

Western Suffolk BOCES - School Library System Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: St. Anthony's High School

1. Call to Order & Approval of Previous Minutes

Reviewed: Minutes from September 18, 2025.

Amendments: None

Approval: Motion carried.

- First: Aurelia
- Second: Sue

2. Annual Report

2024–25 Annual Report: Submitted for initial review on 10-30-25; at this time the status is unknown.

Attachment: PDF included with minutes.

3. Regional Digital Library

WSBOCES SLS Regional Digital Library:

<https://insights.overdrive.com/dashboards/b7b7b89799cf4e5e911915d5c6302269>

Magazine Collection: Renewal approved due to strong demand at Liaison Meeting; cost \$6,400.

NYReads: Access renewed.

Long Island Students Read: renewed

<https://insights.overdrive.com/dashboards/87d6aca73496441a843a110dbbca3b4b>

4. Professional Development (Since 9-18-25)

- 10-7-25: '5 Ways to Get Social with TeachingBooks' – Crystal Ballard (2 attended)
- 10-7-25: 'Ready for Reading: Before, During, & After with TeachingBooks' – Crystal Ballard (5 attended)

- 10-15-25: 'Connect and Collaborate: SLS 2025-26 Welcome' – Jeanne Huggard (8 attended) This is the new and improved new librarians' meeting.

Discussion: Adding breakout sessions for secondary librarians; working lunch; sharing lesson ideas; integrating 'Portrait of a Graduate'.

- 10-22-25: Liaison Business Meeting – Presentations by Beth Ferrigno (Follett) & Paula Visco (Hackersjack) (25 attended)

Discussion: Adding breakout sessions for secondary librarians; working lunch; sharing lesson ideas; integrating 'Portrait of a Graduate'.

- 11-4-25: 12th Regional Institute: S.P.A.R.K. Connections – Hyatt Regency Long Island (65 WSBoces attendees; 215 total; 21 vendor tables)

Issues: Program error, poor lunch service, insufficient quality, choices, amount of food and even plates. Considering other options including Hilton for next year.

Positives: It is a nice venue, large enough and centrally located.

5. Awards

Celebrate Our Success: Award nomination time is upon us. The categories this year include Librarian of the Year, Rising Star (first time), Administrator of the Year.

Challenge: Few administrator nominations, thus award not given past few years; council strongly believes in the need to have someone who truly supports the library programs and mission.

Deadlines: Entries due January 6; reminder on January 5. Review at next Council meeting (1-13-26).

6. Plan of Service

Review: 2021–2026 Plan of Service; begin drafting 2026–2031 Plan.

Mission Statement: Revisions discussed.

Goals: Resource sharing (add magazines); funds allocated to Sora content credit; physical distribution deemed impractical.

7. Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 12-2-25: Follett Users' Group Meeting
- 12-4-25: Digital Literacy in the Age of AI (Nassau Tract)
- 12-9-25: Learning A-Z Online Workshops (Raz-Plus, Raz-Plus ELL Edition, Science A-Z, Vocabulary A-Z, Writing A-Z)

- 12-10-25: Liaison Business Meeting / SLSA Statewide Learning Symposium: 'Strengthening Our Core: School Library Values in Practice'
- 1-13-26: Quick and Easy Book Hooks from TeachingBooks; Teacher Librarian Network (Nassau Tract)

Next Council Meeting: 1-13-26 – Great Hollow MS, Smithtown

8. Additional Discussion

Regional Institute feedback: Explore alternative venues; improve food service.

Book Discussion Zoom: Interest noted but low participation; consider AM/PM options.

Celebrate Our Success (5/1): Possible addition of keynote speaker.

Collaboration ideas: Jeanne's Road Trip – visits to libraries; encourage partnerships; share resources.

Adjournment: Meeting concluded.

Next Meeting: January 13, 2026 – Great Hollow Middle School, Smithtown.

Members In Attendance:

Jill Adler -Vice Chair

Elizabeth Aiken

Peter Barell

Kim Bronzino -Recording Secretary

Aurelia Cardamone

Dr. Matthew Covey

Erica Emmons

Deanna Jakubowsky

Dawn Koziarz- Chair

Dr. Cathy Masrour-Past Chair

Sue Teeter

Jeanne Huggard- WSBOCES Program Administrator

Members Not in Attendance:

Bea Baaden

Tim Spindler