Best Wishes and Thank You
From Patricia Skelly

It is hard to get my head around the fact that this is my last ISS Newsletter. The next issue will come out in February/March and there will be a new ISS Supervisor and a new SLS/Media Coordinator by then.

I began my career at BOCES in September 2005. As the SLS Coordinator, I learned about the amazing resources available to school libraries in New York state. Having come back to NY after leaving my freshman year in high school, I discovered things about NY education that I didn’t know having worked in Wisconsin up to that point. I felt like a kid in a candy store. I considered myself very lucky to be part of such a positive organization.

Through my transition into the ISS Supervisor position in 2011, I learned to value the staff of the three departments we merged to make the ISS Department. Each person brought a unique set of skills to the table. When you put all of those skills together, you have a responsive, upbeat, talented staff with which to work. I could not have done this job without them.

I thank you all for your support, enthusiasm, and professionalism. It has been an honor to work with you these last 10 ½ years. I have marveled at the level of dedication you have given to your students, teachers, and districts. I have watched you roll with the changes and work to make your library programs even stronger. I have watched you juggle responsibilities as schools have hit financial hard times and still keep putting the students first. I have watched you attend numerous professional development events to keep yourselves at the top of your game. And I have shared much laughter and comradery with you at meetings and trainings.

I wish you all the best in the years ahead. I know you will continue to grow as professionals and strengthen your library programs to meet the needs of your clients. May you all find your careers as fulfilling as I have and may you continue to find support through this fine SLS/Media Service.

Media Services
World Almanac for Kids … 2
Learn360 Talkin’ Money … 2
New Snap Content … 3

School Library System
Bookshare … 4
NYLA IFR … 4
WCNY Questions … 5
CCD Order Reminder … 5

Science Center
Learning Standards … 6
Media

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

New in World Almanac® for Kids Online

One of the products you have access to in Snap and SEARCH for Success has been updated. World Almanac for Kids has added three new modules and book-length biographies. The new modules are W.S. Government, Historical Events, and Book Reports. These fascinating accounts cover the lives of key people across all eras and professions—from artists, architects, and designers; athletes; and explorers, astronauts, and adventurers; to American and world leaders; scientists, inventors, and mathematicians; and writers, poets, and journalists. Each of these newly added biographies is the equivalent of 100+ pages, the perfect length for book reports and other assignments.

A red star to the right of a person’s name in the Famous People module makes it easy to see at a glance which biographies are book-length.

Learn360 has announced that the Talkin’ Money series (Steve Procko Productions) has been nominated by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Suncoast Chapter Emmy Awards!

Learn360 Talkin’ Money Series
Financial Literacy Educational Video Series

This educational video series uses real-life situations to teach financial literacy concepts. To access this series just log into your Snap account and stream it for them to watch on their own. Remember: students can access this series just log into your Snap account and stream it for them to watch on their own. Remember: students can have accounts in Snap in order to view streaming media. Just contact our office 792.8514 for information on how to enroll your students.

New in World Almanac® for Kids Online

More than 700 book-length biographies have just been added to The World Almanac® for Kids Online’s Famous People module. These fascinating accounts cover the lives of key people across all eras and professions—from artists, architects, and designers; athletes; and explorers, astronauts, and adventurers; to American and world leaders; scientists, inventors, and mathematicians; and writers, poets, and journalists. Each of these newly added biographies is the equivalent of 100+ pages, the perfect length for book reports and other assignments.

Media

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

View New BOCES Content on Snap

Along with all the new content from the vendors like Learn360, CCCI, CVOD and PBS Learning Media, the Media Service purchases streaming media from individual video vendors. This content can be viewed by searching by subject and filtering by BOCES on the side bar or by putting in one of these titles. Please share with teachers and students who would find this content useful and/or just interesting to watch.

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Learn360 Talkin’ Money Series
Financial Literacy Educational Video Series

- After Winter, Spring (4-8, 9-12)
- Plastic Paradise (9-12)
- Facing Fear (9-12)
- Weather Gone Wild (4-8, 9-12)
- DamNation (4-8, 9-12)
- Racing to Zero (9-12)
- Standing on Sacred Ground (4 part series) (9-12)
- Thik Green Series:
  - Agriculture 2: Green Farms and Farming (4-8, 9-12)
  - Architecture: Building, Heating and Designing Green (4-8, 9-12)
  - Climate Change 1: The Arctic and Antarctica (4-8, 9-12)
  - Climate Change 2: Green Research, Conferences, Protests (4-8, 9-12)
  - Climate Change 3: Over Time (4-8, 9-12)
  - Energy 1: Efficiency and Conservation (4-8, 9-12)
  - Energy 2: Resources and Analysis (4-8, 9-12)
  - Energy 3: Biofuels (4-8, 9-12)
  - Energy 4: Wind and Conversion Tech (4-8, 9-12)
- Transportation 1: Eco-Friendly Vehicles 1 (4-8, 9-12)
- Transportation 2: Eco-Friendly Vehicles 2 (4-8, 9-12)
- Transportation 3: Eco-Friendly Vehicles 3 (4-8, 9-12)
- Transportation 4: Eco-Friendly Vehicles 4 (4-8, 9-12)

History’s Greatest Series: Inventors – 6 parts
- Newton: a Tale of Two Isaacs
- Edison: the Wizard of Light
- Galileo: on the Shoulders of Giants
- Leonardo: A Dream of Flight
- Einstein: Light to the Power of 2
- Marie Curie: More than Meets the Eye

History’s Greatest Series: Artists - 6 parts (all levels)
- Cassatt: American Impressionist
- Goya: Awakened in a Dream
- Degas and the Dancer
- Monet: Shadow and Light
- Rembrandt: Fathers and Sons
- Homer: American Original

History’s Greatest Series: Composers - 6 parts (all levels)
- Bizet’s Dream
- Ravel’s Ghost
- Bach’s Fight for Freedom
- Liszt’s Rhapsody
- Strauss: the King of Three Quarter Time
- Handel’s Last Chance

Added to the 20th Century President Series:
- Clinton
- Ford
- Kennedy
- Hoover
- Coolidge
- Harding
- Taft
- Bush
- Carter

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NYLA Intellectual Freedom Roundtable

Intellectual freedom is the right of library users to read, seek information, and speak freely as guaranteed by the First Amendment. It is a core value of the library profession, and a basic right in our democratic society.

The New York Library Association demonstrates its commitment to intellectual freedom through its Intellectual Freedom Roundtable (IFRT). The IFRT is charged by NYLA Council to provide a forum for the membership in which to exchange information, develop special educational and informational programs, and to keep NYLA members informed of intellectual freedom matters. It is responsible for NYLA’s Intellectual Freedom Manual and Checklist.

IFRT functions as both a support network and reporting mechanism for libraries and staff involved in intellectual freedom issues in New York state. The officers of IFRT are your state-wide contacts to help share information, lend support, and coordinate programs facing intellectual freedom infringements and violations, and to promote and coordinate banned books and choose privacy initiatives.

Find more information regarding IFRT on the NYLA website. Consider joining the Intellectual Freedom Roundtable when you are renewing your NYLA membership.

WNYC Seeking Questions for Program with Commissioner Enea

Connect NY, Conversations That Matter To You. WCNY’s Susan Arbetter hosts New York State Education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia and a panel of education stakeholders to discuss the Common Core in New York schools. The program is the first of six episodes of Connect: NY to feature conversations about education issues in the Empire State.

The Connect NY series will explore statewide issues of critical importance and begins with six, monthly, one-hour panel discussions about education issues including: Common Core standards, teacher evaluation, school financing, achievement gaps, testing and opting out, and legal challenges.

You are invited to submit questions to Pat Skelly for submission to WCNY for upcoming episodes of Connect NY. There is no guarantee your questions will get asked on air, but when sharing them with the Connect NY team, you are helping to shape the show’s direction. The air dates of upcoming shows (they air at 9 p.m.), the topic being covered in each show, and the deadline date for submitting questions are all listed.

NYLA 125 1890-2015

Cooperative Collection Development Order Reminder

It’s time to get those CCD orders in to Mary. We like to wrap them up in January, if possible, and there are always stragglers. Also, remember to send your packing slips to Mary once you get the order at your library.

Visit the WCNY Website Here
Draft of Updated “NYS Science Learning Standards” has been released!

Beginning in December of 2014, the OHM BOCES Science Center undertook the task of revamping the elementary program to reflect the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Our goal in doing this was to be ready to support elementary classroom teachers in the instruction of these new standards before they were adopted, rather than in reaction to their adoption as was the case with The Common Core. We were confident that by aligning our curriculum with the NGSS, while still addressing the current NYS Science Learning Standards, we would be in a strong position to support our teachers in the months and years ahead.

As of November this year, the long awaited draft of the updated NYS Science Learning Standards has been released and is posted for viewing on the NYSED website (see below). Upon review of these new standards we are happy to say that, with very few exceptions, the path we have laid out for our elementary science program is fully in-line with the new draft standards. During the upcoming winter we will be releasing eight new science kit titles. Among those titles is the third grade “Life Cycles in Nature” kit, in which students will be able to make observations and conduct investigations on live frogs in five different stages of development (from egg to adult) simultaneously. We are excited to be able to offer this resource to our districts and will continue to explore new and engaging ways to support science in the elementary classroom.


Questions or Comments? Contact the Science Center at: sciencecenter@oneida-boces.org