

Margaret Mary Policastro, Ph.D.

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### Current Positions

MCTC)

M.S. Indiana University (1976),

B.S. Indiana University (1973)

Special Training- Boston College (1975)

Reading

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Learn

### Administrative Positions

2023-Present Chair, Department of Education, College of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

2017-2022 Director: RU – ISBE- Empower partnership

2010-2017 Principal Investigator, Improving Teacher Quality Grant (ITQ)

2017-present Principal Investigator, Il-Empower ISBE Learning Partner

1998-present Director: Language and Literacy Program,

1987-present Founder and Director of the Roosevelt University Summer Reading Clinic

1993-1994 Program Director: Teacher Education Program Area

1981-1992 Founder and Director of the Learning and Support Program

### Academic Positions





September 2019-July 2020, ILEmpower Learning Partner contract with Rantoul School District 137, amount of contract: \$60,000.

March 2019-August 2019, ILEmpower Learning Partner contract with Chi





The Power of Formative Assessment in the College Classroom. *Roosevelt University Assessment Newsletter*

Policastro, M.M. (2015). Word Walls to Language Walls: A Natural Evolution in the Balanced Literacy Classroom. *Wisconsin State Reading Association Journal*, 53(1).

Policastro, M.M., McTague, B., & Mazeski, D. (2015). The Power of Formative Assessment. *Illinois Communicator of the Illinois Reading Council Journal*.

Policastro, M.M. (2015). Word Walls to Language Walls: A Natural Evolution in the Balanced Literacy Classroom.

"Decision Stories: A Tool for Developing the Problem-Solving Skills of Learning Disabled Adolescents," *The Binter*, fall, 1988.

Professional review of a textbook, *The Reading Teacher*, December 1987.

Professional reviews of comprehension materials, *Journal of Reading*, December 1985.





Policastro, M.M. (2019, April, 23) *Balanced literacy: The big picture, literacy plans, capacity building and summer reading.* Rantoul City Schools, District leadership professional development Rantoul, Illinois.

Policastro, M.M. (2019, April 12) *What is balanced literacy? A kick-off workshops.* Institute day professional development, Dolton School District 149, Dolton, Illinois.

Policastro, M.M. (2019, March 3) *Developing literacy well-being for every child.* Redscover Roosevelt University, Alumni event. Chicago, Illinois.

Policastro, M.M. (2019, March 23) *Exploring the literate environment in the balanced literacy classroom: The classroom library.* Professional development workshop, Barton Elementary School, Chicago, Illinois.

Policastro, M.M. (2019, March 18) *What does capacity building look like in a balanced literacy school?* Professional development workshop for Dolton School District principals. Dolton, Illinois.

Policastro, M.M. (2019, March 12) *What is balanced literacy? A kick-off workshops.* Professional development workshop, Barton Elementary School. Chicago, Illinois.

Policastro, M.M. (2019, February) *Developing literacy well-being through balanced literacy and formative assessment.* Science Academy of Chicago, Mt. Prospect, Il.

Peterson, K. & Policastro, M.M. (2018, November) *Pharmacy Education: What is it?* Faculty presentation. Roosevelt University, College of Pharmacy, Schaumburg, Il.

Policastro, M.M. (2018, October) *Powerful formative assessment across the curriculum.* Science Academy of Chicago, Mt. Prospect, Illinois.

Policastro, M.M. (2018, August) *Powerful balanced literacy across the content areas.* Science Academy of Chicago, Mt Prospect, Il.

Policastro, M.M. (2018, February & March

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Policastro, M.M. (2015, March) *Thematic Units of Study in the Balanced Literacy Classroom*. Presented at an IBE Grant Professional Development Workshop at Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M., Ford, M., McGuire, B., & Shaal, J. (2015, February) *Expert Panel Discussion: Formative Assessment*. A presentation sponsored by Capstone Professional, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2015, January) *W.3.b (1) (2015, J)-1 (a)4 (nuao(t)-2 2JTc 0 Tw 20.)TjEMC P -0.FnessicT*

Policastro, M.M. (2013, December). *What Does Close Reading Look Like in a Balanced Literacy Classroom?* IBHE Grant Professional Development Workshop, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, September). *What Does Capacity Building Look Like in a Balanced Literacy School?* An IBHE Kick-Off Professional Development Symposium, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, July). *The New Guided Reading: Guiding Language into Reading.* An IBHE Grant Summer Professional Development Workshop, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, July). *The New Read-Alouds: Implementing Common Core.* An IBHE Grant Summer Professional Development Workshop, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, June). *What Does Common Core Look Like In a Balanced Literacy School?* A Professional Development in-service presented at Our Lady of the Wayside School, Arlington Heights, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, June). *Summer Reading Initiatives (SRI ): Making Sure all Our Children Read Over the Summer.* An IBHE all grant school professional development workshop presented at Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, March). *Creating a Balanced Literacy School, Kick-off Workshop,* Presented at Christ the King School, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, March) *What Does Common Core Look Like in a Balanced Literacy School: 6 Instructional Shifts for CCSS.* An IBHE Grant Professional Development Workshop, Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2013, February) *What Does a Balanced Literacy Classroom Look Like: Creating the Literate Environment?* An in-service Professional Development workshop presented at St. Bede's of the Venerable School, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2012, December). *What Does Leadership Look Like in a Balanced Literacy School?* An IBHE Grant Principal Leadership Workshop. Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2012, September) *Creating a Balanced Literacy School: Kick-Off Workshop.* An in-service workshop presented at St. Bede's of the Venerable, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (2012, May). *Creating a Balanced Literacy School: Kick off workshop.* An in-service workshop presented at Our Lady of the Wayside School, Arlington Heights, IL.















Policastro, M.M. & Wood, D. (2019, October 3) *Powerful strategies for promoting literacy well-being throughout the balanced literacy classroom and school*. Paper presented at the 53rd Illinois Reading Council Conference, Peoria, Illinois

Policastro, M.M. (2018, July 22). *The new balanced literacy school: Engaging instruction for student achievement schoolwide*. Paper presented at the International Literacy Association Annual Conference, Austin, TX.

Policastro, M.M. Mazeski, D. McTaggart, B. Wood, D. & Jones, C. (2017, July 15). *Formative Assessment as a Powerful Learning Tool in the Balanced Literacy Classroom and School*. Paper presented at the International Literacy Association's Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.

Policastro, M.M. (2016, September 29). *Family Engagement: Family Literacy in the Balanced Literacy School*. Paper presented at the Illinois Reading Council Annual Conference, Peoria, IL.

Policastro, M.M., McTague, B., & Roth,

Policastro, M.M. (2012, October 2). *Creating Balanced Literacy Schools with the Common Core State Standards*. Paper presented at the IBHE State Wide Symposium, Edwardsville,IL .





Policastro, M.M. (1993, November) *Voice Dialogue as Self-Assessment: Creating New Self-Assessment Possibilities for Active Literacy*. Paper presented at The 37th Annual Meeting of the College of Reading Association, Richmond, VA.

Policastro, M.M. (1993, November) *One Self-Talking to the Other: Assisting College Students with Learning Difficulties Develop a Voice of Self-Assessment*. Paper presented at The 37th Annual Meeting of the College Reading Association, Richmond, VA.

Policastro, M.M. (1992, November). *Promoting Active Learners: Helping Students to Self-Assess Their Metacognitive Attributes*. Paper presented at The 36th Annual Meeting of the College Reading Association, St. Louis, MO.

Policastro, M.M. (1992, March). *The Bedtime Story: From Theory to Practice*. Paper presented at The Chicago Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (1991, May 22-25). *Reading, Writing and Problem-Solving: The Unlimited Connection with Stories in a Whole Language Curriculum*. Paper presented at The Canadian-American Whole Language Conference, Windsor, Ontario.

Policastro, M.M. (1991, February 27-28). *Using the Story as the Center of the Kindergarten Curriculum*. Paper presented at The Illinois Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Kindergarten Conference, Oak Brook, IL.

Policastro, M.M. (1991, February 27-28). *Using the Bedtime Story as the Foundation of the Kindergarten Curriculum*. Paper presented at The Chicago Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Chicago, IL.

Policastro, M.M. & Anania, J. (1990) *Curriculum Development*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.







Student Council for Exceptional Children Service Award, 1983  
Selective Load Reduction, 1983  
Paul A. Witty Fellow, Northwestern University, 1978-1979  
Paul A. Witty Fellow, Northwestern University Dissertation Support, 1979-1980  
Founders' Day Scholastic Achievement Award, Indiana University, 1973

### Professional Memberships

International Literacy Association (ILA)  
College Reading Association, Teacher Education Division  
Professors of Reading Teacher Education  
College Instructors of Reading Professionals  
Illinois Reading Council  
Association of Governing Boards (AGB)

### Research/Evaluation

Participant Evaluator for the Illinois Writing Project, Grant from the State, 1988-1990  
Concept of A Story: Comparison Between Children's and Teachers' Viewpoints, with N. Stein, 1980-1982  
The Acquisition of a Schema: The Development of a Story Concept, with N. Stein, 1979-1980  
Evaluation of the Illinois Writing Project, with S. Zemelman 1984

### Community Service

Abraham Lincoln School, Room Parent and Noon Hour Activities chair, 2005-2007  
Lincoln Park High School, Executive Board, Friends of Lincoln Park High School, 2005-2006.  
Fordham University, Bronx, New York. Parent's Advisory, Chair for the graduation class gift of 2006  
Docent, Volunteer Mentor, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago Academy Sciences 2002  
Loyola Academy Mothers Club, Wilmette, Illinois, 2000 -2004  
Classroom Volunteer, St. Clement School, 1988-2004  
Fundraising Volunteer, Anchor Ball Benefit, 1992-2000  
St. Clement Room Parent, 1992-2000  
Elected to the St. Clement School Board, 1991-1994 term, Long Range Planning Committee, 1991-1994  
Library Volunteer, St. Clement School, 1988-2000  
Mothers' March on Birth Defects, March of Dimes Volunteer, January 1986

NAACP - Consultant to the Committee to Study Reading Problems in Chicago, Summer 1985

Panel Judge - ~~see~~ on panel to judge Fair Housing Month 1985 Chicago Regional Office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development

Illinois Children's Hospital School - proposed idea, organized, implement and attended an art activity with children with physical handicap. February 1984 (CEC)

Illinois Children's Hospital School - proposed idea and put into effect a share-a-magazine project. Collected and brought in magazines for pleasure reading on a weekly basis February ~~May~~ 1984 (CEC)

Ludeman Center for the Developmentally Disabled - proposed idea, organized, arranged and attended a story activity with children with handicap. February 1982 (CEC)

Ray Graham Training School - recruited volunteers and attended fun fair, June 1982 (CEC)

Literacy Volunteers of America - made iniECTT0 149 -1.22 Td <0078>Tj Td <0gn (i)-22 ( S)-4 (

