

WSBOCES- School Library System Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025 **Time:** 9:00 a.m. **Location:** Seminar Room

Meeting Called to Order: 9:15 a.m.

Attendees

- Jeanne Huggard, Program Administrator, Western Suffolk BOCES
- Jill Adler, Vice Chair
- Elizabeth Aitken
- Bea Baaden
- Peter Barell
- Kim Bronzino, Recording Secretary
- Aurelia Cardmamone
- Dr. Matthew Covey
- Erica Emmons
- Deanna Jakubowsky
- Dawn Koziarz, Chair
- Dr. Cathy Masrour, Past Chair
- Tim Spindler
- Sue Teeter

Agenda Items & Discussion

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Welcomed, Jeanne Huggard, New Program Administrator
- Council member information sheets were updated.

2. Review of Previous Minutes

- Council review of April 3, 2025 minutes.
- Amendments were not needed and approved by vote.

3. Governance Documents

- “Council Representation and Duties” reviewed and accepted.
- Mission Statement and By-Laws reviewed and accepted.

4. Cooperative Collection Development Plan

- Discussion held on committee structure, maintenance, and operational procedures.

5. 2024–2025 End-of-Year Survey

- Reviewed 50-page document.
- Key themes:
 - Increased demand for professional development, challenge of providing times that are suitable for library system members both elementary and secondary librarians.
 - Media and digital literacy
 - Technology integration, AI, maker spaces
 - STEAM/STEM resources
 - eBooks, reading initiatives, and engagement strategies

6. Plan of Service (2021–2026)

- Reviewed current needs and future direction.

7. Annual Report

- 2024–2025 Annual Report due by November 1, 2025.
- The NY State portal is open for submissions.

8. State Funding

- Reviewed 2025–2026 budget allocations.

9. Regional Digital Library

- WSBOCES dashboard reviewed: nearly 59,000 circulations.
- Ongoing collaboration with Sora to boost engagement and update landing pages monthly.
- Renewed high-circulation titles.
- Dashboard links:
 - WSBOCES Digital Library
 - Long Island Students Read

10. Communications

- Welcome Back letter emailed to School Library Media Specialists on September 8, 2025 (paper copies not mailed).

11. Professional Development (PD) Updates

- Feedback: Attendees enjoy sessions but find some presentations redundant; time constraints noted.
- Participation concerns; asynchronous options encouraged.

PD Events Since April 3, 2025:

- 4/9/25 – “Weeding to Grow Your Collection” (Beth Ferrigno, Follett) – 5 attendees
- 4/11/25 – “School Ready AI” (Asynchronous, SLSA) – 14 attendees
- 4/24/25 – “Weeding to Grow Your Collection” (Beth Ferrigno, Follett) – 5 attendees
- 5/1/25 – “10th Leadership & Information Symposium” – 57 attendees
 - Keynote: Sarah Beth Durst, “Creating Fiction to Foster Empathy”

12. Professional Learning Committee

- Committee approved by Council.
- Motion by Elizabeth and Sue.
- Call for interested members to join.

Upcoming Events & Meetings

2025–2026 Meeting Schedule

- 10/7/25 – “5 Ways to Get Social with TeachingBooks!”
- 10/7/25 – “Ready for Reading: Before, During & After with TeachingBooks”
- 10/15/25 – “Connect & Collaborate: SLS 2025–26 Welcome”
 - Monthly Zooms for new/returning librarians
 - Informal drop-in format to build community
- 10/22/25 – Liaison Business Meeting & Professional Learning
- 11/4/25 – 12th Regional Institute: “S.P.A.R.K. Connections” at Hyatt Regency Long Island
- 11/19/25 – Next Council Meeting at St. Anthony’s HS

Additional Topics

LibGuide Compliance

- Ideas shared to enhance and align with NYS standards.

Weekly Snapshot

- Repository for sharing lessons and instructional ideas.

Awards Discussion

- Administrator, Librarian of the Year, and Rising Star awards criteria to be revised at the next meeting.

Collaboration & Community Engagement

- Book Clubs:
 - Suggestion made to have a Library system book club, for either enjoyment and professional books. “Reading Rhythms” – informal reading groups
- Children’s Librarians of Suffolk County – potential collaboration

Liaison Business

- October meeting: Sora gamification initiative to promote reading.
- Reworking format:
 - Working lunch
 - Book discussions
 - Enhanced engagement strategies