

School Library System
Western Suffolk BOCES
Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 23rd, 2020
9:00 a.m. – Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

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

The meeting convened at 9:02 a.m. The minutes of the April 7th, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Kim and seconded by Jill.

We welcomed Sally representing LILRC to our ranks and conducted a round-robin of introductions.

Sara brought up for discussion:

- **Annual Report:** The State extended the deadline for submission to October 30th. Sara will work up the report and email it to Council members for review and approval. If the Council determines a zoom meeting is necessary for discussion, one will be arranged.
- **State Funding:** We had rollover funds which Sara hoped to use for the Union Catalog and Teaching Books. However, at this time BOCES has not yet allowed Sara to spend the funds. This, of course, creates problems with items that need to be paid now. (LibGuide, membership fees) As of now, Operating aid, Supplementary aid, and Categorical aid funds are pending. The State approved budgets with a 22.6% cut.
- **End-of-the-Year Survey Results:** Sara reviewed the survey with the view that results will be reflected in what offering will be planned for the coming year. As per State mandate, the original survey questions and the results will be posted online.
- **Member Plan and Five-Year Plan of Service:** Sara sent out the SLMPE rubric to all school librarians for completion. The response was positive in that 99 librarians responded. The results helped to determine where libraries fell in the various categories, noting the weakest and strongest areas. Sara then reviewed the results to see what the weakest areas were with the view to focus on these areas for addressing in the Member Plan. The Five-Year Plan of Service must be submitted to the State by April 1, 2021. It will cover 7-1-21 through 6-30-26.
- **Cooperative Collection Development:** There has been no progress on our updated Cooperative Collection Development Plan (which will become part of our new five-year plan) The CCD will have librarians digitally share lessons, and the online resources used. Sara will, once again, reach out to the librarians for digital content.
- **Mission Statement and By-Laws:** Both are relevant and adequate. Changes are not needed at this time.
- **PD since 4-7-20:**

- Sara conducted five Zoom meetups for each grade level: elementary, middle school, and high school. These were conducted in March through May. Overall 114 people attended the meetings. There was much sharing, discussion of projects being planned, resources that were being used—a lot of collaboration and the sessions provided a great sense of community.
- Melissa Jacobs from the NYC School Library System conducted two Zoom sessions on August 5th and August 6th. The first on August 5th was an introductory look at the Empire State Information Fluency Continuum and the Stripling Model of Inquiry. Participants walked through the Continuum and learned how to teach through the cyclical phases of inquiry and build lessons around the assessments/graphic organizers. On August 6th Melissa reviewed the NYC SLS Translation of Practice and discussed how this tool helped librarians thrive during remote learning in the 2019/2020 school year. She discussed how to translate librarian roles and responsibilities from in school to remote practices. Attendees learned why a digital presence is crucial, and how remote teaching and learning can empower librarians.
- The NYS Archives Partnership Trust contacted Sara to see if she would host two sessions on WWI on August 26th. The first was entitled “Hometown Heroes Remembered”. Jordan Maul, Assistant Director for Education and Development at the New York State Archives Partnership Trust conducted a primary-source driven workshop on teaching the impact of WWI on local communities and sharing digital learning resources. The second one was entitled “WWI Beyond the Western Front”. Lora Vogt, Curator of Education at the National WWI Museum and Memorial shared digital learning resources related to other countries involved in the war.
- **LibGuide:** Sara has been adding the various handouts from Liaison meetings and other workshops. The site is still under construction and continues to grow. Librarians can see links to the CCD Plan lessons, handouts, dates of events, etc.
- **Welcome Back Letter:** The letter to all school library media specialists included a list of planned meetings, professional learning sessions, information on the 7th Regional Institute, information on Liaison meetings, resources available through the School Library System, and other valuable information for 2020-21.
- **“New” Librarians Orientation:** Wednesday, October 14th, 4-6pm via Zoom. This orientation is for school librarians new to the profession, new to a grade level, or who would like to learn more about the School Library System or BOCES. Experienced librarians are encouraged to attend and share insights and answer questions.
- **Meeting Schedule: (All meetings are via zoom until further notice.)**
 - Council meeting dates: November 17, 2020; January 14, 2021; April 15, 2021 (March 4, 2021 is a replacement date if any of the others must be cancelled)
 - Liaison meeting dates: October 7, 2020; December 8, 2020; March 11, 2021; May 12, 2021 (April 6, 2021 is a replacement date if any of the others must be cancelled)
 - WS BOCES SLS & Public Librarian Meet Ups: October 21st
- **Long Island School Library Systems’ 7th Regional Institute:** Tuesday, November 3rd 12:30-3:30 via Zoom—join us for a dynamic half-day workshop that will give librarians the inspiration, theory, models and resources for integrating critical thinking about all media messages into your work with students and teachers through synchronous, asynchronous and face-to-face instruction. There will also be a review of resources including 500+ lessons for integrating constructivist media decoding into diverse

subject areas at all grade levels. Presenters Cyndy Scheibe and Chris Sperry, are founders of “Project Look Sharp” and global leaders in media literacy integration into K-12 education.

- **LILRC news:**
 - 29th Annual Conference on Libraries and the Future: Diversity, Democracy, Engagement: 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*.
 - Check LILRC’s website for Continuing Education Highlights: <https://lilrc.org/events>
 - 2020 Legislative Breakfasts: (all Zoom)
 - September 24th – Suffolk County Assembly Members
 - September 25th – Suffolk County Senators
 - October 1st – Nassau County Assembly Members
 - October 2nd - Nassau County Senators
- **New Business:**
 - Discussion ensued regarding last year’s Librarian and Administrator of the Year awards. Due to COVID19 awards were not issued and perhaps we can present them at some point this year. Applications for this school years nominations are due by December 18th so the Council can review applications at the January 2021 meeting.
 - Librarians discussed their school library and what it reflects in our “New Normal” school year. Some are closed, some have been repurposed, some librarians are push ins, so much has changed as a result of COVID19. St. Anthony’s is the one exception in that their library is fully opened and functioning. Everyone is trying to maintain their programs and general influence in their buildings the best way they can.
 - Council members are invited to take part in the PD segments of upcoming Liaison meetings.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Byrne
Recording Secretary