

The School Library System Newsletter

May 2007

Pat's Desk Talk

Time to Plant and Time to Plan

The sun is shining and the grass is turning green. What a delightful time of year! As we move into Spring (finally!), we begin planting our gardens and planning our summers. Although I encourage you to pack in as much fun as humanly possible, I do also want to provide a variety of professional development opportunities for you to take advantage of while your schedules are, perhaps, a touch lighter. Fitting professional development into after-school sessions is very difficult for many educators. Personal commitments and plain old exhaustion tend to limit what we can get involved in at the end of a hectic school day. We hope that by offering some events in the summer, it will relieve the strain of trying to acquire continuing ed credits during the school year. We have made a special effort to provide variety in content and appeal in hopes that your unique needs can be met. So I will plant a few seeds of my own and lay out our garden of opportunities for you to harvest.

Remember to seek proper approval for these events if you are using them for credit in your district. Sometimes administrators won't accept professional development if it wasn't pre-approved.

On **June 25**, we are offering training for superintendents and principals. This half day workshop is designed to show them the ins-and-outs of the services we provide to our libraries. Sylvia Sallustio and I will partner up to showcase what

exactly a district gets for its investment in BOCES library services – media and SLS.

Mark your calendars and register soon, this workshop is filling fast – **July 18 & 19 from 8:30 to 2:30**. We have arranged to have Toni Buzzeo, librarian and nationally known author, at Hart's Hill Inn for a two day workshop. You need to bring one or more teachers with whom you will create a collaborative unit. This workshop will guide you through the process and your team will create a unit you will use in the following school year.

July 30 and 31 from 9:00 to 3:00, we are combining fun and learning into one delightful package. Bertha Rogers, artist-poet and lover-of-libraries, will provide 4 make-and-take workshops on literature and making books. Each of the four sessions will focus on a different technique from easy to advanced. Join us for fresh ideas, professional development, and laughter while creating projects to use with your staff and students. Call Mary McCormick for registration details.

August 6-10 from 10:30-12:30 – Register now for the next set of electronic resources workshops taught by librarians from MVCC. Krista Hartman and Colleen Kehoe-Robinson will team teach five 2-hour workshops "Going Deeper with Electronic Resources." Each day a new grouping of websites and electronic resources will be explored and discussed. Hands-on exercises will be used to motivate you to spend the time necessary to get to know

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these resources better. The focus of the five sessions will be: Educational Sites, Kids Sites, Ready Reference on the Web, The Hidden Internet, and Local History Sites



It's a School!

The School Library System is proud to announce a new arrival. The Mohawk Valley Christian Academy, in Little Falls, is joining the SLS. The Mohawk Valley Christian Academy is located on West Monroe St. in Little Falls. Karen Pelletier acts as principal of the school, which currently serves sixty three students in grades K-12. More information will be forthcoming; we hope that you will join us in welcoming Karen and her staff to our group.
Phone: 823-3696

Calendar for May 2007:

May 14

9:00 – 12:00 noon

School Library System/Media Services Liaison Committee meeting, Conference Room

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch with SLS Advisory Council
257 Steakhouse, Genesee St.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

School Library System Advisory Council meeting, Conference Room

May 11, final day for school to school interlibrary loan

Retirements:

Congratulations to our retirees!

- Ylva Cortright, Sauquoit Valley Middle School
- Ellen Zamperetti, Westmoreland High School
- Connie Putrelo, Parkway Middle School in Whitesboro

We wish you many happy and healthy years of retirement. We will miss you.

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Mary's Notes on Wellness:

It strikes me that spring is not only in the air, it is also bubbling up in our veins! Many of us are not winter people, and some of us are a little confused about how we happen to be living in this area, given that reality. After a dark, often discouraging winter it is wonderful to be able to get outside and walk again. Treadmills and exercise bikes can go back into the basement where they belong, and we can get out into the fresh air again without wheezing.

If you fell off the exercise wagon during the winter, I hope you will locate the booklets we sent for tracking your progress, and start to record your walking and exercise time again. Should your booklet be lost we will be happy to send another.

After some consideration, we have decided that we will plan to hold our wellness fair in the fall. That will give all of us time to enjoy the summer, and get into the right mindset. One of our members pointed out too that fall always marks the start of a new year for any of us who live with a school schedule. Having the wellness fair in the fall will help us mark the transition from one season to the next, and will inspire us to live well every day and every season.

For now, lace up your shoes and enjoy the good weather.

If anyone would like to contribute information, articles on fitness and wellness, or thoughts on living our lives well, please send an email. We are a community of learners, and we look forward to sharing your contributions.



Kenn's ILL Notes:

When sending a reply email to a loan request, please make sure your reply includes the original message received. You can set your email preferences to do this automatically. If you do not want to have it done automatically, be sure to include the title of the book in your email when sending your reply. This is very important information for schools that send out requests for several different books. If the reply does not include the original email or at least the title being sought, the requesting library doesn't know what you are replying to if a generic "Will send book" email is received. Thank you for your help in clearing up this confusion! If you have questions, just give me a call.

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Data Entry Tips from Anne:

Here at Data Entry, I am striving to improve our "turnaround" time. Batches of 100 records or less should be processed within 2 weeks of their arrival here.

To help me achieve this goal, please make sure that the information you're sending me is complete. In order to process a record I need:

1. ISBN number
2. Title of book
3. Author of book
4. Barcode number
5. Call number

Any additional information you can send is helpful, especially if I have to create an original MARC record for an item.

I'd like to bring a website to your attention. If you copy MARC records, try <http://www.bccls.org/>. The Bergen County Cooperative library system's catalog includes holdings for 73 public libraries. Their MARC records are generally good quality.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at (315) 223-4707 or e-mail me at anassar@oneida-boces.org.

New Books for the Professional Library – All Grade Levels

Fox, Kathleen. *Fun-brarian: Games, Activities, & Ideas to Liven Up Your Library!* Upstart Books, 2007.

This book provides 20 Library games, quick activity ideas for every grade, and reproducible certificates and awards. Each game and activity is classified by the skill/objective, grade, and time required.

Fritz, Deborah A. *Cataloging with AACR2 & MARC21: for Books, Electronic Resources, Sound Recordings, Videorecordings, and Serials.* American Library Association, 2007.

Designed to streamline the process and avoid errors, the book is organized in order of MARC tags. Following this step-by-step guide, users can: identify the rules that govern each MARC field, match resources to records, edit records, create new records easily, clone records for different editions, make individual MARC records "play well" with others in the database.



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Kerby, Mona. *Collection Development for the School Library Media Program: a Beginner's Guide.* American Association of School Librarians, 2006.

A valuable resource for new or experienced school librarians, guide. It provides practical and relevant information about collection development issues such as: the school users, policies, selection criteria and sources, ordering, weeding, evaluation.

Moreillon, Judi. *Collaborative Strategies for Teaching Reading Comprehension: Maximizing Your Impact.* American Library Association, 2007.

A book full of practical applications for collaboration: streamline the co-teaching lesson-planning process, encourage collaboration with a flexible design and delivery framework, strengthen partnering techniques to improve reading comprehension, address three levels of literacy development, identify seven strategies that students use to read for meaning, connect with research-driven teaching practices that incorporate library programs, increase reading scores and lower the student-teacher ratios using proven collaborative approaches.

Reid, Rob. *Cool Story Programs for the School-Age Crowd.* School Library Association, 2004

Rob Reid offers 18 new wacky and offbeat programs, guaranteed to

delight a variety of audiences. Each plan opens with a thumbnail overview, then draws on unusual combinations of poetry, picture books, chapter book excerpts, and short stories. The mix varies by theme, but all the programs touch the concerns, interests, and humor for this age group.

Stover, Lynne Farrell. *From Snicket to Shakespeare: Connecting Contemporary tales to the Classics.* Upstart Books, 2006

Use popular fantasy literature to connect your students to classic tales. This book contains 12 chapters, each focusing on the plot, setting, or characters in a specific piece of fantasy literature. Each contains a synopsis of the featured book, a list of connection titles, two lessons, and objectives that correspond to most curriculum content standards.



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