April 24, 2020 Volume 2, Issue 5



SPS Librarians April Newsletter

Librarians Rock

From Darcy Brixey (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Manager, Library Services and Instructional Materials

I owe an uncomfortable amount of my math and science knowledge to *Schoolhouse Rock*. So much so, that when my son was little I bought the double CD set so we could listen to things like *Conjunction Junction* in the car. One song and animated short that has remained in my memory is *How a Bill Becomes a Law*. With all that's happening in library and education these days, I thought it was worth another watch.

If this isn't proof positive of the value of library geekdom, I don't know what is.

That said, "doing library" right now looks different than it has in the past. Librarians are creating online content, working with building staff to ensure stronger remote learning and assisting DoTS in the check out of laptops to students who need them. While times are ever so slightly chaotic, we need to lean on our solid foundation as we move forward into a new form of normal. This is what we do: #LibrariesTransform.

Now, as always, joining an organization like WA Library Association is a great way to advocate beyond our individual efforts. WLA continues to employ a lobbyist to keep the organization and its members up to date on issues that affect libraries in the state of Washington. WLA leads, advocates, educates, and connects.

Keep learning and keep sharing. Remember, knowledge is power!

Darcy Bee @thatsmsdarcy · Apr 14 Nice work #spslibrarians!



Seattle Public Schools @SeaPubSchools · Apr 14

It's #SchoolLibraryMonth! Thanks to #spslibrarians for continuing to connect students and families to needed resources. They've helped distribute laptops and found creative ways to get books to students from filling Little Free Libraries to hosting online book groups #spsconnects



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Please contribute to our next newsletter by contacting: clseasholes@ seattleschools.org

ES/K-8 LIBRARIAN SPOTLIGHT



Merrick Bodmer from Cascadia Elementary has been doing weekly Rubik's Cube races with 4th and 5th graders on Teams. "I'm also doing weekly book talks and book recommendations with students in addition to a Battle of the Books for the WSCCPBA books with my younger students in Schoology using the discussion tool for kids to comment on the read-alouds. I've started a media album in each of my Schoology pages to post pictures of #WhereIRead. Students are sending me photos and I'm posting them in there and it's a fun way for kids to see each other in a slideshow. "On a more personal note she added,

"What I love the most about being a librarian is the daily interactions I have with the students. I miss those right now which is why I'm having fun meeting up with many of them online weekly.

Chris Robert of Roxhill and Highland Park was invited to contribute 5 of the first 11 2/3rd grade math lessons that have been broadcast. He notes, "As a librarian we are all teachers!" Adding, "On 4/10 I gave a shout-out to all school librarians in honor of National School Librarians' Day." Chris also shared a report on SW Elem. Librarians PLC:

- Lesley Vannini (Fairmount Park) joined teachers' Zoom meetings for short library story time
- Laurie Iba (Alki) held K-2 and 3-5 Zoom meetings with over 60 kids showing up to hear a read aloud of <u>Swimmy</u> and to make a Mood Meter to explore feelings during the story
- Becky Shipe (Sanislo) who created a Sanislo Instagram page
- Jessica Lindow (Arbor Heights) and Mary Bannister (Boren STEM K-8) recorded read-aloud videos for their schools.
- Theresa Njoku (Genessee Hill) who led a Zoom assembly for 1/3 of the school with a read aloud about Barack Ohama.
- Becky Shipe & Linda Nakagawa (Maple/Lafayette) who moved Scholastic Book Fairs online to support readers
- Mindy Terr (Rainier View/Concord) and Laurie Iba teamed to instigate weekly SW-EL PLC collaborations





In a recent SLJ article Donalyn Miller writes,

"Folks struggling to read during the quarantine share these suggestions for sparking reading motivation: Revisit favorites... Choose "lighter" fare...Pick something short... Try an audiobook...Connect with other readers...Plan for future reading. Make a list of books you'd like to read when you regain your reading appetite...Accept that it is OK not to read...



"It's a strange and stressful time. There will be an after. What can we learn from our reading experiences and our students' experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic? What can this teach us about reading and supporting young readers going forward?" https://www.slj.com/?detailStory=reading-joy-time-of-coronavirus-distraction-donalyn-miller



BEST BOOKS

<u>Coronavirus: A Book for Children</u> by the "Nosy Crow" team and illustrator Axel Scheffler is a timely, informative and well vetted resource available for free download at https://stayhome.candlewick.com/

Jason Reynolds teamed with Ibram X. Kendi to deliver "not a history book" <u>Stamped: Racism, Anti-Racism and You.</u> It's both a "Must Read," and "Must Listen" as the Reynolds (National Ambassador for Young People's Literature) delivers a pitch-perfect audiobook for young adults and anyone concerned with countering of this pernicious



social scourge. Study guide: https://s3.amazonaws.com/WebVault/SU/EDIT20/





your next five books

Our Next 5 Boo Looking for something fantastic to 1

Looking for something fantastic to read? Tell us a little bit about what you like (and hate!) to read. We'll email you a list of five books chosen just for you.

https://www.spl.org/ programs-andservices/authors-andbooks/your-next-5books

SPS BOARD DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT



SPS Region VII Director Brandon Hersey lives in Rainier Beach and is in his 5th year teaching 2nd grade in Federal Way Schools. He was at South Shore K-8 over spring break to volunteer at recent laptop distribution. "The really big thing, at least as I look at it right now, is there is both the systems-level stuff and then there is how this actually plays out family to family. There are cracks and opportunities to fill those cracks...We are trying to prioritize that technology goes to seniors and students furthest away

from educational justice...I need to know when families are falling through the cracks. That's what I need to know in order to get people what they actually need."

On the topic of the pivot to online learning during Covid19 closure, "We're going to come out, at least culturally better in how we engage with technology in a meaningful way; but what this is exposing a lot of our week points as a system that we have to address. We need to be in a better place as regards technology. We need to be working with and supporting our community-based organizations, where we are working more effectively with the City of Seattle."

On the topic of getting more #DiverseBooks to Seattle Super Readers, he adds "We need to go the extra step to ensure that books are quality pieces of literature, written by people who look like our (black and brown) students, and that resonate with their experiences."

-as interviewed by CLSeasholes

DIGITAL LEARNING

First be sure to engage and appreciate SPS district Schoology courses that are helping teachers and students learning to use online tools necessary to deliver school in the new digital normal. That's a major "lift" by our partners in Instructional Technology, have a look at SPS Learning Resources Page offerings including:

Digital Learning Schoology Course (14 Clock Hours Available) Topics: District Technology Tools, Office 365, and Schoology <u>Schoology Course</u> Course Code: MS6R-8PZM-KSNWQ

Enhanced Online Teaching and Learning Support (Schoology Course)

Topics: Getting started with Remote Learning and Communicating, Connecting, and Collaborating with Students Schoology Course Course Code: K9VG-9464-D7RF9

Communicate with Students Using with Teams via Schoology (Schoology Course)

Topic: Meeting with Students on Teams through Schoology

Schoology MS Teams Meetings Course Code: THMR-QDFC-QDCZN

Our partners at SPL also recommend another tool Your Next Skill to share with students and staff:



Do you want to learn or practice a new language? Do you want to master digital art or photography techniques? Are you struggling with your resume? Your Next Skill can help!

Your Next Skill is a service offered by the Seattle Public Library that will support you wherever your interests might lead. Let us know what you're interested in learning and librarians will create a plan to get you on your way. This can include e-books, online tutorials, free and fee-based classes, and more. Take a look at some examples of what other people are interested in learning.

We might be stuck at home right now, but that doesn't mean we can't try new and exciting things! Let us know how we can help https://www.spl.org/using-the-library/ask-us

SECONDARY LIBRARIAN SPOTLIGHT

Looking for an example of how teacher-librarians have stepped up to lead and assist our students, teachers, and families in the current reality of online learning? Sarah Moges is Teacher-Librarian, Educational Technologist, and an Online Credit Recovery Coordinator at Rainier Beach High School.

(Check her out during recent laptop distribution in this photo at right .)



She is the lead contact between Credit Recovery and Online Learning students, families, and the school's counseling and support staff, making sure that all stakeholders are informed and "on the same page" with regard to students' needs and progress. Sarah monitors student work daily, quickly identifying challenges and working with students and families to address them. From helping navigate online platforms to daily communication and encouragement, Sarah strives to ensure that her students not only have all the opportunities and access to pursue quality learning, but most importantly – that they feel valued and cared for in these challenging times.

She is a leader in digital learning and communication, offering practical daily help to teachers, students, and families in utilizing SPS digital platforms (such as Schoology, Office 365 applications, etc); as well as connecting seniors with graduation resources and helping them navigate online programs such as Naviance to ensure college and career readiness.

Sarah is also excited to start her engagement this month as a member of Rainier Beach High School Design Advisory Team, tasked with developing a design vision in planning for the long-anticipated RBHS renovation. This is surely a joyful task and yet another opportunity to engage with and contribute to her beloved school community!





#spslibrarians #spsconnects #librarysnapshot



SPS Native American Education Librarian @NativeEdLibrary · Apr 9
@gailTmorris @SeaPubSchools @HampsonNeah #SPSNativeEd
#SPSLibrarians #SPSConnects

GoodMinds.com @GoodMindsBooks · Apr 9
Titles for home learning (C-YA) with interviews, activities, writing tips! 25
available @GoodMindsBooks, including Hearts Unbroken by bestselling
author Cynthia Leitich Smith goodminds.com/hearts-unbroke... I Am Not
a Number by Ojibwe educator Jenny Kay Dupuis goodminds.com/i-amnot-numbe... twitter.com/CynLeitichSmit...

ANNOTAL ANNOTAL



"As teacher librarians we share ideas and information to ensure student success."



