



September 5th, 2018
Volume 1, Issue 1

SPS Library Newsletter

LEADERSHIP

Welcome to our first SPS Library Newsletter! Many thanks to TuesD Chambers for conceiving of this great idea and being willing to take charge of it, too. I know you'll each find things here and in future issues that will be helpful and informative, and I hope

that, over time, you'll each contribute, as well.

As most of you know, September 5th marks the beginning of my first full school year with SPS. I came on board late in the last year and have spent the four months I've been here getting to know as much about you, your libraries, the district and the state as I could. My listening and learning tour that I began back in May will continue in September. If I didn't make it out to your school last spring, you can be sure I'll be there before we break for the winter holidays in December. Please start sending me your preferred days and times for a visit. Visiting schools inspires and energizes me and helps me stay current with our profession, so I plan to do a lot of that!

This September, we're also going to be soliciting applications for our district Library Steering Committee. The current committee met yesterday and developed a mission statement, a list of duties and member election and term schedule. Members of the existing committee are: Betty Brennan— Ingraham HS; Deb Fournier-Hazel Wolf K-8; Mary Bannister— Louise Boren STEM K-8; Rebecca Wynkoop— Robert Eagle Staff MS; Craig Seasholes— Dearborn Park International ES; and Anne Aliverti— Bryant ES. This group of dedicated individuals have been serving you and our students on this committee for the last two years.

Some of them will be rotating off the committee in September and we'll be asking all of you to apply for the open positions. Expect to see more on that topic in emails from me in a few weeks.

In closing, I want to remind us all to stay focused on why we do this important work of providing strong school libraries and library programs to the children in our communities. Remember that it's the why of what we do, not the what, that really matters. For me, it's crucial that I do as much as possible to bring equity to all of our school libraries so that every child in the Seattle Public Schools has the chance to fall in love with books and reading because I believe that the true pathways to a happy and successful life. So know that even if you don't see it, I'm always working behind the scenes planting seeds and building relationships and keeping my eyes on the prize of fully staffed, maximally accessible, richly resourced and diverse school libraries throughout SPS. Together we can get there.

I wish you all a joyful and inspiring start to the new school year.

Best,

Marian



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Leadership	1
SPS Library Spotlight	2
District Collaboration	3
Survey Data.....	3
Makerspace.....	3
Professional Learning	4
Equity.....	4
Student Voice.....	5
Best Books.....	5
Best PD Books.....	5
Tech Tip	6
Hot Collaboration	6
Building Leadership	6

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- To contribute to the next newsletter please contact TuesD Chambers at tschambers@seattleschools.org



ES/K-8 LIBRARIAN SPOTLIGHT

Abby Levin at (the brand-new) Cedar Park Elementary School has opened up minds and hearts in her community by empowering students to take ownership of their learning, build a growth mindset, and equip them with skills to take on complex challenges in the future.

Check out the film she guided 4th and 5th grade students to make (in Makerspace) for [SPL's Global Reading Challenge](#)

It opened at the Global Reading Challenge City Finals, screened at the 90 Second Newbery Film Festival, and was shared at other schools as a precursor to the Book-It Reparatory Theatre production of the same book. The filmmakers have now been invited to screen again at a NW Immigrant Rights Project fundraiser at the Majestic Bay Theater on October 10th and again the Children's Film Festival in January 2019.

The unexpected, far reach of this project is an example of what benefits might ripple outward by providing students with a sense of ownership and the tools for innovation. You can find out more about this and other work at www.cedarparklibrary.org or follow her @CedarReaders on Twitter.



Inside Out and Back Again

More from Abigail Levin Tate

“If we want our students to be confident, involved citizens of the world we need to determine what our libraries are to be in the lives of our students.— Rebecca Wynkoop”



Picture Book Pilot 18|19 - Building Community Through Story

PICTURE BOOK PILOT

Seattle Public Library has donated 75 boxes of weeded picture books for the SPS Picture Book Pilot to encourage Building Community Through Story with middle and high school students.

Teachers and students are reading picture books to encourage literacy, build community, share in diverse thinking and address equity. The goal is to have Picture Books read aloud every day to students and to build community through story.

Picture book resources will be shared with all schools as themed text sets are made by middle and high school students.

If you are interested in learning more or participating please contact TuesD Chambers, Rebecca Wynkoop, Marian Royal or Stacia Bell.

SECONDARY LIBRARIAN SPOTLIGHT

Rebecca Wynkoop at Robert Eaglestaff Middle School has made the library a second home for students. She has built a community of readers and operates the library with deeply held convictions about accessibility and student choice. These convictions, her passion for literacy, and her summer hours have made the library the heart of the school.

On four different dates, in two-hour increments, Rebecca held summer hours with dramatic positive impact. Summer hours built relationships with her students, created a safe space of belonging, eased school anxiety, eliminated summer slide, and improved outcomes for students with 45-60 visitors attending each session.

The students love the library and because she believes they are her biggest stakeholders she provides them with continued access and a space of their own.

Guidance from Rebecca but flexibility to determine what the library should look like and offer has made it a student-centered space and utilized by families all summer. The circulation statistics and attendance proved that it was too valuable a resource to sit closed for two months.

Rebecca is excited to see librarians across the district try something similar and bask in the rewards she has experienced. She knows that if we want our students to be confident, involved citizens of the world we need to determine what our libraries are to be in the lives of our students. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact her at rlwynkoop@seattleschools.org or @Eaglestafflib



SPS Great Puzzle Challenge
All Ages



Join the **SPS Great Puzzle Challenge** and win a trophy and popsicle party for your school.

You put a puzzle in your library, take note when it is completed, share your progress, send it on to another school, and post photos to encourage cross-district competition.

It is completely free to participate and we hope everyone wants to be part of the puzzle fun!

(Contact TuesD Chambers for MS/HS information and Kristi Leland for ES information)

SPS Rubik’s Cube Challenge
All Ages

*If interested check out [SPS Rubik’s Cube Challenge](#).



*Teachers or librarians need to go to [SPS Rubik’s Cube order form](#).

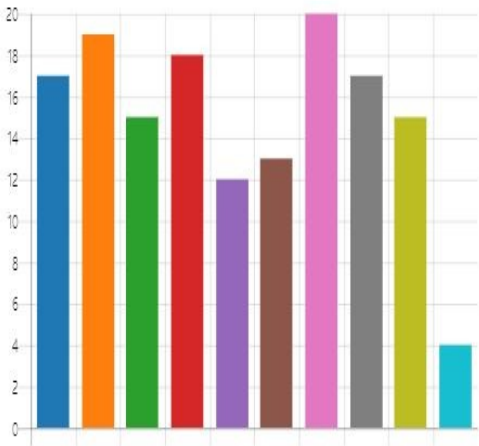
*There will be contests for each semester and in elementary, middle, and high school divisions.

SURVEY DATA

1. Please indicate any areas you would be interested in reading more about in our SPS Library Newsletter

[More Details](#)

Technology Tips	17
Professional Learning Opportu...	19
Makerspace	15
Equity	18
Student Voice	12
District Opportunities	13
Book Recommendations	20
Professional Development Rec...	17
Hot Collaboration Opportuniti...	15
Spotlight on Admin/Leadership	4



Makerspace

[WATCH THE EDWEBINAR RECORDING](#)

Interested in taking your makerspace to the next level?

Looking for new ideas, tools or projects to rein-vigorate inventors in your makerspace?

Makerspace expert Nicholas Provenzano, “The Nerdy Teacher,” demonstrates how to take your school or library makerspace to the next level.

In addition, SPS Librarians, SPL Librarians, Pacific Science Center, and Brian Hanser of Follet School Solutions are working to bring a MakerExpo to librarians in October.

Stay tuned for details!

Equity

Supporting the Turquoise Wedge with Mirrors and Windows in the School Library Collection.

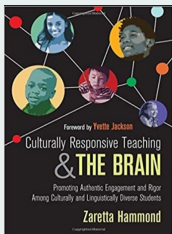
Michelle Easley, ED.S., delivers an exploration of mirror and window books as a critical component of a diverse school library collection. After this presentation, librarians will feel empowered to support the turquoise wedge by curating resources that reflect and value diversity.



WATCH NOW

Equity Book Club

Librarians interested in culturally responsive teaching and promoting authentic engagement and rigor might enjoy our Equity Book Club.



Author Za-

retta Hammond has created a guide to help readers get the most from the book by asking reflective questions that push thinking and sharpen the equity lens.

In addition, the discussion questions and collaborative reading process can help colleagues develop a shared language around culturally responsive practices.

If interested please contact TuesD Chambers.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Registration is live for the 2018 WLA Conference!

Be sure to register by September 7th to take advantage of the early bird discount

When: October 17th-20th, 2018

Where: Yakima Convention Center

This year's conference theme, "Cultivating Communities, Harvesting Ideas," honors the bridge-building and innovation happening in and outside of libraries. The schedule is packed full of diverse programs, compelling speakers, and fun events. A group of SPS librarians are attending and will use some of the time to collaborate on district initiatives.

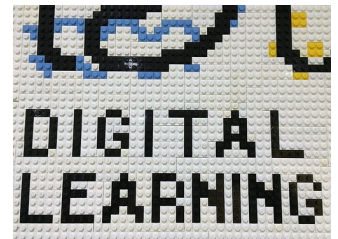


WLA 2018 | *cultivating communities harvesting ideas*
Yakima, October 17-20

DIGITAL LEARNING

Librarians who have access to technology (2:1, 1:1, or consistently have a cart of laptops or iPads) and are interested in learning more about Digital Learning should contact their Instruction Technology Specialist and find out how to join the DLLAs.

They meet monthly to improve library practice using digital tools and act as Digital Learning Ambassadors in their schools.



TEACHING FOR BLACK LIVES

Join educators on Monday, September 24th from 7:30-9:00 pm as the editors read excerpts and call us to action to dismantle stereotypes and the school-to-prison pipeline.

They call for educators everywhere to engage Black students in self-reflection and develop a curriculum that emphasizes community activism and social transformation.

TOWN HALL Events Membership Media Library About Rent Space Donate

Sep 24, 2018 CIVICS

Teaching for Black Lives

TEACHING FOR BLACK LIVES

BUY TICKETS

Civics Series

Town Hall's Civics series highlights everything from local policies to world politics. These events offer perspectives on a range of topics as diverse as Seattle itself—a bustling forum for activism, discovery, and thought-provoking discussion.

[View all Civics events](#)

Member Benefits For This Event

Priority Seating

Are You A Member?

For as low as \$45 per year, you'll get great member benefits like early access to popular

BEST BOOKS

Please fill out the survey to share the best picture, children's, middle-reader, young adult, and adult books you think should be in our libraries and read by others.

We are also interested in knowing if you would like to be part of the Equity Book Club.

Your answers will be collated and shared in the next newsletter.

SPS NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2018 FEEDBACK FORM

STUDENT VOICE

Have you considered creating a Library Council inviting students, staff, and parents to help inform your work and build community in the library? If you would like to discuss how to do it, be part of a district wide effort, or interested in strategizing ways to make it successful, contact Marian Royal or TuesD Chambers.

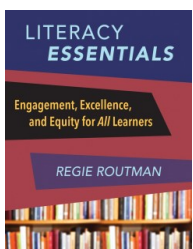


“Finally-but also first and foremost-we must do whatever we can to first capture students’ and teachers’ hearts before worrying about how much we are instructing them.” - Regie Routman

BEST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOOKS

Literacy Essentials: engagement, excellence, and equity for all learners by Regie Routman

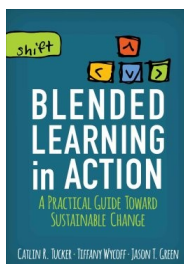
The author offers k-12 teachers and leaders practical tools to help students develop as self-determining readers, writers, and learners including: Take Action sections with specific suggestions for authentically teaching, assessing, and learning, extensive research that is easily accessible and actionable, and personal stories that connect to literacy teaching and learning.



Blended Learning in action: a practical guide toward sustainable change by Catlin Tucker

The author demonstrates the advantages a blended learning model has over traditional instruction when technology is used to engage students both inside the classroom and online.

It is currently being used by high schools within the Seattle Public School District as a mentor text for Digital Learning.





HOT COLLABORATION

MS and HS Librarians-If you haven't had a chance to reach out to Elin Bjorling, Research Scientist at UW, she is working on two teen mental health projects, one in robotics, and one in virtual reality.

Anyone interested in collaborating can contact her at bjorling@uw.edu

TECHNOLOGY TIP

[Flipgrid](#) is a website that allows teachers to create "grids" of short discussion-style questions that students respond to through recorded videos and is now free.

Every educator now has access to all Flipgrid features to supercharge your community discussions-unlimited Grids, student-to-student replies, longer video lengths, CoPilots for collaboration, etc.

[Log in](#) or [Sign up](#) to start taking advantage of full Flipgrid access today.



Building Leadership
Are you currently leading or attending your Technology, RET (Race and Equity Team), PTSA, or Instructional Council meetings?

Please let us know about your successes so we can share them with all SPS Librarians and continue to advocate for librarians across the district.



Please let us know what you have planned for:
Banned Book Week
Halloween
National Voter Registration
Library Card Sign-up
Teen Read Week

Have news to share? Questions? Please send to tschambers@seattleschools.org