Happy October!
We’re back in the swing of things, just in time for shorter days and cooler nights. In September, the School Library System held two after-school workshops on new Media Library resources: Mackin Via eBooks and Catalist Audiobooks. If you weren’t able to make it, visit http://broometiogasls.wordpress.com/tutorials/workshops for handouts, screencast tutorials, and the presentation PowerPoints.

Our Common Core Connection this month focuses on the recently revised research paper requirement—a perfect fit for librarians’ expertise!

This month’s School Spotlight features Debbie Sluzar and Teena Lauth from Binghamton High School, and their proactive approach to encouraging collaboration with teachers to meet the goals of the Common Core.

Congratulations to Kathy Starks from Owego Free Academy, the winner of our 2013 American Association of School Librarians National Conference Scholarship. Kathy will be attending the national conference in November; stay tuned for opportunities to learn more about Kathy’s experience!

On page 2-3, you can find information on how to bring a “Declaration for the Right to Libraries” event to your school, upcoming webinars/workshops, and other opportunities to expand your learning, enhance your collections, and connect with colleagues.

We have a number of upcoming workshops; be sure to check the events on page 3 and sign up on My Learning Plan!

As always, the School Library System team is here to support you—we’re always willing to help! You can find our contact information on the left; feel free to contact us anytime.

Nicole Laura

Common Core Connection

At the September 2013 Board of Regents meeting, the revised research paper framework was discussed. The revised framework, which is up for additional review, includes the following language: “The Department strongly encourages interdisciplinary teacher collaboration in this process [...] for example, a school librarian could collaborate with a science teacher during high school instruction for the research paper process” and “The research paper is heavily dependent on adherence to a systematic research and writing process that is inquiry-based and aligns with the expectations in the Common Core Learning Standards”.

Break out your Common Core aligned ESIFC binders and put some postcards in your colleagues’ mailboxes (see page 2)—librarians are poised to be key partners in this new graduation requirement. To read the full framework proposal, visit: http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2013
School Spotlight: Binghamton High School

After attending this summer’s Leadership Institute as a scholarship winner, Teena Lauth brought back a clever idea to entice teachers to visit the library. Teena and fellow high school librarian Debbie Sluzar created two-sided postcards using a template from WSWHE BOCES. On the front, key library-related elements of the Common Core are outlined. On the back, teachers are invited to write their name, topic of interest, and comments, and to return the card as an “RSVP”. If you are interested in a set of postcards for your library, you can access the PDF version of the Leadership Conference Postcard on the WSWHE BOCES website: http://www.wswheboces.org/files/595/common%20core%20postcardsd2.pdf

Advocacy Opportunity: Declaration for the Right to Libraries

In August 2013, ALA President Barbara Stripling kicked off her presidential initiative, Libraries Change Lives. The cornerstone document of this initiative is the Declaration for the Right to Libraries, which outlines 10 key qualities of the library, ranging from empowerment to scholarship to literacy to preservation.

As a feature of this initiative, Stripling has invited libraries across the nation to hold “signing events” of the Declaration. Hosting a signing event would be a perfect way to get colleagues, students and parents thinking about the way your library positively impacts their lives—what powerful, proactive advocacy!

A toolkit for signing events is available at http://www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries-toolkit

To see an example of a school library signing event, visit http://www.e2ccb.org/webpages/sbartle/

Bully Prevention Month

October is Bully Prevention Month. StopBullying.gov has a number of great resources, including toolkits, fact sheets, and webinars — you can access them at http://www.stopbullying.gov

Common Sense Media has toolkits to address Cyberbullying at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, with lesson plans and multimedia resources: http://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/cyberbullying-toolkit

You can watch a powerful animated version of the poem “To This Day”, and learn more about the project at http://tothisdayproject.com/

Then, view the author Shane Koyczan’s TED Talk here: http://www.ted.com/talks/shane_koyczan_to_this_day_for_the_bullied_and_beautiful.html
Upcoming Events

Kathleen Baxter: Get Real! Getting Kids Excited about Non-Fiction
October 22, 2013 | BCPL | 9:15-3:15

Media Literacy with Cathy Leogrande
November 7, 2013 | ISC-A | 8:00-3:00

Library Clerk Workshop
November 8, 2013 | ISC-C | 8:00-3:00

Librarians are welcome to attend the afternoon book repair session from 12:00-3:00 PM

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

Conferences, Workshops, and Webinars

Booklist’s has a number of pertinent webinars scheduled for October and November:

Struggling Readers and the Common Core: Improving Literacy in Changing Times
October 22 at 2:00 PM

School Library Journal has a webcast scheduled for Thursday, October 24 from 2:00-3:00PM titled “National Geographic Presents: Fun with Non-Fiction and the Common Core”.

If you are unable to attend the live webinar, registration provides you with access to the archived content. To register, visit:

BOOKLIST: http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars
SLJ: http://www.slj.com/category/webcasts

The 2014 NYLA-SSL Conference Committee is looking for submissions for workshops, poster sessions, and other multimedia presentations. To apply, visit http://cnysl.weebly.com/2014-ssl-conference.html

Expect MORE

Out and About: A recent visit to beautiful Deposit Elementary Library

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