

Administrator's Newsletter



Newsletter for Administrators created by Library Media Services of Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES

*Admin Expert Gary Hartzell to visit Rochester:
Be a free guest at his keynote address to school librarians*
by Teresa Keyes, Bloomfield Middle/High School Library Media Specialist

Columnist Gary Hartzell, the featured speaker at the 2006 NY School Library Media Specialist conference, will discuss the symbiotic relationship between school administrators and librarians on Friday, April 28. He is professor of Educational Administration at the University of Nebraska, Omaha. A former teacher, assistant principal and principal, he is now a monthly columnist for *School Library Journal*, specializing in school administration, librarians, and workplace relationships. He was a featured speaker at the 2002 White House Conference on School Libraries. From his article, *Why Should Principals Support School Libraries?* (ERIC, November 2002):

Librarians make you look good. “Freed from clerical duties and aware of developing challenges and opportunities through their extra-library involvement, librarians can draw on the Internet and subscription databases to **supply (you) with up-to-the-minute information** on any given topic in planning sessions and prior to any board, faculty, parent, or business partner meeting. Consistent access to such information can only result in **improved administrative decision-making.**”

Make your librarian a leader. “Provide opportunities for your librarian to serve in a **leadership capacity outside the library** itself, through district-level committees, parent groups, business partnerships, and community organizations. An active and committed librarian may be eager and well suited to engage in these activities.”

Collaboration starts with you. “Teachers collaborate more with other teachers and with librarians when principals openly encourage the practice in word and deed.” As your school’s instructional and curriculum leader, you powerfully affect the extent to which **information literacy instruction** is embedded in the body of your school's curriculum.

Join your library media specialist (LMS) at the SLMS 2006 Conference to meet Gary and listen to his cutting-edge advice. See your LMS or visit <http://www.ggw.org/rasl/> for registration information.

SPOTLIGHT ON A SLMS: *National Board Certification...Maggie Elliott and Michele Linse*

Two Wayne Finger-Lakes BOCES school library media specialists (SLMSs) have earned National Board Certification.

Congratulations to **Maggie Elliott** (Victor Intermediate School) and **Michele Linse** (Victor Primary School) on earning National Board Certification. To achieve this certification, a school library media specialist needs to complete four portfolio entries and six assessments over the course of many months. The portfolio entries encompass: collaborating, integrating instructional technology, reading professional literature, and demonstrating involvement in the community. The process includes analyzing the library media specialist’s “relationship with the community, teachers and students.” Assessments included recording videos, collecting evidence, taking timed exams, and writing essays.

When asked why they pursued this certification. Both responded that it provided them with an opportunity to grow both personally and professionally. Maggie Elliott added that she “was excited by the reflective nature of the process.”

These two school library media specialists are 2 out of 9 school librarians in New York to achieve the distinction of being nationally certified. Through this certification these two professionals showcase the teaching role of all school library media specialists.

What are Information Literacy Standards?

by Holly Mullin, Honeoye Elementary School Library Media Specialist

It can be said that the School Library Media Specialist (SLMS) puts emphasis on the *process* of learning rather than just the dissemination of information. In other words, school librarians strive to create information literate students. Information literacy, or the ability to find and use information, is key to developing students who will become life-long learners.

What tools does the SLMS have in his/her arsenal to help accomplish this goal and thus support and directly impact student achievement? The American Association of School Librarians and Association for Educational Communications and Technology have provided just the right ammunition to get the job done –

The Information Literacy Standards for Student Learning!

These nine nation-wide standards are divided into three categories – Information Literacy, Independent Learning, and Social Responsibility. Within each of these categories are the specific standards regarding student behavior:

INFORMATION LITERACY -

- ACCESS information efficiently and effectively
- EVALUATE information critically and competently
- USE information effectively and creatively

INDEPENDENT LEARNING –

- PURSUE information related to personal interest
- APPRECIATE literature and other creative expressions of information
- STRIVE for excellence in information seeking and knowledge generation

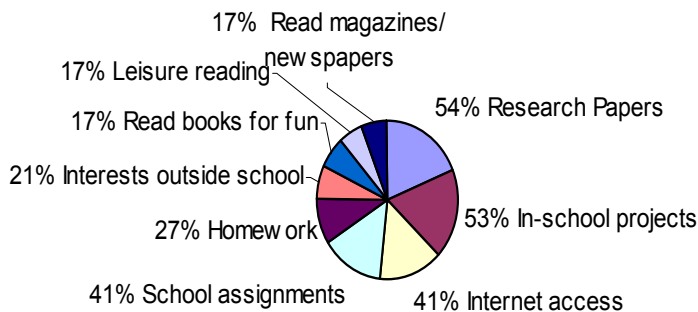
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY -

- RECOGNIZE the importance of information to a democratic society
- PRACTICE ethical behavior in regard to information and information technology
- PARTICIPATE in groups to pursue and generate information

Research indicates that the implementation and integration of these standards into collaboratively developed units and lesson plans will directly and positively impact student achievement and learning overall. The certified LMS plays a pivotal role in implementing the NYS Learning Standards in conjunction with the National Information Literacy Standards to help strengthen curriculum and instruction, and thus help overall student achievement.

“Facts at a Glance... Student Achievement and the School Library Media Program.” School Library Systems Association of New York State, Inc., 2002.

Why Students Visit the Library



Fast Facts from the NCES

Why do students visit your library? According to a report released in March 2005 by National Center for Education Statistics, high school students used the library for these reasons

Let us know...would you prefer to receive this newsletter in print or as an email?

Name: _____ School: _____

Email: _____ Circle one: Print or Email

Return this to your library media specialist to be entered to win a fabulous prize. Drawing
March 7th.