

**Bringing it all together.....**  
**Dr. Betty Dore, Editor**

As I look back at all the concerns and possible solutions, at the chapters focusing on teachers and those focusing more on the middle school students, it is easy to realize the vast amount of collective knowledge included in this publication. It is also easy to realize the extreme care, compassion, and commitment to young adolescents these authors have demonstrated. From strategies to provide the most satisfaction for teacher care and empathy to communication skills and collaboration among school and university personnel, this work is a confirmation of what it takes to have successful middle schools. The activities which involve young adolescents – service learning, cooperative learning, teaming, advisor/advisee, and field experiences – suggest many concrete practices which have been successfully implemented for middle level students. Finding successful strategies and methods for helping all students be successful readers is always a challenge. Middle school students arrive with such a variety of reading skills, it is a constant struggle for their teachers to differentiate their delivery to provide the opportunity for ALL students to be successful learners.

The opportunity to work with such a diverse group of educators from across the country has been a remarkable experience. Even though we all have passions for different aspects of middle school education, ultimately it is the well-being of the middle school student and his/her success for which we are strongly united. This publications, when all is said and done, is exactly where we are all focused.