



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

June 13, 2008

MEMORANDUM

To: Local School District Superintendents

From: Mike Flanagan 

Subject: Michigan Reads!

An exciting opportunity regarding Michigan Reads! One State, One Children's Book is detailed in the attached memo from the State Librarian, Nancy R. Robertson. The Michigan Department of Education has partnered with Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) and we want you to be alerted to the distribution of the book and program kit to school districts with Kindergarten through Second Grade classrooms. Michigan School Readiness Programs, Head Start Programs, and public libraries will also receive the books and program kits.

Since the expected date of delivery to schools will be the first part of August, the plan is to send these kits to the administrative offices of each school district because there is some question about school buildings being closed at that time in August. Specific timing will be forwarded when it is known. Be looking for information and please share information with those who need to know.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

KATHLEEN N. STRAUS – PRESIDENT • JOHN C. AUSTIN – VICE PRESIDENT
CAROLYN L. CURTIN – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER
NANCY DANHOF – NASBE DELEGATE • ELIZABETH W. BAUER
REGINALD M. TURNER • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324



JENNIFER GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, ARTS AND LIBRARIES
LANSING

DR. WILLIAM M. ANDERSON
DIRECTOR

May 23, 2008

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the Library of Michigan's **2008 Michigan Reads!** One State, One Children's Book program. This year's featured book, ***Raccoon Tune*** by Nancy Shaw, is a whimsical tale about raccoons rifling through neighborhood trash in search of a delicious dinner.

Michigan Reads! highlights the importance of early childhood literacy by encouraging parents, caregivers, teachers, and librarians to read to young children. Governor Jennifer Granholm has once again proclaimed the month of September as "Michigan Reads to Children" month.

In preparation for September, we will send program kits to each public library outlet, Head Start Program, Michigan School Readiness Program, public school library serving K-2, and tribal library. Each kit will include:

- a copy of the 2008 **Michigan Reads!** book selection, ***Raccoon Tune***, written by Nancy Shaw and illustrated by Howard Fine;
- a resource guide replete with sample programs to present to children by age group, information on early childhood literacy and other great ideas;
- a poster; bookmarks; stickers; and more!

Please note: If you have not received a Michigan Reads kit by early September, please let us know by sending an email to HAL-LMYouth@michigan.gov.

The **Michigan Reads!** kick-off will be held at the Target Book Festival at Kensington Metropark on August 23, 2008. The author, Nancy Shaw, will be there to present her stories and sign autographs. Target is the generous sole corporate sponsor of the **Michigan Reads!** program and our co-sponsor is the Library of Michigan Foundation.

Please continue to check the **Michigan Reads!** website at www.michigan.gov/michiganreads for ongoing updates including information on Nancy Shaw's tour in September to libraries and schools throughout the state, early childhood literacy resources, the Target Book Festival and much more.

We look forward to your participation in the **Michigan Reads!** program. Reading to Michigan's children instills in them a lifelong love for books and learning and contributes to future success in their lives!

Yours truly,

Nancy R. Robertson
State Librarian