While the weather may not agree, Spring has sprung at the School Library System! The month of May brought “renewal” to our Media Library holdings, with the addition of 185 multiple-user, simultaneous access eBooks on the Mackin Via platform, leveled collections of single-user audiobooks through Follett’s Catalist service, four “Skype Kits”, three iPad Mini devices that can be borrowed for app “research and development”, as well as a number of new DVDs and book sets.

Throughout the summer, the School Library System team will be working to create user accounts, streaming tutorials, and user-friendly procedures for delivering these new items to you for the 2013-2014 school year! Watch out for flyers and announcements with details and availability in the fall.

Once again, we have a number of amazing librarians featured in this month’s issue! Check out Rick Gridley (BOCES), Nadine Ferguson (Whitney Point), and Elizabeth Engle (UE) on page 2 and 3.

I am excited to announce that the School Library System is planning to re-establish the Librarian-Administrator Breakfast for 2013-2014. If you are interested in the opportunity to share your ideas for this event, a “virtual” planning session will take place on July 25 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM; please sign up via this Google Form: tinyurl.com/libadminsignup

Lastly, please mark your calendars for Empire State Information Fluency Continuum workshops on August 19th and 20th. For more details about this essential training, see page 4.

## UPCOMING PD and MEETINGS

7/25: Librarian/Administrator Breakfast Planning Session
10:00AM-12:00PM, WebEx

8/19: Introduction to the ESIFC
12:00-3:00PM, ISC-A

8/20: Research to Build and Present Knowledge using the ESIFC with Paige Jaeger
8:00AM-3:00PM, ISC-A

### TeachingBooks.net

[http://teachingbooks.net](http://teachingbooks.net)

TeachingBooks is an incredible online database with vast resources and materials for promoting reading. On this site, you can find Readers’ Theater scripts (perfect for the Grade 5 ELA Module 1, Unit 3 culminating project), video and audio interviews of authors, lesson plans, book trailers, book app reviews, an author name pronunciation database, and more!

TeachingBooks will create custom book/resource lists upon request [http://tinyurl.com/tbcustom](http://tinyurl.com/tbcustom) and have already created a number of New York State-aligned booklists, including lists for the ELA Recommended Texts by grade level [http://tinyurl.com/NYlists](http://tinyurl.com/NYlists)

Best of all — TeachingBooks.net is provided to all School Library System members, and is now integrated and searchable in SNAP! Simply type in the title of the book you’re looking for, and SNAP will deliver a linked record to TeachingBooks resources.
Please contact Nicole with write-ups, pictures, and/or dates and times of exceptional library programming. We are doing innovative, important work—let’s share our expertise and celebrate the outstanding librarians in our area!

School Spotlight

This month we have three incredible librarians featured in our School Spotlight. From presentations by illustrators to collaborative activities, read below and continued on Page 3 to learn more about the exciting projects and programs taking place in our region’s school libraries! Thank you to the librarians who shared their successes and volunteered to write articles this month—and watch for more spotlighted librarians in the June issue!

Rick Gridley—BOCES Education Center

The ELA New Visions class at BOCES took on a new dimension this year when ELA teacher Jacqueline Franke collaborated with Rick Gridley, the School Library Media Specialist, to design and implement an iMovie project. Students created 2 – 3 minute “trailers”, which were designed to motivate viewers to read the research papers that the students wrote.

The New Visions program at BOCES gives college-bound students from area school districts the opportunity to participate in career-related internships in health, engineering, government, education and law. Students received advanced placement credit for their New Visions ELA class, which emphasized 21st century skills like collaboration, critical thinking and technology.

Visit our website!  

Elizabeth Engle—Jennie F. Snapp Middle School (UE)

On May 14th, 6th grade students became investigators and helped solve a crime at the Jennie F. Snapp library. Classes studying the mystery genre used their information literacy skills to help Detective Anita Lottahelp (aka School Librarian Elizabeth Engle) crack the case. The young detectives explored a case file, viewed a list of suspects, and read a description of the crime scene. Next, they gathered clues and used library resources to solve the mystery and retrieve the missing items. Elizabeth collaborated with English teacher Amy Berube to blend Information Literacy skills and the English curriculum.
Award-winning illustrator Ralph Masiello recently spent two days in the Whitney Point Central School District.

On Friday, May 17th, he visited Whitney Point’s primary school, Caryl E. Adams, giving four dynamic presentations in the library. Ralph fully engaged the students as he discussed how he went from being a prospective Marine Biologist to attending art school where he studied alongside Caldecott winning artists Chris Van Allsburg and Brian Selznick, before starting his career as a children’s picture book illustrator.

Throughout his presentations, Ralph emphasized that hard work and a great deal of practice are required whether you want to be a successful illustrator or successful at reading or math.

Ralph Masiello completed his busy day at the CEA library by hosting an author’s tea. This session was open to both parents and students as Ralph again shared his illustrating skills.

He spent his remaining free time individually encouraging a few students who wanted to share their own artwork with him. Ralph was generous enough to leave the autographed drawings he completed throughout the day so that each classroom teacher and our principal, Jo-Anne Knapp, could have one to display.

At the end of the day, students and staff asked when Ralph could come back again to visit. Ralph Masiello gave our students a wonderful day and left a great impression with us all!
Empire State Information Fluency Continuum Workshop

On August 19 and 20, the School Library System will be holding Empire State Information Fluency Continuum Training for librarians of all levels.

What is the Empire State Information Fluency Continuum?
The Empire State Information Fluency Continuum, or ESIFC, is a comprehensive set of Inquiry-based skills for students. The ESIFC is broken into several parts, including scaffolded standards, indicators, and skills aligned to the Common Core; formative assessments; and a taxonomy/sample assignments.

Day 1 of these ESIFC workshops (8/19, 12:00-3:00PM) will focus on becoming comfortable with all the components of the ESIFC—attendees will be provided with ESIFC Binders and USB drives.

On Day 2 (8/20, 8:00AM-3:00PM), Paige Jaeger from WSWHE BOCES will join us to lead a hands-on workshop focused on “research to build and present knowledge”. Workshop participants will leave with a plan for integrating the ESIFC into your instruction.

Information regarding registration will be sent via the listserv in the coming weeks.

Conferences, Workshops, and Webinars

From the New York Libraries Information Network (NYLINE):
Grolier is offering a webinar on Grolier Online on Wednesday, June 5, from 3:00-4:00PM.
Grolier is hosting customized NOVELNY training sessions to help inform NOVELNY users about Grolier Online’s program features and how to incorporate Grolier Online into schools and public libraries.

This training will focus on the five new online resources that are available via NOVELNY: Amazing Animals of the World, America the Beautiful, The New Book of Popular Science, Lands and Peoples, and La Nueva Enciclopedia Cumbre.

To register, visit the site below: [http://tinyurl.com/grolierwebinars](http://tinyurl.com/grolierwebinars)
Event password: spring

NOVEL NY databases are offered free of charge to all New York State residents. If you need your username/password for NOVEL NY access, please contact Kathy or Nicole.

Have you found a great online resource or upcoming webinar?
Let me know and I’ll share it here!

Advocacy/Grant Opportunities

Schoola:
Schoola allows you to select and initiate Groupon-style fundraising for your school. The site facilitates negotiations with local businesses to offer discounts on their products; a percentage of the proceeds from the purchase of these offers is given to the school. Learn more at [http://www.schoola.com](http://www.schoola.com)

Scholastic has an entire page devoted to library grants. Find it here: [http://www.scholastic.com/librarians/programs/grants.htm](http://www.scholastic.com/librarians/programs/grants.htm)

Summer Reading

This year’s New York State Summer Reading Program is titled “Dig Into Reading/Beneath the Surface”.
Check out [http://www.summerreadingnys.org](http://www.summerreadingnys.org) for booklists and downloadable promotional materials, including bookmarks, t-shirt transfers, and brochures.