore a small set of books in layers, one layer at a time with a clear focus for each read aloud experience. Lester will take you through the potential of a few picture books to demonstrate what can be done with numerous well-loved because he understands that to be a good writer you must first be able to read deeply and understand author's intent. Lester Laminack will show you that the key to successful writing is harnessing the power of close reading. You will learn how your students can transfer what they know about reading structures and strategies into practices that will hone their writing skills and help them become more focused writers.

Authors Luncheon

Thursday, November 18, 2021

12:00-1:15

The cost of the luncheon is \$50.00 and must be paid with registration.

Anna Smucker



Anna Egan Smucker is an award-winning author of nine books. *No Star Nights*, her memoir about growing up in the steel mill town of Weirton, WV won the International Reading Association Children's Book Award. *Golden Delicious: A Cinderella Apple Story* and *Brother Giovanni's Little Reward: How the Pretzel Was Born* represented WV at National Book Festivals in D.C. *Fallingwater: The Building of Frank Lloyd Wright's Masterpiece*, co-authored with Marc Harshman, garnered starred reviews and was named an Amazon Nonfiction Book of the Month. Recipient of a WV Arts Commission Artist Fellowship Award, her poems have been published in anthologies and literary journals. Her first chapbook, titled *Rowing Home*, was published in 2019 by Finishing Line Press. Anna makes her home in Bridgeport, West Virginia. In addition to writing, she enjoys doing author presentations and conducting writing workshops for schools, libraries, and at conferences.

2021 Keynote Speaker

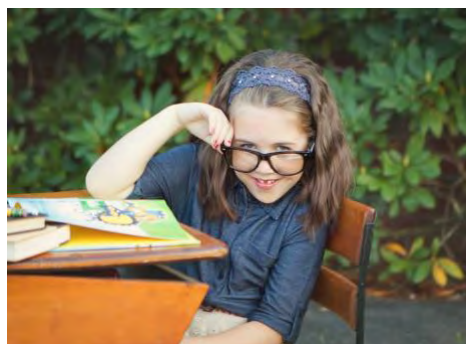
Thursday 1:30 – General Session in Chesapeake Room

Katie Garner



Fast-Tracking Phonics Skills through the Brain's Backdoor: How to Use Brain Science as a Road Map for Reading!

Did you know that the brain has a backdoor for accelerated learning that's easily hacked into? Using brain science as a roadmap, discover how to fast-track phonics skills by sneaking them through the brain's backdoor and connecting them to what kids *already* know! Explore early developing, social-emotional "superhighways" for learning that transform phonics into child's play, and take away powerful "backdoor" teaching tools that will leave you armed and ready for Monday morning!



2021 Featured Sessions

Thursday 2:45-Featured Session in Chesapeake Room



“Too Many Letter Sounds.... Too Many Phonics Rules....

Too Many Sight Words.... Too Little TIME!” with Katie Garner

Using brain science as a road map, discover how to take advantage of “backdoor” learning systems to fast-track the phonics code kids need to read and write! By aligning abstract phonics skills with already familiar “universal” experiences and understanding (*i.e. having a crush, not getting along, getting hurt, being left out, doing what your mom or babysitter tells you, knowing where and when to be sneaky, etc...*) we can leverage learners’ social-emotional intelligence to fast-track reading mastery. In this way, we can empower beginning AND struggling readers with ALL of the phonics skills they need to become fearless codebreakers —not just at the reading table, but across the entire instructional day!

Thursday 2:45-Featured Session in Governor’s Hall



“Using Storytelling to Facilitate Content Area Reading in the Middle Grades and High School” with Mike Lockett

Stories and Storytelling can build interest in all content areas. This session will focus on helping improve speaking, listening, vocabulary and comprehension by incorporating the art of reading and telling stories in the classroom.

Dr. Mike Lockett is a lifelong educator, storyteller and an author. He taught middle grade students for 21 years and served as a middle school/high school principal and central office administrator. He has been an educational consultant and teacher trainer. He has written 27 books and had just released a new YA (Young Adult) novel for middle school and high school students that teachers can use to help their history students learn about the Great Depression.

*****Join Mike Lockett in the Exhibit Hall at 7pm for an evening of Story Telling*****

At a Glance	Friday November 19, 2021	
<p>Today's schedule will define additional ideas for Getting Back to Our Roots to ensure success of your students.</p> <p>The 6th Annual WVRA Literature Fair will showcase WV students and their amazing work with a piece of literature. Be sure to visit the vendors and authors in the Exhibit Hall.</p> <p>Do not miss Dr. Mike Lockett at 2:30 in the Chesapeake Room. Don't miss the closing delegate assembly, door prizes and Greenbrier giveaways.</p>	<p>7:30 – 2:00 Registration Exhibits Networking</p>	<p>8:30 – 9:30 WVRA Awards Chesapeake Room</p>
	<p>9:45-10:30 Keynote- Erin Anderson Chesapeake Room</p>	<p>10:45 – 11:45 Concurrent Sessions <i>** Literature Fair will be in Culinary Arts **</i></p>
	<p>12:00 – 1:15 Lunch Choices Author Luncheon – Katherine Manley Crystal Room Dining Out Experiences</p>	<p>1:30-2:15 Featured Session with Ornstein/Bingman Chesapeake Room OR GSC Jazz Band Exhibit Hall OR Featured Session with Appalachian Writers Governor's Hall</p>
	<p>2:30 – 3:30 Keynote- Dr. Mike Lockett Chesapeake Room</p>	<p>3:45 – 4:30 Closing WVRA Delegates Assembly and Door Prizes Chesapeake Room</p>

West Virginia Reading Association Awards Ceremony

Friday, November 19, 2021

Chesapeake Room

8:30 – 9:30

The Eddie C. Kennedy Reading Teacher of the Year

The Madge McDaniel Award

The Cynthia Lorentz Cook Award

The Dr. Jennie Bechtold Award

The Dr. Mary Marockie Touch of Class Award

The Jennifer Josephi Scholarship

Parents and Reading Honor Councils

The International Literacy Association Awards

ILA Award of Excellence 2021-2022

ILA Honor Councils 2021-2022

See insert for Award Nominees

2021 Keynote Speaker

Friday 9:45 – General Session in Chesapeake Room



Erin Anderson

“Growth Spurt”

Erin is excited to share her recent experiences as the 2021 West Virginia Teacher of the Year and give you a glimpse into her fifth grade classroom.



Friday Concurrent Sessions, November 19, 2021

10:45 – 11:45

Stewart: *Shifting Balanced Literacy to Science of Reading*, Jeannie Blake, Becky Ryder; Audience: K-2, Title I, Special Education, Community; Presider: Mary Kay Wensyel

Do you want to know more about the Science of Reading but are overwhelmed with where to start? Begin with these 6 shifts from balanced literacy to utilizing the science of reading.

Johnson: *Teaching the Brain to Read: An Introduction to the Science of Reading*, Brittany Fike, Brandie Turner; Audience: K-5; Presider: Alyvceane Moore

This session will explore the scientific body of evidence, the science of reading, that demonstrates how the brain becomes proficient with language and definitively proves which instructional practices are the most effective for developing strong readers and writers.

Rayburn A: *Exploring Appalachian Culture in the K-5 Classroom with WV Public Broadcasting*, Mary Lind, Dancey Howes, Deanna Cunningham; Audience: K-5; Presider: Kathy Blue

Join this session to access K-5 lessons from West Virginia Public Broadcasting Folkways Project and listen to West Virginia teachers explain their craftsmanship behind their work.

Rayburn B: *Putting the FUN in FUNDamentals of Literacy in Early Education*, Connie Stout-O'Dell, Shelly Ratliff, Stormie Alverson, Raven Friend, Abigail Taylor, Karra Smith; Audience: K-2; Presider: Connie Stout-O'Dell

How can your students have fun AND learn fundamental skills like phonemic awareness while you integrate West Virginia literature in your early education classroom? Let us show you hands-on activities you can easily implement in your classroom with great books by our great state's authors.

Culinary Arts: *Annual WVRA Literacy Fair State Projects*, WVRA; Audience: Students and Parents; Host: Kathy Chapman

Students will display and answer questions about their WVRA Literacy Fair projects.

Martin: *Mountain-ears: Getting Students to Read and Write the Sounds They Hear*, Amy Mitchell; Audience: Birth-Grade 5; Presider: Katie Garner

Rooting for literacy success in the Big 12? Twelve grades that is, plus preschool and kindergarten. It's time to get back to the basics of training and coaching in brain-based phonics instruction in the earliest learners. Getting students to read and write the sounds they hear is often tough to tackle, but students will be reaching new goals in record time and their support system, and yours, will be cheering loudly. Let's Goooo!

Mountaineer Room: *Digging Back to the Roots of Reading*, Sharon Sigley, Kaiti Hillman; Audience: Birth to Grade 5, Title I, Special Education; Presider: Bruce Neal

Do you have struggling readers? This session will help educators understand what research tells us about reading instruction and walk away with tools to help.

Governor's Hall (side A): *Small Steps Toward the Science of Reading*, Samantha Statler, Amber Myers; Audience: Birth-Grade 5; Presider: Sue Showers

Making the mind shift towards the Science of Reading can feel overwhelming. There are small steps you can take that will lead to a big impact. I am going to share with you five actionable items to try, and all of them can be implemented pretty readily.

Governor's Hall (side B): *Traveling Tales: Connecting School to Home with Literacy*, Claire McCoy, Holly Adkins; Audience: ALL; Presider: Brian Bailey

Wondering how to make a meaningful home to school connection? We will share how to engage children and families with their favorite stories.

Eisenhower A: *Escape Room: Literacy-focused, Cross-curricular Approach*, Angela Curfman, Melesa Swartz; Audience: K-12; Presider: Angela Curfman

Try to escape the room in this interactive presentation! Children's literature, content area literacy, writing, and STEAM skills serve as the foundation to this innovative cross-curricular approach. Participants will have the opportunity to experience the implementation of an Escape Room in any grade-level/content area classroom.

Eisenhower B: *Planning Play-Based Instruction in Early Education: Considering Students' Interests*, Donna Atwood, Laura Fenton; Audience: Birth-Grade 2, Title I, Special Education; Presider: Leslie Markle

How can we plan instruction that engages students? Using emergent curriculum and webbing to plan play-based activities, boost engagement, reading levels, and social/emotional skills. These literacy activities can be used across all content areas.

Eisenhower C: *Following the Science of Reading: One District's Journey Toward Equity*, Elizabeth English, Sheila Louk; Audience: K-2, Title I, Special Education; Presider: Beverly Kingery

Upshur County Public Schools is committed to assuring equity for all students. As such educators are implementing research-based practices to assure students acquire foundational skills that ensure comprehension of text.

Knowland: *Personalizing Literacy Learning*, Mackenzie Seabright, Melissa Brant, Katie Beeman; Audience: K-12; Presider: Nicole Ennis

The goal of this workshop is to leave it knowing and understanding how to personalize literacy learning for your students, have ready-to-go strategies and applications to implement it in your classroom, and create a community of support to work and reflect with on this new journey.



2021 Featured Sessions

Friday 1:30- Chesapeake Room

What's New in Children's Books 2021

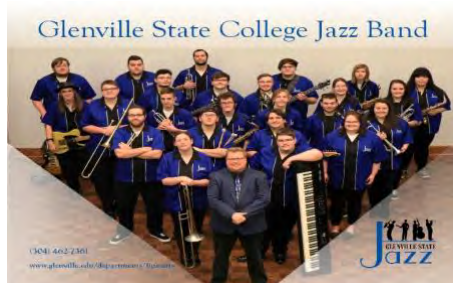
Barbara Ornstein & Bill Bingman

A wide variety of the most current children's books from 2021, as well as appropriate curricular connections, extension activities, and ideas for integration across content areas will be presented.

Friday 1:30-Exhibit Hall

Glenville State College Jazz Band

The Glenville State College Jazz Ensemble performs a varied repertoire of music composed and arranged for the big band idiom. Comprised of GSC students from several academic areas on campus, the GSC Jazz program has hosted events featuring notable jazz performers such as pianist Monika Herzig and saxophonist Derek Brown. GSC Jazz frequently partners with the West Virginia Jazz Society for events across the state and recently returned from acclaimed performances at the House of Blues and the World Famous Blue Crab Festival in Myrtle Beach, SC.



Friday 1:30-Governor's Hall

The Importance of Teaching Appalachian Literature

Seeing oneself represented in literature is vitally important for all groups, including young West Virginians, trying to find their place in the world. Not only will students be able to recognize themselves in the pages of these texts, but they will also come to understand that anything is possible for them, and being a writer is not something reserved for those in New York City. In this keynote session, four West Virginia women writers (Ann Pancake, Catherine Venerable Moore, Natalie Sybolt, and Neema Avashia) will discuss the importance of teaching Appalachian literature to children in all grade levels, will provide ideas for lessons that can be taken into the classroom, and share a bit of their own work.

Authors Luncheon

Friday, November 19, 2021

12:00-1:15

The cost of the luncheon is \$50.00 and must be paid with registration.

Katherine Manley



Katherine Manley, the author of *Don't Tell'em You're Cold: a Memoir of Poverty and Resilience*, lives in southern West Virginia and has been an educator for Logan County Schools for over 35 years. She earned degrees from Marshall University and West Virginia State, and is a National Board Certified Teacher. She is a fellow of the 1995 West Virginia Writing Project directed by Dr. Fran

Simone and the 1996 West Virginia Humanities Council Appalachian Seminar directed by Dr. Judy Byers. Her writing has been featured in *Hamilton Stone Review*, *Traditions: A Journal of West Virginia Folk Culture and Educational Awareness*, *The Guyandot Observer*, and *FEARLESS: Women's Journeys to Self-Empowerment*. Her short stories placed in West Virginia Writers Contests, and her memoir was a semi-finalist in William Faulkner's Writing Competition. Katherine has won several prestigious teaching awards including finalist for West Virginia Teacher of the Year, Arch Coal Teacher of the Year, and The Prodigy Foundation Teacher Achievement Award given in memory of the 'Rocket Boys' beloved teacher, Freida J. Riley of Coalwood, West Virginia. She is married and the mother of three adult children and has two precious grandsons. In her spare time, you'll find Katherine hiking the heavenly mountains of West Virginia, reading by a cozy fire, or relaxing at the beach.

2021 Keynote Speaker

Friday 2:30 – General Session in Chesapeake Room

Dr. Mike Lockett



“Books, Stories and Storytelling – Direct Links to Student Achievement”

Enjoy learning the art of “story play” from international storyteller and children’s author, Dr. Mike Lockett. Plan to laugh and have fun as you learn stories you can effectively retell after this workshop. The concept of “story play” helps improve students’ vocabulary, speech, listening, reading comprehension, fluency and more.



General Session

Closing – WVRA Delegate Assembly

3:45 – 4:30

Chesapeake Room

Thank you – Connie Mundy, WVRA President

**66th WVRA Annual Conference Theme Presentation –
Dr. Angela Curfman, WVRA 2nd Vice-President**

**Nominating Committee Recommendation – Kathy
Blue, WVRA Past President**

**Election of 2021 Officers – Connie Mundy, WVRA
President**

Door Prizes and Greenbrier Giveaways

**Closing remarks – Dr. Shelly Ratliff, 2021, Conference
Chair**



Past Presidents of the West Virginia Reading Association

Thank you for your service to WVRA!

** Deceased*

	Name	Year in Office
*	Dr. Arreta Jaranko	1967 - 1968
*	Madge McDaniel	1968 - 1969
*	Pearle Bennett	1969 - 1970
*	Dr. Thomas Hatcher	1970 - 1971
*	Mary Pearl Compton	1971 - 1972
*	Billie Karnell	1972 - 1973
	Dr. Taylor Turner	1973 - 1974
	Dr. Ruth Lewis	1974 - 1975
	Dr. Mary Marockie	1975 - 1976
*	Dr. Jennie Bechtold	1976 - 1977
*	Dr. Caroline Neal	1977 - 1978
*	Margie Leap	1978 - 1979
	Dr. Pat Smith	1979 - 1980
	Melvin Graham	1980 - 1982
	Robert Harris	1982 - 1983
*	Jeanette Malson	1983 - 1984
	Carol Morgan	1984 - 1985
*	Sister Barbara Jean Campbell	1985 - 1986
	Joyce Morris	1986 - 1987
	Ann Beck	1987 - 1988
	Clara Williams	1988 - 1988
	Debra Province	1989 - 1990
	Julia Butler	1990 - 1991
	Dianna Wood	1991 - 1992
	Linda Reid	1992 - 1993
	Lois Meadows	1993 - 1994
	Sharon Diaz	1994 - 1995
	Frances Horton	1995 - 1996
	Frank Mace	1996 - 1997
	John Griffith	1997 - 1998
	Millie Lively	1998 - 1999
	Barbara Korn	1999 - 2000
	Jean Workman	2000 - 2001
	Denise White	2001 - 2002
	Sue Talbott	2002 - 2003
	Dennis Caldwell	2003 - 2004

*	Donna Adams	2004 - 2005
	Karen Ashbrook	2005 - 2006
	Aleda Hileman	2006 - 2007
	H. Moke Post	2007 - 2008
	Viki Caldwell	2008 - 2009
	Mary Kay Wensyel	2009 - 2010
*	Brenda Chadwell	2010 - 2011
	Kim Burris	2011 - 2012
	Jone Hersch	2012 - 2013
	Kathy Chapman	2013 - 2014
	Dr. Bob Harrison	2014 - 2015
	Tony Nichols	2015 - 2016
	Bruce Neal	2016 - 2017
	Ronald Chadwell	2017 - 2018
	Kathy Blue	2018-2019
	Tila Boyce	2019-2020



Save the Date

**WVRA's 66th Annual Conference
November 17-18, 2022**

**Thank you for attending
WVRA's 65th Annual
Conference!**

**Safe travels and see you
next year!**



WVRA 65th Conference Overall Evaluation

We value your input! **Please complete this evaluation and return it to Conference Registration Desk** before leaving the conference. The data collected will be used to market the conference and plan for next year. Please use the back for additional comments. Thank you!

ITEM	Did not Attend	Disagree	Agree	Highly Agree
1. The conference gave me information to achieve some of my staff development goals for this year.	1	2	3	4
2. The conference is an excellent opportunity for professional staff development.	1	2	3	4
3. The conference gave me ideas and tools I could use in my classroom now or in the future.	1	2	3	4
4. The Exhibit Hall contained materials that I would like to use or purchase for my classroom.	1	2	3	4
5. This conference gave me an opportunity to share and network with colleagues in a professionally relaxed atmosphere.	1	2	3	4
6. I found registration easy and user friendly.	1	2	3	4
7. The Thursday Opening Session speaker, Laura Stewart was inspiring and encouraging in learning the key components of early instructional literacy skills.	1	2	3	4
8. Thursday's Keynote Session with Lester Laminack was engaging, entertaining and gave me ideas on getting Back to Our Roots in Reading and Writing instruction.	1	2	3	4
9. The Thursday author luncheon with Anna Smucker gave me ideas for classroom implementation of writing stories set in West Virginia.	1	2	3	4
10. The Thursday Keynote Session with Katie Garner and Dr. Mike Lockett encouraged me to get Back to my Roots in Reading instruction.	1	2	3	4
11. The Friday Opening Session with Erin Anderson inspired me to build relationships with my students.	1	2	3	4
12. The Friday Closing Keynote with Dr. Mike Lockett enlightened me to get Back to my Roots in Reading instruction.	1	2	3	4
13. The Friday Author luncheon with Katherine Manley gave me insight into getting Back to my Roots in Reading instruction.	1	2	3	4
14. I would highly recommend this conference.	1	2	3	4

Please add additional comments on the back

THANK YOU FOR COMING! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE 66TH WVRA CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 2022!