



Minutes – September 26, 2017 Communication Coordinators Meeting

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Absent: Matthew Bashant, Robin Tabor

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Betsy Hartnett welcomed everyone, and attendees introduced themselves. All meeting materials are available in the library media specialist PLC course in Buzz. Instructions for how to access can be found [here](#).
- II. **Updates** – All students are being added to SNAP and OverDrive. At present, about 80% of students have been entered into SNAP and about 60% into OverDrive. If there are problems using SNAP, contact Colleen Huddleston, 315-793-8516. With some exceptions, the password for both SNAP and OverDrive is “media.” If you have questions, please contact the School Library System. During the summer an initiative was implemented to streamline the username and password system further, so that they would be universal within a district for all resources (databases and ebooks). Passwords for SEARCH for Success were changed if librarians had asked for them to be changed.

A. Product Updates -

- a. **Tumble Tracker in Tumble Books and Tumble Book Cloud** – Betsy gave an overview of the Tumble Tracker feature in these products. Using Tumble Tracker, a teacher can set up a class, and then track students’ reading progress, as well as assign books to be read. If someone is interested in piloting this, it would be very helpful to learn about the results.
- b. **OverDrive Contest** – the SLS is considering doing a contest of OverDrive usage, with a prize of content credit given to the winning school. This was well received and we will implement later this Fall or early Winter.
- c. **Fable Books** – Fable Books went out of business, leaving libraries with content but no platform on which to house the content. OverDrive has agreed to add them to their platform; however progress has been slow in making the shift.
- d. **NovelNY Changes** – information has been sent regarding the changes made to the suite of NovelNY products. There are actually 16 resources included in the package, for BEDS reporting.

B. Leatherstocking Conference and October Herkimer BOCES Conference Day– the annual Leatherstocking Conference is being held October 26, at Vernon Downs Hotel. The fee is \$75,

however presenters and administrators attend at no cost. October 16 is the Herkimer BOCES Superintendents' Conference Day. Herkimer BOCES librarians and library staff are invited to attend training Central Valley Academy. Betsy will work with Herkimer librarians to put together a day of training.

C. OPALS – Pat Lekki demonstrated a variety of features in CIDER, including searching by book category. She also demonstrated the equipment module, an option available for purchase by districts. Pat also suggested that ebook readers could be pre-loaded by genre, and then circulated to students who might wish to read a particular type of book (i.e. mysteries). This would eliminate the need to have the devices online, and would allow students to utilize the devices at school or at home.

D. Battle of the Books – Cindy Staley shared information about the Battle of the Books. There are currently five local districts competing, Dolgeville, Richfield Springs, Waterville, Holland Patent, and Little Falls. Middle school and high school teams are invited to compete, with a maximum of four team members in the competitions, and a minimum of two team members. All members of the team can attend the competitions, and participate in the field trip at the end of the season. Cindy shared their [Battle of the Books](#) webpage. Dolgeville has been competing for around 10 years. Team members commit to reading a particular number of books, and then meet as a group to discuss the books. The books are available from a variety of sources, in-house, through the Media Services multiple book library, on OverDrive, through purchase by the SLS, in through ILL. In March of each year the team members take a quiz on the books, and those who score highest go on to the ranked competition teams. Teams compete in district, then on to competition with other local teams. Finals are held in Albany, with an accompanying day of museum tours, author talks, etc.

E. Library PLC – a Library Professional Learning Community group was formed last year through the Teacher Center, and the opportunity to do this again this year is available. Nancy Rand facilitated last year's group, and they met about six times at various district libraries. Participants found the experience very rewarding. Please email Betsy if you are interested in being part of a Library PLC this year.

III. Information and Media Literacy Skills – Documents can be found on Buzz. Betsy reviewed the Grade 12 exit skills and a copy of the document was provided for each person. She also explained the collaboration with the Waterville district and shared the Research Continuum that was developed as a result. This foundation of this was in existence, with some modification made in response to the collaborative nature of the project. The end goal of the work being done by the School Library System and area librarians is to develop K-12 Information and Media Literacy Skills that could be endorsed and supported regionally. Additionally, a set of lessons that reinforce and strengthen these skills will be developed. To that end, work was started during the summer of 2017 by Oneida/Herkimer librarians, and librarians continue to create curriculum in this area. C3 members broke into small groups to work collaboratively. Following lunch, C3 members discussed the results of their group work.

IV. Gale Database Training- This information can be found on Buzz