Planets School Library
News, events and important topics

Annual Spring Conference 2016

Mark your calendars and save the date for the upcoming, annual Southern Westchester and Putnam Northern Westchester School Library System conference on Friday, April 15, 2016!

Our keynote speaker, Sandra Hughes-Hassell, Ph.D., is a professor at the University of North Carolina. Her research focuses on the ever-growing need for diversity and equity in library services and materials for youth and the role of school library media specialists in education reform. After a year of countless race-related issues throughout the world, her work could not be more relevant.

As always, conference highlights include:
- Administrator of the Year Award,
- Exploratorium,
- Exhibits,
- Author signings,
- Engaging & Relevant Concurrent Sessions,
- Raffles,
- Continental breakfast & Lunch at Cermele’s Café...and more!

Early Bird Special—$125
Regular Price—$150
Stay tuned for conference updates and registration information that will follow shortly!

Fair Use Guidelines & Copyright

As you know, fair use and copyright laws are very important to our field. Students, parents, and educators depend on schools to model, explain, and correctly apply fair use principles. Fair use guidelines and copyright laws evolve over time, possibly leaving you with more questions than answers! Perhaps you’ve wondered the following:
- What copyright laws govern digital resources?
- What materials can and can’t be freely copied or distributed?
- What are the guidelines for using hyperlinks in online information sources?
- What accountability measures can school districts face if faculty members are non-compliant?

These questions—and more—will be answered at the upcoming Fair Use Guidelines & Copyright workshop on Friday, January 15, 2016. It will be a fast-paced, highly interactive, and fun workshop on a serious topic. If you’re interested in finding out more, check out the flyer - http://tinyurl.com/ovpae3e. Register via My Learning Plan - https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?I=1825841&D=12439

All Are Welcome!
Communication Coordinator Meeting

Play a vital role in the overall effective operation of the SWBOCES School Library System!

Date: Monday, February 1st, 12:00 - 3:00 pm
Location: 450 Mamaroneck Ave, Harrison, NY 10528

Don’t Forget:
An Overview of Gooru

Goru is a free, open, community-led online platform that offers K-12 resources and lesson plans in science, math, social studies and language arts. Gooru allows educators to customize online content and assessments to then share with students.

To begin, educators can create a Gooru class. Students are invited to a class via email or a class code. They give a class a name, and then create a course. Courses can be aligned to specific standards and teachers can customize student assessments and learning collections.

Collections are a curated set of digital resources that cover a particular topic. Teachers can browse resources from community content (narrow a search by using filters) or they can start from scratch and upload their own materials or from web URLs.

Students can work independently or keep pace with the whole class. Assessments are used to track progress for both the students and teachers. For a quick overview to learn more, watch Gooru in 90 Seconds video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7MVaFHIPOw. Visit http://www.gooru.org/#home. Finally, check out the Gooru User Guide: http://tinyurl.com/jugf6hk

Administrator of the Year Award!

The Southern Westchester BOCES School Library System and Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES School Library System are pleased to announce their intention to once again honor educational administrators in Westchester and Putnam Counties who have made a significant contribution to school librarianship.

The award will be given to one administrator working in an educational setting in Southern Westchester BOCES and one administrator working in an educational setting in Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES who:

- Demonstrates policies and procedures for the advancement of school libraries/librarianship,
- Fosters the growth of school library media specialists,
- Exhibits understanding of current practices, has a vision of future trends and works toward implementing them,
- Supports the Plan of Service of the Southern Westchester BOCES School Library System, and
- Is instrumental in seeking funding to improve library programs.

For more information, access the flyer here: http://www.youblisher.com/p/1286023-Administrator-of-the-Year-Award/. To nominate an administrator for the 2016 award, go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5VHQVTQ. Good luck!

Best-of-the-Year Nonfiction Picks

Booklist recently put out a list of the “best-of-the-year” (2015) nonfiction titles. These titles are sure to appeal to your students!

Older Readers:
- Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad - M.T. Anderson (Gr. 7-10)
- The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill

Middle Readers:
- Rhythm Ride: A Road Trip through the Motown Sound - Andrea Davis Pinkney (Gr. 5-8)
- The Rain Wizard: The Amazing, Mysterious, True Life of Charles Mallory Hatfield - Larry Dane
- Club - Phillip Hoose (Gr. 9-12)
- This Book Is Gay - James Dawson (Gr. 8-12)

Young Readers:
- Ada Byron Lovelace and the Thinking Machine - Laurie Wallmar (Gr. 1-3)
- Earmuffs for Everyone! How Chester Greenwood Became Known as the Inventor of Earmuffs - Meghan McCarthy (Gr. K-3)

Happy reading in the new year!
Implementing the New SS Framework

New Workshop: Implementing the New Social Studies Framework in Grades 9 & 10
January 19 & 20, February 3

This two-and-a-half day workshop is designed to prepare high school social studies teachers, curriculum leaders and school librarians to implement the new Social Studies Framework, approved by the Board of Regents in April 2014. Using their current courses of study as a starting point, participants will explore ways to change these to align with the Frameworks, paying special attention to the Social Studies Practices (Skills) as we discuss strategies to shift the focus of instruction. These changes interface with Common Core literacy work that schools have already undertaken. Participants will engage and reflect in an inquiry experience using the Stripling Inquiry Process and then explore the C3 Inquiry Model, developed in the NYS K-12 Social Studies Toolkit, and unpack the inquiry template and the annotated inquiries for grades 9 & 10. They will have the opportunity to work on their own inquiries for possible field-testing with their classes and share their inquiries (and possible field test results) and potential course restructuring ideas during the final half-day workshop.

For more information, access the workshop flyer here [link].

Resources: Martin Luther King Jr.

In addition to all of your print and ebook titles, below are some digital resources to help plan for lessons to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day, on January 18, 2016.

Websites:
Teachingbooks.net - Check out the customized resource list - [link]
TB resource list QR Code - once there, share the flyer and bookmarks!

The King Center - [link]
Kids National Geographic - [link]
History.com - [link]
Stanford University - [link]
Databases (NOVELny):
- Kids Infobits
- America the Beautiful
- La Nueva Enciclopedia Cumbre
- Multimedia Encyclopedia

Grants, Awards & Other Opportunities

Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
These small grants encourage libraries and archives to test and evaluate specific innovations in the ways they operate and the services they provide. The deadline to apply is 2/1/16. Visit [link].

National Leadership Grants for Libraries
NLG supports projects that address challenges faced by the library and archive fields and that have the potential to advance practice in those fields. The deadline to apply is 2/2/16. For more information, visit [link].

Six Flags Read to Succeed Program
Registration is now open for the 2015-16 program and it is open to students in grades K-6. The deadline to enter student is 3/1/16. For more information, visit [link].
Contact the SW BOCES SLS Team

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January Calendar of Events

◊ Fri, Jan 15, 2016—Fair Use Guidelines & Copyright Laws—8:30 am-3:00 pm
◊ Tues & Wed, Jan 19 & 20, 2016—Implementing the New Social Studies Framework in Grades 9 & 10—8:30 am-3:00 pm (& Half-day Feb 3)
◊ Tues, Jan 26, 2016—ESIFC Introductory After School Workshop—3:30 pm-5:00 pm

EdWeb.net
Finding Your Go-To Educational Resources Online - The Internet is a giant infosphere of knowledge, information, strategies, and resources. Which resources are useful, and which are not? Discover a list of powerful online educational resources all teachers need to bookmark and keep handy for future use. Tuesday January 12, 2016 5:00 pm. Register at http://tinyurl.com/gwexprk

Proquest for NOVELNY
ELibrary & NOVELny - This one hour class, created specifically for NOVELny, covers the content, features and tips for using eLibrary Elementary as well as incorporating eLibrary Elementary into classroom curriculum. Tuesday, January 12, 2016 4:30 pm. Register at http://tinyurl.com/gseo4uh

Gannett Newspapers and NOVELny - This one hour class covers the content, features and tips for using Gannett Newspapers offered to NOVELny by ProQuest. Wednesday, January 20, 2016 4:00 pm. Register at http://tinyurl.com/hmus4am

TeachingBooks.net
Refresh your skills with these assorted short, video tutorials: http://tinyurl.com/38732z9

Webinars and Opportunities

Sunny Side Up - Jennifer Holm
The Last of the Sandwalkers - Jay Hosler
Nimona - Noelle Stevenson

Southern Westchester BOCES
School Library System

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