

RESOLUTION

Reading Specialists, Coaches and Other Reading Leaders

WHEREAS one of the major goals of education is the development of a literate society through effective school reading programs, and

WHEREAS the reading process is an extremely complex phenomenon that continues to undergo close scrutiny and sustained refinement through research and practice, and

WHEREAS many local and state school boards of education issue teacher licensure or endorsement credentials for leadership in reading instruction, and

WHEREAS the essential leaders of school reading programs provide assessment and instructional services for children and adolescents, support services for teachers and parents, and work closely with the administrative staff in improving the reading performance of all students, and

WHEREAS these reading leadership positions bear a variety of names and titles including reading specialist, reading coach, and reading consultant, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the International Reading Association supports the idea that quality school reading programs under the leadership of *credentialed* reading leaders are fundamental to the development of a literate society; and be it

RESOLVED that the International Reading Association supports the hiring of reading leaders, no matter what their title, who meet the Association's high standards and possess reading specialist certification, and be it further

RESOLVED that the International Reading Association supports on-going professional development in literacy for all licensed reading teachers, reading coaches, and reading specialists. Literacy leaders of school-wide reading programs must maintain a current knowledge base of reading research and practice.

(Adopted 1994 as "Reading Specialists"; Revised May 2006)