

School Library System
Western Suffolk BOCES
Council Meeting
February 24th, 2016

Council Members: Elizabeth Aitken, Dr. Bea Baaden, Carolyn Burton, Carol Byrne, Jane Herbst, Dawn Koziarz, Linda Lennon, Min Liu, Dr. Vincent Livoti, Cathy Masrour, Tina Mottl, Dr. Alice Robinson

Dr. Tom DeNicola, Division of Instructional Support Services WSBOCES (Consultant)
Sara Kardaz, WSBOCES School Library System Coordinator

Absent: Dr. Bea Baden, Dr. Vincent Livoti, Linda Lennon, Dr. Tom DeNicola

- The minutes were approved, with corrections, on a motion by Dawn, seconded by Carolyn.
- We received a thank you card from Anne Mateer for our gift to her including a very touching letter.
- Sara announced that the Palmer School at Long Island University was conferred continued accreditation for the Masters Degree of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program from the American Library Association (ALA) and the Committee on Accreditation (COA). Also, there is a new professor on staff who does data mining—check out: www.liu.edu/palmerblog for more information
- A Cooperative Collection Development committee was formed to look over the existing cooperative collection development plan. Sara spoke with several state-wide SLS directors for input. Sara and the committee especially liked the plan from Oswego BOCES SLS and combined segments from theirs with our existing plan, plus recommendations from our committee. The plan was reviewed, discussed, and accepted on a motion by Alice, seconded by Jane. Once the cooperative collection development plan is established we can then work on procedures for CCD processes. In discussion with the various state SLS directors, it was noted that various means of ILL are being used: via LILRC, SLS, public libraries, etc. Since our SLS does not have funds to pay for ILL we'll continue to discuss viable means of ILL. The Cooperative Collection Development committee will investigate possible solutions. This committee needs to be larger and Sara will bring this up at the next Liaison meeting. With a view toward building leader capacity within our ranks, Carolyn further suggested we encourage participation in committees - in this area and others. Ideally having six people to work on ILL possibilities would be useful. Dawn suggested that since the meeting dates for both council and liaisons are set in advance—perhaps we could ILL at those meetings
- We reviewed the Member Plan which is a compilation of the status of district libraries and programs. Sara reviewed the data she received to see where the individual schools fall within proficiency: distinguished, proficient, basic, below basic. For example, in “Teaching for Diverse Learning Needs”, thirty-eight fall in the distinguished/proficient area and 70 in the basic/below basic area. This

document will be helpful in planning next year's programs/circles/workshops, etc.

- There is a need for a teacher librarian leader program. Sara is working with Tom DeNicola (who runs the summer school program and the teacher center) to see what can be implemented. Both Sara and Tom are passionate about leadership programs for both librarians and teachers. This is an area in which the librarians rated their programs as below basic/basic.
- Jane mentioned that as of July 1st “permanent certification” will cease. Those currently having a permanent certificate will NOT be grandfathered. We will all have to get professional development hours to maintain certification.
- Sara mentioned that there will be a link for both the CCD plan and the Member Plan on our website. She encourages librarians to continue to complete the SLMPE rubric on a yearly basis to see if the library status has increased or decreased in the various categories.
- Five-year plan review. As of February 15th, links on webpage have to be updated. Today's members reviewed the plan, discussed various points, questioned others and on a motion by Jane, seconded by Min, it was approved
- We discussed Librarian and Administrator of the Year Awards. The awards could be presented at a Liaison meeting or a Vendor Showcase. We talked about a vendor showcase in which vendors would be charged a fee which in turn would cover the cost of food. Besides distributing awards we could showcase library/librarian success stories, acknowledge retirees, etc. We could have “Celebrate Our Successes” photos on a slide show on the message board throughout the event. Bea sent Sara an e-mail supporting the idea of a vendor showcase in May. There would be no fee for librarians to attend, it is just hoped they could get release time from their district. A number of titles for the showcase were suggested:
 - Dawn: “Librarians’ Day In” and not refer to it as a conference.
 - Carolyn: maybe call it an “Award Ceremony”
 - Alice: “Resource Sharing Symposium” Alice also inquired if Tom would be amenable to making a presentation
 - Tina: “Leadership and Information Symposium”
 - Dawn suggested a mail merge with each librarian’s name listed so he/she could be individually invited to attend.
 - Various dates were discussed and perhaps a day the 4th week in May—being careful not to interfere with the holiday weekend.
- It was questioned if council members could be nominated for Librarian of the Year award and it was decided yes, they would just recuse themselves from the vote. The “Call for Nomination” form, for now, will not give a date for presentation—since we don’t have a date *or* a ‘name’ for the event. The form will suggest that “additional letters of support are encouraged” and change the wording on the nomination sheet from ‘*at least 250 words*’ to ‘*up to 250 words.*’ Elizabeth suggested that we have a Google Slides so submission of pictures can be incorporated easily—Sara will encourage a slide or two per person. We have to have a date by which applications can be submitted so there is time to review and select winners and get plaques prepared. Sara will handle it via e-mail. Forms will be due sometime in April.

- Sara will work on a date for a vendor showcase event and if that fails, awards can be given at the May 17th Liaison meeting
- “Celebrate Our Successes”: Carolyn suggested that this be brought up at the Liaison meeting with the view of librarians submitting their success—in any and all categories. The more that is highlighted and mentioned the better, whether it was classes or conferences you’ve attended, programs learned, programs implemented, in-school library events, etc.
- Sara and two other librarians met to formulate a proposal for a Cold Spring Harbor Lab Library & Archives Program—a program for high school students (one per district). Twenty students can attend and not necessarily those from the gifted and talented program. The focus would center on regular, typical students who enjoy science. It is not a hands-on research program, but rather students would read scientific articles, prepare a presentation to the group, and receive constructive criticism providing valuable feedback to the students. Very few kids know how to appropriately work up a presentation to get the message across without putting the written information on a slide and reading it to a group. They would meet for eight weeks. Students would select a science related article and, working with their high school librarian, they would work up a ten-minute presentation. Following the presentation it is anticipated peers might have questions. The students would receive a certificate of participation that they might be able to use for community service hours. The process benefits students in multiple of ways—from the opportunity to meet students from other districts, learn from their research, create a worthy presentation, and receive and give personal feedback. Perhaps people in various scientific careers could be invited to speak to the students. Cold Spring Harbor would recommend free articles. Students would not have access to their library as it’s too advanced for the average student. CSHL would provide the space and people to speak with the students and make recommendations for their presentations. Students would have the opportunity to tour the CSH lab and meet staff in the auditorium for discussion.

CSHL strongly feels that students need more proficiency in this area of research and presentation. The project would be for students in grades 9-11. The project is still in the planning stages.

- Upcoming Liaison meetings: March 3rd and May 17th
- Upcoming Council meetings: May 12th
- Sara was please to inform us that attendance at the various events, professional circles, etc. has been positive.
- Carolyn suggested that Sara include when our librarians are presenting at various events on the list of upcoming conferences. When noted, interest may be peaked by other librarians and they may be encouraged to attend.
- Carolyn encouraged reaching out beyond your library to forge new links, broadening your scope, and getting involved elsewhere. Present at events, join the various social networks--get involved. A study she read said 53% of 3rd graders go to Siri for answers (not Google or Wikipedia). We have to be aware of this and familiar with the site. Most students, even the young ones, have Instagram and Snapchat accounts...and although we might not have them, we

have to broaden our approach to guide them in the technology they are using. Sara mentioned that Todd Ross is a proponent of continuously evaluating your program.

- We discussed collecting data within our libraries: how often we check out/in books, answer reference questions, help students with databases, answer technology questions, etc. Carolyn said they tracked numbers for two days and were amazed at the scope of what the librarians did. The results of this information can be used to build our program, budgets, and visibility.
- Sara mentioned a grant that is available for digitizing. She would like to consider a possible digitization project. One idea that has been done by another SLS in the state is digitizing member high schools' year books. Discussion ensued on the possible ramifications—privacy issues, etc.
- Min mentioned two upcoming LILRC events: Privacy Toolkit for Librarians on Tuesday, March 22nd, 10-1pm at Farmingdale Public Library, for more information call: 675-1570 x205. And LILRC's 50th Anniversary Gala on Thursday, April 14th, 6pm, \$60 at Carlyle on the Green in Bethpage call: 675-1570 x201 for more information

With no further business to discuss, on a motion by Tina, seconded by Carolyn, we adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Byrne
Recording Secretary