

School Library System
Western Suffolk BOCES
Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 17th, 2020
9:00 a.m. – Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Jill Adler, Kim Bronzino, Carol Byrne, Dr. Matthew Covey, Donna Fife, Jane Herbst, Deanna Jakubowsky, Dawn Koziarz, Dr. Catherine Masrour, Sally Stieglitz, and Sara Kardasz. Absent: Dr. Bea Baaden, Elizabeth Aitken, Carolyn Burton-Gajda

The meeting convened at 9:05 a.m. The minutes of the September 23rd, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Jane and seconded by Sally.

Sara brought up for discussion:

- **Council Information Form:** If you have not completed said form, please do so ASAP and email it to Sara
- **Annual Report:** The report was submitted and approved by the State at the end of October. A link will be available on the WSBOCES website, as well as our School Library System LibGuide.
- **State Funding:** The SLS received 80% of the State funding approved for 2020-2021 with the Governor holding back the additional 20%. When or if the 20% will be received is not known. With the receipt of these new funds, Sara was able to use the 2019-20 rollover funds. She did so by renewing the Union catalog, Teachingbooks.com, and various professional memberships such as LILRC and ALA. Unfortunately decisions had to be made and Sara was unable to renew NYLA. There is a balance of \$86 yet to be spent. This year's COSER is doing well. The districts are looking for online resources.
- **Grade-Level Zoom Sessions:** Sara facilitated several sessions and they were attended by 11 elementary, 4 middle school, and 5 high school librarians. The feedback on the evaluations were positive and as a result, additional grade-level sessions will be scheduled.
- **Liaison meeting:** Patty Gremillion-Burdge and Dr. Karyn Kirschbaum of Western Suffolk BOCES presented "Self-Care Tools to Help With Your Daily Routine". They explored self-care strategies and tools to assist librarians, their colleagues, students, and families to manage and maintain social emotional wellness, especially during these trying times. The presentation was well received with positive survey results.
- **"New" Librarians Orientation:** Five librarians attended and felt they received useful and timely information covering a plethora of topics, such as the workings of the SLS and BOCES, the COSER, resources available, helpful links, and blogs to consider. Sara will add a link to the PowerPoint presentation on our LibGuide.
- **WS BOCES SLMS & Public Librarians Meet Up:** Participating: Elementary, Middle School, Childrens: 7 from schools, 13 from public libraries; High School, Young Adult: 7 from schools, 8 from public libraries. The virtual meetings allowed sharing ideas about how COVID-9 issues have been handled, what their fall will look like, and how to better support each other during this new school year.

Donna attended the virtual meeting and felt it was a very advantageous session. It should be remembered that both schools and the public libraries are serving the *same* students. Putting a face to the various positions makes contact more personal and easier to initiate. One topic of discussion was how students can obtain public library cards during the pandemic. A suggestion was that the school librarian might be able to submit a list of the names of their students. If they are enrolled in the district, they are residents. This would be at the discretion of the public library.

- **Long Island School Library Systems’ 7th Regional Institute:** The virtual Institute was a huge success with attendees. It provided librarians inspiration, theory, models and resources for integrating critical thinking in messages with students and teachers through synchronous, asynchronous and face-to-face instruction. The presenters: Cyndy Scheibe and Chris Sperry are founders of “Project Look Sharp” and are global leaders in media literacy integration into K-12 education. The session provided a lot of sharing and interactive time. Donna stated that she attended and felt it was quite engaging, interesting, and timely. Cyndy and Chris’s fee was covered by MediaFlex Inc. and Lincoln Library Press (\$1,500 for three hours). For more information, you can go to their website at: <https://www.projectlooksharp.org/> You can search their extensive collection of free media literacy lessons. Also, the Nassau BOCES Fall Institute LibGuide <http://nasboces.libguides.com/FallInstitute> includes a link to the padlet that was created and all of the resources shared. There was a total of 83 attendees, with 28 of them being from WSBOCES schools.
- **Meeting Schedule:**
 - Council meeting dates: January 14th, April 15th, with March 4th as a replacement date if needed.
 - Liaison meeting dates: December 8th, March 11th, with April 6th as a replacement date if needed.
 - Follett Users Workshop – November 18th. To date 25 people have registered. Follett just released a new app which can be downloaded from the app store
 - Swank K-12 Streaming for Education – November 24th Swank is a convenient and controlled streaming platform that makes it easy for librarians and teachers to incorporate high-quality films into lesson plans. The Swank library includes thousands of films including top features films and documentaries. The films can be accessed both inside the classroom or for assignments outside of the classroom. The platform is preloaded with one of the three preset collections: elementary, middle/high, or district. This workshop is intended to gauge the level of interest in the districts for this type of resource.
 - Liaison meeting with Professional Learning - Transformational Leadership: Putting Theory Into Practice – December 8th: Dr. Bea Baaden and Mr. Khalid Abdo will discuss Transformational Leadership. The introduction will define “leadership” and detail the components and behaviors of transformational leadership. The current reality will be discussed. How transformational leadership behaviors can accomplish the goals and vision of the library media program will be considered. This session will be followed by WNET Education with a workshop highlighting free remote and blended learning resources from PBS and WNET: learn how to find resources, how to use them, and how to align them with curriculum for all grade levels and subject areas. Sally Goldberg will speak about free resources available
- **Five-Year Plan of Service:** Sara presented the Five-Year Plan to the Council for extensive review. The Council discussed each section. The purpose of the Plan of Service is to consider goals and how to reach them. Each plan is to build upon the prior to make improvements. One area where our SLS

falls short is Inter-library loans. The same issues impeding moving forward in this regard continue to fall with delivery methods. BOCES does not have a courier system and the courier system used by the public libraries does not include deliveries to the SLS. Another is our Union Catalog. Only twenty-two school libraries have updated their holdings this year. More involvement is needed. Sara will consider having Harry Chan return virtually to promote uploading MARC records and sharing. The State expects SLS to utilize ILL between schools.

- After lengthy discussion, and on a motion by Dawn, seconded by Carol, the Plan of Service was unanimously approved
- **New Business**
 - LILRC news from Sally Stieglitz
 - For detailed information, visit LILRC website at: <https://www.lilrc.org/events>
 - The 29th Annual Conference on Libraries and the Future: Diversity, Democracy, Engagement was held on Friday, October 9th. Speakers: Nancy Kranich, Rutgers University; V. Elaine Gross, MSW, President, Erase Racism; and Ryan Dowd, Executive Director, Hesed House & Author, the Librarians Guide to Homelessness.
 - 2020 Legislative Breakfasts held: (all Zoom)
 - September 24th – Suffolk County Assembly Members
 - September 25th – Suffolk County Senators
 - October 1st – Nassau County Assembly Members
 - October 2nd - Nassau County Senators
 - Sally highlighted two upcoming programs:
 - November 18th: *Astrobiology: The Graphic Histories, with Creator Dr. Aaron Gronstal*: The guest will be author and illustrator of the series, Aaron Gronstal, Communications Specialist at NASA Astrobiology Program, who will speak on how he uses comics to communicate science with the public.
 - December 8th: *Proving your Library's Value with the E's of Libraries*: You know that your library is vital to your community, but how do you communicate its importance to elected officials, community leaders, funders, and other key stakeholders? How can you talk about what your library does using their language? Alan Fishel and Jillian Wentworth, co-authors of *Proving Your Library's Value: Persuasive, Organized and Memorable Messaging*, will discuss how to use The E's of Libraries – Education, Employment, Entrepreneurship, Empowerment, and Engagement – to demonstrate why your library is essential. Discover how to craft custom messages designed to win over elected officials and funders, and learn how to use The E's of Libraries and its free customizable resources.
 - Sally stressed that LILRC is open to suggestions for future programming and encouraged Sara to “partner” with LILRC on various programs. Schools have membership with LILRC through the SLS. School librarians can earn CTLE credits if the School Library System includes registration for the event on MyLearningPlan.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Byrne
Recording Secretary