

The School Library System Newsletter

February 2010

Pat's Desk Talk:

Mid-York Library System Celebrates 50 Years



The Mid-York Library System Charter was signed on June 24, 1960. Many activities are being planned for the celebration of the 50 years of service provided by Mid-York. School libraries have been invited to take part in some of these events in a special way.

First is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Utica on March 13th. We will be sending a flyer for you to distribute. Students, and their parents too if they want to bring them, will walk behind the Mid-York van. Everyone is encouraged to come dressed as their favorite book character. Students can come individually or maybe you could get a whole class to come together. Responses are needed by Monday, Feb. 22 so that we can get them to Mid-York. They need to file their registration papers with the city and they have to include the number of people in their group.

The other activity for students is a "50 Years in the Future of Libraries" Contest. Students can submit one of the following types of entry: 30 second commercial, 140 character tweet, 100 word essay, or a poster/painting expressing themselves on the topic. Complete details will be emailed soon.

These will not be due until late March or early April.

We hope you will encourage your students to help us celebrate the positive side of libraries – 50 years of serving communities in Oneida, Madison, and Herkimer Counties.



Notes from Kenn:

Requesting Multiple Copies of a Book

To request multiple copies of a title, search CIDER to see who holds the desired title. Send a separate request to each of the schools holding the book. Add a Public Note stating that you are looking for multiple copies and ask the school to send as many copies as they can. The down side of doing this is that you may receive more copies than you need, but better too many than not enough. Due to the problems that were created last month when a multiple copy option was added to CIDER, the option had to be removed for the time being. Media Flex will be working over the summer to further develop this option and try adding it again in the future. Until then, this is the preferred way to request multiple copies and will provide us with accurate statistics for the libraries involved.

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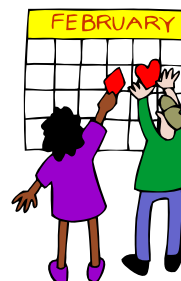
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Add a Public Note When Rejecting an ILL Request

Several librarians/aides have said it would be nice to have a Public Note added stating why a request was rejected. A simple “In use” or “Lost” or whatever the reason for the rejection is all that is needed. If everyone adds this note, it will help the requesting library know if they should try elsewhere or try again at a later date – (and I think take some of the sting out of being “rejected!”) ☺ Your fellow librarians and aides thank you!

Remember to Track ILLS Not Done Through CIDER

All ILL requests should be going through CIDER, but I know sometimes a phone call or email is made directly to a library instead. If you fill a request through one of these other ways, please remember to keep track of this loan. Anything requested that doesn't come to you through CIDER won't show in your statistics and therefore needs to be tracked manually and added to your CIDER stats at the end of the school year.



Mary's Notes:

Database Order Sheets, VRL

By now all of you should have had a chance to look over your database order sheets for 2010-2011. I hope they make sense to you, and that you are finding everything you want. If you find a product that is not on the sheets that you would like to see included, please let me know and we will check into it and see if it fits the parameters of “database.” We can and do accommodate most requests. Also, if you want trials of any products, be in touch, and I will request a trial from the vendor. It is an excellent idea to try products in house before buying them, and of course it is a good idea to share the trials with your staff and students. Chances are good that if you want a trial of a product there is another library that would like the same trial.

As always, our expectation is that in districts with multiple libraries and library media specialists, you will confer with one another on products to be purchased, and only one database order sheet per district will be returned. Our intent when sending the forms to all of the libraries is that you will have a

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chance to see what is available and what the various products and services cost.

I have had some questions about the Virtual Reference Library, and where the service actually fits on the commitment forms. We did not include that service on the database order sheets, since it really is a different service, even though it falls under the same budget code. The cost of the service was included in the packets that went to your school's business office and administration. We are hopeful that in the 2011-2012 budget year we will have the VRL service re-numbered, so that the difference between VRL and databases is plain to everyone, even those who are not as familiar with library services and products. Since the books included in the service will grow in number each year it actually is more in the nature of traditional library books, which are purchased and retained from year to year, rather than databases, which are renewed (or not) every year.

Happy February, happy ordering, happy budget to everyone! Give me a call if you have any questions, or if you need anything. I will do my best to get you the answers you need.



Anne's Notes:

If there's anyone who'd like a "refresher course" on how to catalog books or DVD's, please call (315) 223-4707 and we'll find a time when I can help you, either at your library or here.

LOOKING FOR DISCARDED BASEBALL BOOKS

We have a staff member who has a collection of baseball books and would be interested in adding any discarded baseball books you may have to his collection. Any age or grade level would be fine. If you don't have students, faculty or staff that want them, please send them to the SLS and we'll make sure he gets them. Thank you!



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Library Notes from Jim Cichon, Westmoreland High School

Book Wrapping

As many of you already know, taking every book and shelf out of a library is truly a grueling experience. My biggest concern was how to package and store the books so there was some sense of order when they had to go back on the shelf. Being a “newbie” to the world of library construction, I went to the experts for help. I got many great ideas from the “experts” on how to package and label the books for easy return shelving. However, there was one idea that stood above the rest.

Sauquoit Valley Elementary media specialist Jody Hildreth suggested that I wrap the books in heavy duty cellophane wrap. Yes, the same wrap that you use to wrap sandwiches or cover a dish going into a microwave.

Here is how it works. Before you start taking the individual shelves out of the book cases make sure to label the shelves. I labeled the first case with a number 1 and then the individual shelves were labeled with letters starting with A, then B, then C and so on as I went down

the case. Now the fun work begins. To make it real easy you need 4 people per shelf (we used seniors who needed community service). Two students would pull the individual shelf out of the book case. They would then stand at each end of the self holding it while two students stood on opposite sides of the shelf. The students on the sides of the shelf would take the role of cellophane starting at the bottom and coming over top of the books continuously wrapping the books as they went down the shelf. The cellophane that we used was really tough stuff so the tighter you wrap the shelves the better they stack. Use a permanent marker and label the books with the number and the letter of the shelf. This process worked great.

Thanks Jody for the great idea and making the storage of books a much less stressful process.



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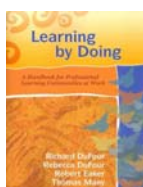
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NEW *FEBRUARY* NEW SLS PROFESSIONAL BOOKS



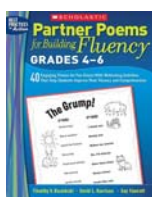
Learning by Doing: a Handbook for Professional Learning Communities at Work™

Authors: Richard &

Rebecca DuFour, Robert Eaker, Thomas Many

Publisher: Solution Tree Press, 2006

A six-part format that guides readers to take action steps for building their capacity to create and sustain a professional learning community in their district.



Partner Poems for Building Fluency: Grades 4-6

Authors: Timothy Rasinski, David Harrison,

Gay Fawcett

Publisher: Scholastic, 2009

40 engaging poems for two voices with motivating activities that help students improve their fluency and comprehension. Companion activities focus on: visualizing, making connections, predicting, and inferring.

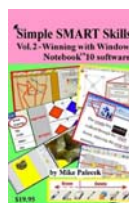


Simple SMART Skills for Teacher Productivity and Student Engagement

Author: Mike Palecek

Publisher: Lulu Press, 2008

Mike Palecek, an educational technology specialist, gives practical uses of the interactive whiteboard features in classroom lessons. Each example is accompanied by clearly labeled illustrations.

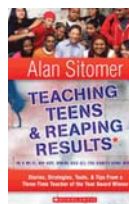


Simple SMART Skills: Vol. 2 – Winning with Windows™ Notebook™ 10 software

Author: Mike Palecek

Publisher: Lulu Press, 2008

In his 2nd book, Mike continues to share tips, techniques, shortcuts, ideas, and resources that will increase one's ability to use their interactive whiteboard to its fullest potential for making learning in the classroom dynamic and versatile.



Teaching Teens & Reaping Results: in a Wi-Fi, Hip-Hop, Where-Has-All-the-Sanity-Gone-World

Author: Alan Sitomer

Publisher:

Scholastic, 2008

How do you prepare teens for the world filled with jobs, technologies, and challenges that don't even yet exist? This book contains stories, teaching tools, and insights from a high school teacher who is breaking through to today's teens in innovative and reproducible ways. Grades 6-12.

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