



Minutes – April 4, 2018 Communication Coordinators Meeting

Michelle Babbie Matthew Bashant Jim Cichon Megan Dellecese Shelley Elliott Vicky Greenman	Mary Lourdes Heaton Julie Horwat Steve Inzer Crystal Keck Pat Lekki Roma Matott	Deborah Mowers Janice Murray Danielle Novak Katie Parker Nancy Rand Anne Reilly	Susan Scheu Cindy Staley Terri Stile Robin Tabor Tanja Tamburino Karen Zaleski Helen Zyma
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Absent: Pat Lekki, Deborah Mowers, Susan Scheu, Robin Tabor

Also Present: Alicia Adamczyk, Jody Hildreth, Denise Hoffman, Danielle Howe, Carole Rahme, Nancy Rand, Heather Urtz, Antoinette Zaleski, Missy Wohler, Anne Debraggio, Travis Olivera, Anne DuRoss, Amy Benson, Ashlyn Samargia

- I. **Welcome** – Betsy welcomed the school librarians and the public librarians in attendance. This was a joint meeting between the two librarian communities, with invitations extended to all local public librarians and any school librarians who were able to attend from our consortium districts.
- II. **Summer Slide** – Betsy presented a graphic on the impact of a summer spent without reading materials. The impact on low income students is the most profound, and the effects are cumulative. According to one source, the summer learning loss accounts for two thirds of the ninth grade achievement gap between students from low income households and their higher income peers. With collaboration between school and public librarians, working in concert for the populations they serve, the goal is to prevent that summer slide in our students. Betsy asked librarians in attendance to find their counterpart and brainstorm ideas that could be implemented this summer.
- III. **Results of Brainstorming Session** – Some of the suggestions were:
 - Public library visit to schools to promote summer reading program
 - Research collaboration
 - Newsletter
 - Literacy evening
 - Cross promotion of programs
 - Read and ride program
 - Little Free Library at laundromats, food pantries, etc.
 - Public library book talks at school
 - Book clubs
 - Reminders of library accounts and events
 - Library Bingo
 - Share book lists, e-book account information

- Summer book loans from schools
- Distribute public library information at schools
- Public library card applications kept at schools
- Send public library information home to parents
- Family community night for schools at public library
- Push audio books
- Add a summer school bus stop at public library
- Student field trip to public library
- Bring used books to park programs, schools, etc., to give to kids

IV. **Maker Space Activities** – Lisa Davis, Oneida BOCES, demonstrated some STEAM activities with the group. These were all activities the librarians could implement in their libraries.

V. **Idea Share** – The C3 group shared ideas about projects they are involved in that are successful. Denise Hoffman does a “56 Days of Reading” program during the summer, and follows it up with a celebration in September. She also said that Assemblyman Andrew Brindisi and state Senator Joe Griffo both send out activities for summer reading programs. The NYS Legislature also sends certificates to students for participation in these programs. Betsy is having Library Bingo Boards made. She will share them electronically, then schools can request the number of boards they would like printed. The SLS will pay for all of the cost associated with creating and printing these. Roma Matott has extra books that she is willing to share with other schools. Please contact Roma at the House of the Good Shepherd if you are interested.

VI. **Jigsaw Activity** – Librarians broke into smaller groups. Each group read a portion of the article “Reimagining Advocacy for School Libraries,” by Barbara K. Stripling, and then related what they had learned. Discussion arose from the article, and members gave input on ways they work to make their library programs successful. These suggestions included leading with humility; suggesting to faculty that the librarian is there to make their lives easier; taking time to consider and evaluate requests, rather than giving a negative answer; and, the idea that reading is part of a healthy diet for the mind. In addition, a suggestion was made to have postcards that are printed with the library logo on one side available for patrons. They are invited to write positive comments on the postcards throughout the year, and then these can be sent to the school board.

VII. **Herkimer Historical Society** – following lunch, representatives from the Herkimer Historical Society Barb Dunadee and Donna Ruben joined the group, and presented *Women Belong in History, Volumes One and Two*, to the members of the C3 group. These books were created in 2015-2016, with approximately forty different writers contributing to the project. The books are composed of essays on noteworthy women from Herkimer County. Ms. Dunadee and Ms. Ruben gave thumbnail sketches of two women included in the books each. The stories were fascinating, and illustrated the diverse array of subjects of these books.

VIII. **Meeting Adjourned at 2:30 p.m.** – Next meeting will be June 1, with the School Library System Advisory Council.