



Pennsylvania School Librarians Association

March 2019

Report for Governor's Advisory
Council on Library Development

PSLA Leadership Academies (LSTA Grant - PSLA and University of Pittsburgh)

With LSTA funding, the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh's Library Certification Program have initiated three leadership academies.

- Developing Leaders Academy - An academy that focuses on librarians in more isolated, rural and urban areas who are the solve librarians for K-12 school districts, serve multiple schools and/or are unable to participate in professional development at the state level
- Aspiring Leaders Academy- A mini academy for librarians who aspire to leadership within PSLA and PSLA-affiliate associations with an emphasis on organizing additional PSLA affiliate associations across Pennsylvania and interning with PSLA Board and committees
- Revitalizing Leaders Academy- Includes participants of the first Academies (Emerging (1 and 2], Sustaining and Regional {1 and 2] who seek updating of and refining of competencies to advance to a next level of excellence for their library programs and their own professional learning.

PSLA Annual Conference

The PSLA Annual Conference takes place from March 28 - March 30. The conference kicks off with a preconference session that builds upon last year's session which introduced the AASL National School Library Standards, presented by Allison Mackley and Jennifer Bates. This year, the preconference, Build a Collaboration Action Plan with the AASL National School Library Standards, will be presented by Mary Kay Biagini, Deb Kachel, Cindy Keller, and Nancy Latanision. PSLA is also honored to host the Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development Business Meeting, Strategic Planning Meeting, and Open Forum.

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

AASL Standards Committee

PSLA is represented at the national level with various members on task forces and committees. I am a member of the AASL Standards Committee whose work is to carry out the goals in the AASL National School Library Standards implementation action plan.

As a member of the AASL Standards Implementation Committee, I also serve as the liaison to the **AASL Presidential Initiative Task Force, the School Librarian Job Description Task Force and AASL Standards Crosswalk Task Force.**

All Committee meetings are attended by members, as well as Sylvia Norton, AASL Executive Director, an AASL Board liaison and an AASL office staff member. In addition, the AASL President, Katheryn Roots Lewis, attends the Presidential Initiative Task Force meetings.

AASL Election Slate

I am on the 2019 AASL Election Slate as a candidate for Region 2 Director. I am running against Emmanuel Faulkner from Maryland. I hope to be able to represent Pennsylvania and school librarians at the national level.

PSLA Pulse - "Behind the Scenes"

With a commitment to transparency, I continue writing "Behind the Scenes" blog posts for the PSLA Pulse to ensure PSLA members and the greater library community have access to information and happenings that they may not have known about otherwise.

American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Affiliate of the Year - March 27, 2019

PSLA was awarded the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Affiliate of the Year Award. This prestigious award showcases the impact of an exemplary and vibrant AASL affiliate focused on supporting school librarians.

The award will be presented at the American Library Association's 2019 Annual Conference in Washington D.C. during the AASL Awards Ceremony held on June 22, 2019 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.



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Submitted by Allison Mackley, PSLA President

American Association of School Librarians Past-Presidents Planning Grant for National School Library Standards - March 19, 2019

Awarded 2019 AASL Past-Presidents Planning Grant for National School Library Standards in honor of E. Blanche Woolls (sponsored by Roger and Susan D. Ballard). E. Blanche Woolls, a Distinguished Service Award winning member of the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association, was the Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair (1977-1978) and the Communications Committee Chair (1986-1988).

The award includes \$2500 for PSLA to execute the action plan in the grant submission, focusing on the implementation of the new AASL National School Library Standards. The award will be presented at the American Library Association's 2019 Annual Conference in Washington D.C. during the AASL Awards Ceremony held on June 22, 2019 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Advocacy/School Library Legislation

Meeting with Deputy Secretary Commissioner for Libraries, Glenn Miller, Cathi Fuhrman and Kevin Harley, and legal advisor - January 22, 2019

During this meeting, Cathi Fuhrman, Kevin Harley and I discussed the following topics with Deputy Secretary Glenn Miller: House and Senate legislation, funding for an updated school library study, shortage of librarians, the evolving school library and its critical importance in the school.

School Librarian Legislation to be Introduced

During the current legislative session two pieces of legislation may be introduced when they gain enough co-sponsors. Representative Mark Longietti plans to introduce legislation which would amend the Public-School Code to require one "certified librarian" per public school. In addition, Senator Blake plans to introduce legislation with the same goal of requiring a certified librarian in public schools.

Meeting with Pennsylvania Department of Education Secretary Pedro Rivera, Cathi Fuhrman, Kevin Harley, PR Advisor - March 13, 2019

During this meeting, Cathi Fuhrman, Kevin Harley and I discussed the following topics with Secretary Pedro Rivera, Deputy Secretary Glenn Miller: House and Senate legislation, funding for an updated school library study, shortage of librarians, the evolving school library and its critical importance in the school and alternate funding opportunities.

Meeting with Representative Curt Sonney, House Education Chair - Allison Mackley, Kevin Harley and- March 25, 2019

During this meeting, Kevin Harley and I discussed the following topics with Representative Curt Sonney: House and Senate legislation, shortage of librarians, the evolving school library and its critical importance in the school, digital learning environments, cyber school, blended learning and workforce development efforts supported by librarians.

Guidelines for Pennsylvania School Library Programs

The Office of Commonwealth Libraries in partnership with the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association executed an initiative to revise the Guidelines for Pennsylvania School Library Programs (2011). We are hoping for approval from the Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

AASL Standards Regional Training {LSTA Grant - PSLA and University of Pittsburgh}

With funding from the current LSTA grant, PSLA is offering 3-hour regional training sessions on AASL Standards for School Library Programs at two levels-Understanding framework and content and Implementing the Standards with an emphasis on integrating the Standards into information literacy curriculum at elementary and secondary levels and infusing Standards across all curricular areas.

Strengthening the Association through Local Affiliates

The Pennsylvania School Librarians Association is focused on strengthening its membership through the development and approval of local affiliates to provide regional support to school librarians. We currently have five affiliates: three in the Pittsburgh area, one in South Central area and one in the Eastern part of the Commonwealth.