

The School Library System Newsletter

September 2007

Pat's Desk Talk

Wishing You a Great School Year

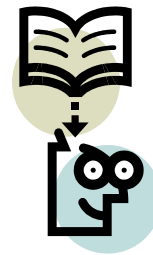
I am excited to begin my third year with the SLS. I look forward to building stronger connections with all of you and your libraries this year. Now that I have my feet on the ground, I feel I can reach out to you more to learn about your needs.

The Annual Librarian Survey is one of my key means of finding out how we are doing and what you still need. This year we had a wonderful response, with 52 surveys completed on SurveyMonkey. The SLS staff reviewed the survey results individually for information pertaining to their section within our department and then we reviewed them together. We have purchased the items you requested for the professional collection and are looking into finding speakers for the trainings you have mentioned. As each year passes, we hope you will realize how seriously we take the information in those surveys and that you will take the time to respond because of that.

We are also refining the SLS Newsletter as a means of communication. Last year, Mary McCormick took over as editor and we were able to email five editions to you. These newsletters are full of SLS information, calendar of events, helpful tips for using our services, new books being added to the professional collection, departmental updates, and wellness news. As we increase our services and develop our

relationships with you, we can tailor the newsletter to better represent what SLS has to offer and what is happening in the library field. Please read on and then feel free to send us feedback.

We wish you the best this year...respectful students, supportive administrators, a fat budget, and lots of laughter. I hope to see you at Leatherstocking 2007 on November 15.



Notes from Anne:

In response to your requests, the School Library System has purchased Dewey Decimal Classification Edition 22 in both print and electronic formats. If you do any original cataloging, it should prove to be an invaluable resource. The four volume set of books will circulate for two weeks at a time. To arrange a loan, contact either Kenn Runniger or myself. If you would like me to look up subject headings for you, call 223-4707 or email: anassar@oneida-boces.org. Alternately, you can copy and send me the title and verso pages of a book, and I will assign subject headings and/or a call number for you.

Contact us:

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Calendar for Fall 2007:

October 16
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Making the Most of PDF
Documents Workshop
with Eric Machan Howd
502 Court St., Utica



**Kenn's
ILL
Notes:**

A FEW REMINDERS:

As another school year has begun, I wanted to remind everyone of a couple things that come to mind.

REPORTING FILLED ILL REQUESTS

The good news is you DO NOT need to email me every time you fill an ILL request. You should scan the book out using either the barcode for the respective school you are sending it to or a generic ILL barcode. These barcodes are available from Library Automation (361-2715) if you do not already have them. Scanning the barcode will record the loan on your circulation system. At some point during the year or at the end of the year I will ask you to run the report that shows your ILL activity. This report should have been added to your Mandarin catalog sometime during the last school year. If it was not added, please call Library Automation to arrange to have it put on.

PLACING AN ILL REQUEST

Once you have found the item in CIDER that you wish to borrow, you will need to go to <http://www.oneida-boces.org/sls> and click on the icon of a computer that says "Interlibrary Loan Email Request Form" under it. This will provide you with a grid of the schools from which you may borrow. Selecting the hyperlink (in red) of the school you wish to borrow from will bring up the form you need to fill out to place the request. The feature in CIDER that reads either "Request Item", "E-mail Selected" or "Email Item" does not work. While it will prompt you for an email address to send it to, no actual email will be sent. Remember to **print the Confirmation Page** when it comes up after submitting the request, as **this is the only record you will have to show you placed the request.**

As always, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to call me at 793-8506 or email krunner@oneida-boces.org and I'd be glad to help! Here's to another great year!

Mary's Wellness Notes:

Sparky Walks Among Us!

For those of you who are new to our group, The Spark Club is a (very) loosely organized group of people who walk or exercise regularly, and then record their time or miles in a booklet provided by the School Library System. The Spark Club was launched last year, in an effort to promote wellness in our

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members. Our goal is to raise awareness of health and wellness issues, encourage physical activity, and have fun. As the year goes on we will be sharing information on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, and we will be compiling data on miles walked/time spent exercising by our members. We also hope to organize some group walks; this region has an abundance of excellent charitable walks (Breast Cancer Awareness, Heart Association, etc.) that would provide an opportunity for us to show our support for a good cause while we walk.

If you are already recording your data, please email your information to mmccormick@oneida-boces.org. If you need a new Spark Club booklet, or would like your first Spark Club booklet, please let us know, and we will send one by courier.

Now: go for a walk while the good fall weather is with us!



Charlotte Award Ballot Books:

The Oneida BOCES Media Services Department has purchased a group of Charlotte Award Ballot Books for use by our districts. If you are interested in utilizing any of these books, please contact Media Services at 793-8514.

Ask Me No Questions, Marina Budhos
The Cloud Chamber, Joyce Maynard

The Cupid Chronicles, Colleen Martagh Paratore

Do You Know the Monkey Man, Dori Hillestad Butler

Heat, Mike Lupica

Jim Thorpe, Original All American, Joseph Bruchac

Just for You to Know, Cheryl Harness

Notes from the Midnight Driver, Jordan Sonnenblick

Standing Against the Wind, Traci Jones

Amazing Grace, Megan Shull



Krista's Korner

Hi everyone! Pat and Mary have generously offered to let me do a column in their newsletter.

I would like to use it to keep you abreast of new developments in the field, and to review books and magazine articles. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoy writing it.

First, on a sad note, in case you hadn't heard, Madeleine L'Engle, author of the Newbery winner *A Wrinkle in Time* and the Newbery Award honor book *A Ring of Endless Light*, as well as several books of poetry and Christian writings,

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died on September 6, 2007, at the age of 88. You may want to do a memorial display or a special discussion of her books in your libraries.

Good news for librarians! The *New York Times* is no longer charging for full text access to parts of its web site, namely, its opinion, editorial, and news columns and its archives going back to 1987. Some articles dating between 1923 and 1986 are also now free, and some will have charges, denoted by a dollar sign in front of the article's title; backfiles from 1851 to 1922 are free because they are in the public domain. This will be especially useful to students doing research from home.

Overlooked picture book gems: From time to time I come upon children's books that don't win awards or seem to get much attention, but which I think are gems. One such book is Holly Keller's *Farfallina and Marcel* (Greenwillow Books, 2002), a sweet story of the friendship between a caterpillar and a goose. Its depiction of such an unusual friendship makes it a good choice for a unit or lesson on diversity. The underlying message of friendship surviving change is also a good one for children. In similar vein is Sarah S. Kilborne's *Peach and Blue* (Knopf, 1994), about an even more unusual friendship between a peach and a toad. This friendship, too, suffers a change when Peach falls to the ground and begins to die, but Toad does not abandon her. Link these two books with Mary Jane Auch's *Bird Dogs Can't Fly* (Holiday House, 1993), about a dog

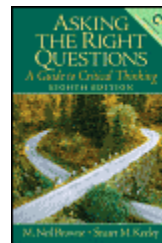
trained to hunt birds who befriends a wild goose and you'll have the makings of a gem of a unit on friendship. If you aren't familiar with these books and decide to read them now, I would be interested to hear what you think of them. You can email me your thoughts at: khartman@mvcc.edu Enjoy!

New! New! New! **September 2007** **Professional Collection** **Additions at the School** **Library System**



Allington, Richard L. *What Really Matters for Struggling Readers: Designing Research-Based Programs.* (2nd ed) Pearson, 2006.

Delivers a concise and balanced introduction to reading remediation and intervention programs and the topic of struggling readers.



Brown, M. Neil and Stuart M. Keeley. *Asking the Right Questions: a Guide to Critical Thinking.* (8th ed) Pearson Prentice-Hall, 2007
Helps students to bridge

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the gap between simply memorizing or blindly accepting information and the greater challenge of critical analysis and synthesis. It teaches them to respond to alternative points of view and develop a solid foundation for making personal choices about what to accept and what to reject



Fisher, Alec. *Critical Thinking: an Introduction*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Explores the teaching of critical thinking skills – the ability to interpret, analyze and evaluate ideas and arguments.



Forte, Imogene and Sandra Schurr. *180 Icebreakers to Strengthen Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills*. Incentive Publications, 1996.



Lester, James D. and James D. Lester Jr. *Writing Research Papers: a Complete Guide*. (12th ed) Pearson Longman, 2007.

Chapter topics include: finding topics, filtering electronic sources, gathering data, research outside

library, avoiding plagiarism, evaluating sources, organizing, effective note taking, draft paper, blending reference material into your writing, citing sources, and more.



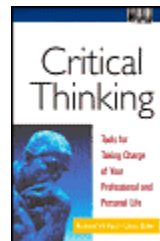
Mann, Thomas. *The Oxford Guide to Library Research: How to Find Reliable Information Online and Offline*. Oxford University Press, 2005.

Higher level research – comprehensive overview of the full range of options, both online and off. Looks at data sources and search techniques.



McElmeel, Sharron L. and Deborah L. McElmeel. *Authors in the Kitchen: Recipes, Stories, and More*. Libraries Unlimited, 2005.

Gail Gibbons apple pie... Janet Stevens potato soup ...serve up these recipes as you read the authors books to your students. This book includes recipes, a photo and biographical sketch of each contributor, and a longer statement or anecdote that relates to the fare.



Paul, Richard W. and Linda Elder. *Critical Thinking: Tools for Taking*

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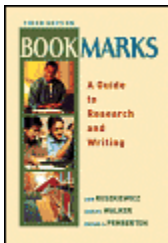
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Charge of Your Professional and Personal Life. Pearson Education, 2002.

Become a better thinker in every aspect of your life...career...consumer... friend and lover. Explores the core skills of effective thinking.



Ruszkiewicz, John, Janice R. Walker, and Michael A. Pemberton.
Bookmarks: a Guide to Research and Writing. (3rd ed) Pearson Longman, 2006.

Designed to prepare students for the demands of conducting research. Establishes a new benchmark for college research guides, serving as a bridge between old and new traditions for researchers who expect to work regularly in both print and electronic environments.



Introducing PPD Professional Collection on CIDER

A new addition to the CIDER Regional Union Catalog is the collection housed at the Program & Professional Development Offices at BOCES on Middle Settlement Rd. in New Hartford. Now teachers and librarians can access all of the professional books of the SLS and PPD in one place. Please share this information with the staff in your district. It could be a time and money saver for them when looking for resources for their classes and projects. Just request the books of SLS and PPD by making an ILL request to Kenn Runninger using the ILL form on our website.

Two books of focus this month from PPD are:

Building Moral Intelligence: The Seven Essential Virtues That Teach Kids to Do the Right Thing by Michele Borba.

This book was used in the presentations on opening day by the key note speaker. Michele Borba focuses on key concepts facing all of us today as educators and parents...raising moral kids. Learn more about the processes she has researched in her book.

Mentoring Matters: A Practical Guide to Learning-Focused Relationships by Laura Lipton, Bruce Wellman, Carlette Humbard

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A very useful resource for anyone mentoring in the school setting. It has very useable ideas for activities to get your mentoring experience going, how to keep it going, and how to make it useful as compared to just whining to a friend. Used in recent mentor trainings at BOCES it is a highly recommended book.



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