



January 27th, 2020
Volume 2, Issue 4

SPS Library Newsletter

Leadership

According to family lore, my father would routinely return from school with a note pinned to his shirt by an exasperated teacher. Much to my amusement, my grandmother saved these notes, which were scrawled on school letterhead and reported dastardly wrongdoings like “Gary refused to wear his snow boots at recess” or “Gary hasn’t done his homework — again.” There wasn’t

much respite for a homework shirking, bootless kid like my dad as the neighbors were delighted to call my grandmother to let her know another note from the teacher was on the way.

Teachers no longer need to pin notes to the shirts of students because they have email. I’ve received a few noting that my children may or may not have been involved in a sponge throwing incident in the school cafeteria or that one child is a founding member of Ninja Fight Club at recess. I really wished the Ninja Fight Club letter had been pinned to a shirt. Extra points would have been given to the teacher if she’d folded it into a throwing star.

Once, during midwinter break, an email went out to the parents of my son’s class to remind students to finish their assigned book during the break. She also informed parents that students had been given their assigned books two weeks before. I hadn’t heard about this book report, so I asked my son about it. “I forgot,” he said, as if that explained everything.

I reminded him that he could have finished the book during our lengthy flight instead of hitting his sister with the Sky Mall catalog. I tried to fake sick to get out of swimming lessons as a kid, but my mom was a nurse, so she never bought it. Her motto was “no blood, no excuses.” It’s that way a little when your mom is a librarian too.

We are so rich in resources with our library scene in Seattle. Thanks to our partnership with SPL and Library Link, students have access to books, audio books, graphic novels and more from almost anywhere. It just takes a constant reminder that those resources are already there, ad-free and ready to be consumed. Once kids have experienced a librarian’s heroism, they’ll become practiced at looking toward the library. As young humans, they are conditioned to go for the low hanging fruit. Our job is to help them reach.

From a lanai in Hawaii, I logged on to the library’s website, perused Overdrive and downloaded the book for my son’s report.

“No excuses,” I said, as I handed him my device.

He didn’t say thank you. Maybe he just forgot.

Darcy Brixey

Library and Instructional Materials Program Services Manager



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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Library Steering Committee

Thank you to all librarians who continue to support literacy across the district to all Seattle Public School students.

We are better together!



SW Regional Librarians



NW Regional Librarians

Review the district wide agendas and notes provided by the Library Steering Committee to better unify our message and transparently work across the district to better serve students.

Please email a photo of your librarian group so we can continue to make our vast district just a little bit smaller.

Librarian Advocacy

Reach out to Rebecca Wynkoop if you would like to be part of the Advocacy Subcommittee



I am super excited to begin my 2 year term (2020-2021) as the WLA Board Director, School Library Division Representative. Things are just starting for me with a Board Orientation in January 2020 but I am looking forward to serving as your representative to your state organization. If you are not currently a member of WLA, [please do join!](#)

The voices of all our school library professionals are vital to strengthening our position in our statewide association.



K-5 Digital Citizenship– Anne Aliverti

View Ridge's Amy Young, Wedgwood's Kristi Leland, Decatur's LeAnn Miller, and Bryant's Anne Aliverti received a digital citizenship planning grant from OSPI. This year the team will scour the *internets* for Open Education Resource lessons to align with K-5 Digital Citizenship standards. They will link lessons in an user-friendly document. Where holes exist in available curriculum, they will report back to OSPI, potentially requesting a second grant and forming a curriculum planning team for a second year. More to come!



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



The submissions deadline has been extended to **February 16th**.

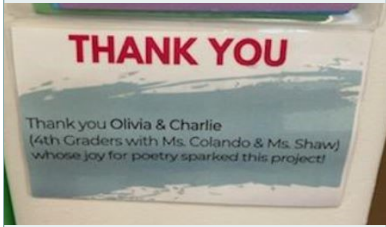
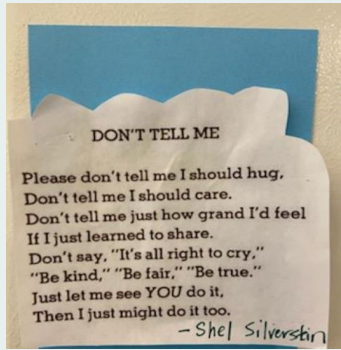
Share this with your staff, students, and families as we put Library Love Letters out in the universe!

MisinfoDay with the University of Washington– Liz Crouse

MisinfoDay is an annual event hosted by UW's new [Center for an Informed Public](#) aimed at high school students, teachers, and librarians. This year's event will take place on UW's Seattle Campus on March 16. Students and educators learn about the origins of mis- and disinformation and how to identify and combat it in their online lives. In the past, featured speakers have included misinformation researchers, professional fact-checkers, and UW and SPL librarians. You can learn more about MisinfoDay by visiting the event website [here](#).

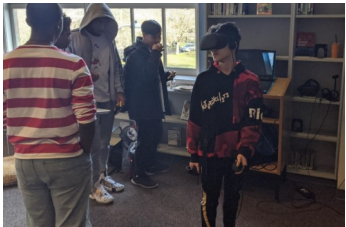


Poem Pole Project



Virtual Reality at Franklin and Ballard High School- Quinn Longhurst, Laura McGinty, and TuesD Chambers

At Franklin, Virtual Reality (VR) is used to augment students' use of the library. Students are learning to collaborate by sharing this emerging technology. Different demographics of students have to navigate potential conflicts and organically establish norms. It is refreshing to see these soft skills, which are increasingly necessary in today's polarized society, are being developed in the library.



Also, an ELL teacher has begun rewarding his class on Fridays with incentivized time in the library. It has been really fun watching students teach each other VR and express joy through the power of play. The teacher says his relationships and class dynamics have benefited immensely through these informal interactions.

At Ballard, VR is used to support curriculum and form community. Laura McGinty and TuesD Chambers presented at WLA's Virtual Conference about the use of Virtual Reality and how it can be used in school and public libraries to engage communities.

The presentation (with notes and all) can be viewed here:

[Defy Distance: How to Use Virtual Reality to Engage Youth and Community](#)

Poem Pole Project–Abby Levin



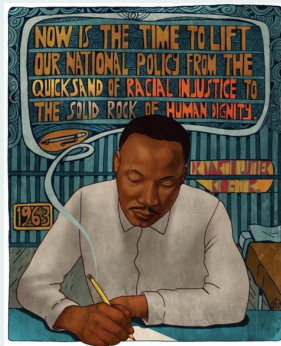
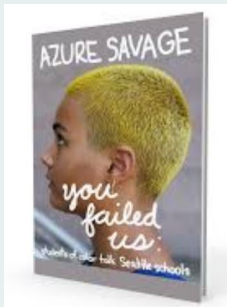
Native American Education Library— Gail Morris and Renee Remlinger-Tee

Racial Equity

Everyone is invited to join our **SPS Library Racial Equity Book Club** on Teams on Thursday or Friday mornings at 7:30 am once a month during the school year. **We recommend inviting your staff members to join you.**

The ninth book is *You Failed Us* by Azure Savage.

Please go to Schoology and join the course at 7QNKV-9V7WS



On his birthday and every day, the free poster above can remind students of Dr. King's vision for a more just world. <https://t-t.site/2CZcnF2>

The Native American Education Library, located in Meany Middle School, focuses on resources from the Native American perspective. The library offers book sets as well as a general collection available for check out by SPS teachers, librarians, staff and students. Teachers are encouraged to use the collection with Common Core reading curriculum.

Are you updating your library's Native American resources? Look to our titles for inspiration! We have a variety of books for all reading levels--elementary and middle school, young adult, adult as well as teaching resources. Recently, we've added multiple copies and book sets of popular titles such as **There There** by Tommy Orange, **An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People** by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, **Young Water Protectors: A Story about Standing Rock** by Aslan and Kelly Tudor, **Trickster: Native American Tales** a graphic novel by Matt Dembicki, and many, many more.

To explore the collection, browse the online catalog, **Destiny Resource Lists (organized by audience, format, subjects, etc.)** and **Destiny Discover Collection**: <https://spslibrary.seattleschools.org/common/welcome.jsp?site=1009>. You are also welcome to schedule a time to stop by the library.

[Native Ed Library's Destiny Discovers Collection](https://www.seattleschools.org/NativeEdLibrary)

www.seattleschools.org/NativeEdLibrary

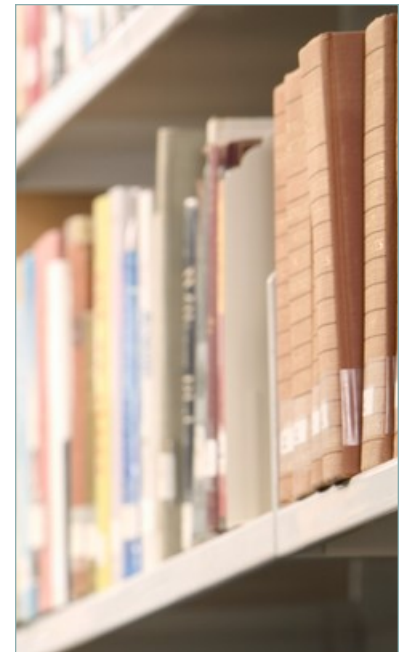
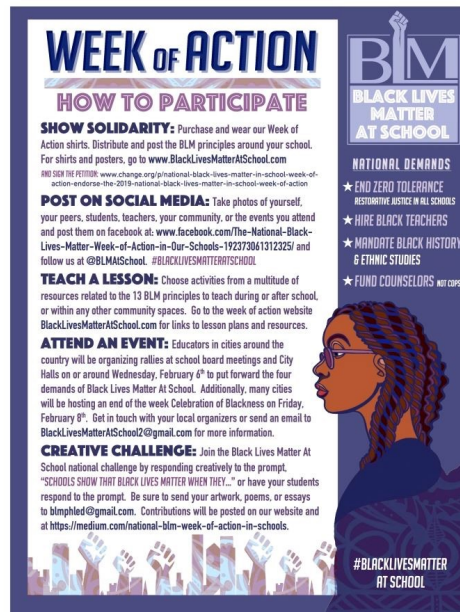
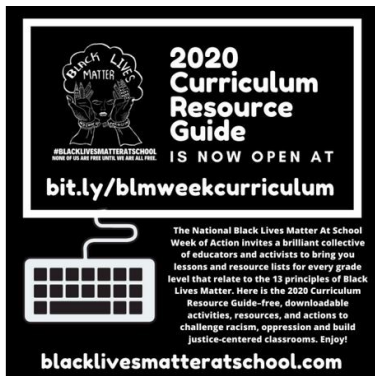


Questions? Please contact Gail Morris, Native American Education Program Manager, at gtmorris@seattleschools.org or Renée Remlinger-Tee in the library at rmremlingert@seattleschools.org.

Black Lives Matter at School

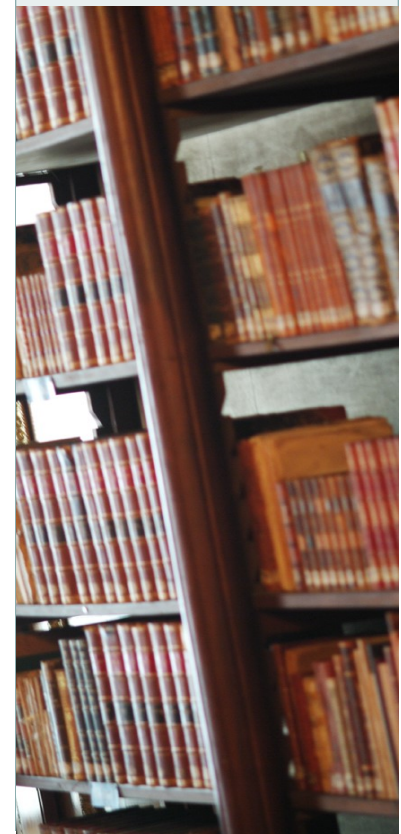
Black Lives Matter at School National Movement

BLM at School Starter Kit



"If you never take your MS/ HS students to the school library, it doesn't matter how many books are in the collection or how awesome your librarian, they are still living in a defacto book desert you helped create."

Donalyn Miller



Learning and Leading Professional Growth



February 29th Children's Literature Conference in Bellingham

Gather to celebrate and learn about children's literature.



March 12th-15th Emerald City Comic Con 2020 is the premier comic book and pop culture convention in the Pacific Northwest.



March 4th-6th NCCCE educational conference to reach higher levels of student and educator success through the use of 21st century technology



March 16th Misinfo Day (www.cip.uw.edu/get-involved/misinfoday/) the iSchool welcomes more than 200 Seattle-area high school students for a daylong workshop on how to navigate the misinformation landscape

WASHYARG

March 6th and May 8th WASHYARG the Washington State Young Adult Review Group (WASHYARG) is a regional organization of school and public librarians and other individuals interested in reviewing books, magazines and other media appropriate for teenagers



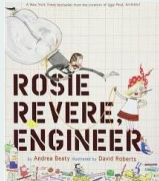
May 9th Cavalcade of Authors West is a Puget sound

young writers workshop dedicated to providing secondary students an authentic experience with the authors they read.

Technology Tips and Tools

The Best Problem-Solving Books

Encourage different techniques for problem-solving, and hone metacognition by using picture books.



The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting is an award-winning, non-profit news organization that partners with journalists and news-

rooms to support in-depth reporting on critical global **issues** to educate the public, promote solutions, and improve lives.

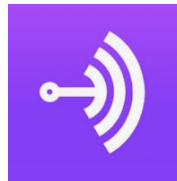


Canva for Education is a graphic design tool that now offers educators free accounts



The Seattle Public Library

SPL Librarian Shannon Wallace created a **Reach Your Goal with Free Library Resources** guide. Please distribute widely.



Anchor podcasts can be shared everywhere (including Google Podcasts and Apple Podcasts) with no fancy equipment or podcasting experience necessary, and it's 100% free!



Makerspace to Try

SPS Great Puzzle Challenge Information

SPS Rubik's Cube Challenge

SPS Lego Challenge

Leadership and Promoting Your Library

Are you currently promoting your work in staff newsletters, with table tents at staff meetings, sending out all school emails or newsletters to families and community members?

Is your admin, PTSA, and staff getting this newsletter?

How are you making your work visible to the school, your community, and the world? Please let us know so we can highlight your efforts in the newsletter



Please let us know what you have planned for:
Seattle Super Readers
Global Reading Challenge
Black Lives Matter at School
World Read Aloud Day February 5th

Have news to share? Questions?

Please send to editor TuesD Chambers at tschambers@seattleschools.org



Thank you to Darcy Brixey, Liz Crouse, Erin Sterling, Gail Morris, Renee Remlinger-Tee, Rebecca Wynkoop, Stacia Bell, Quinn Longhurst, Laura McGinty, Shannon Wallace, and Abby Levin.