Planet School Library
News, events and important topics

Annual Spring SLS Conference!

Excitement is brewing over the upcoming SW BOCES & P/NW BOCES SLS Conference, Perspectives on a Diverse School Library, on Friday, April 15, 2016!

In addition to the overarching ‘diversity’ theme of the conference, other topics to be explored at the conference are as follows: Coding, Emerging Technology, YA & Children’s Literature, MakerSpaces, Graphite, Digital Portfolios, SOLE (Self Organized Learning Environment) and more!

As with prior conferences, there will be author signings, the great Exploratorium, Exhibits, Raffles and complimentary breakfast and lunch!

Register on My Learning Plan and remember, seats are limited...take advantage of the Early Bird Special: https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?I=2017155&D=12439

It isn’t too late to nominate your administrator—though the deadline is quickly approaching (Feb. 12): https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5VHQVTQ

We look forward to seeing you there for what will be a truly exciting day!

Implementing the New Social Studies Framework in Grades 7-10

This two-and-a-half day workshop is designed to prepare middle and high school level social studies teachers, librarians, and curriculum leaders to implement the new Social Studies Framework. Using their current courses of study as a starting point, participants will explore ways to change these to align with the Framework, 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 engaged 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 Resource Toolkit, and unpack the inquiry template and the annotated inquiries in Grades 7 - 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.

Dates: 2/11, 2/12 & 3/7
Register on MLP: https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?I=1825613&D=12439

All Are Welcome!
Communication Coordinator Meeting

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

Date: NEW DATE, May 12th, 12:00 - 3:00 pm
Location: 450 Mamaroneck Ave, Harrison, NY 10528

Don’t Forget:
Register on My Learning Plan: https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?I=2022230&D=12439
Two months ago, President Obama made it official: No Child Left Behind (NCLB) has been replaced with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) as the country’s national education law, to take into full effect in the 2017-18 academic year. President Obama stated, "With this bill, we reaffirm that fundamentally American ideal—that every child, regardless of race, income, background, the zip code where they live, deserves the chance to make of their lives what they will." Essentially, “the bill rejects the overuse of standardized tests and one-size-fits-all mandates on our schools, ensures that our education system will prepare every child to graduate from high school ready for college and careers, and provides more children access to high-quality state preschool programs.”

Learn about the library-related provisions in the ESSA, which provides an overview of initial next steps to help maximize opportunities for effective school library programming under the new law. To learn more, visit http://tinyurl.com/hghmo7e. Finally, to watch the video of President Obama signing the ESSA, go to https://youtu.be/ZINwnEPflFM.

An Easy Screen Capture Tool: Skitch

Skitch, by Evernote, is a free tool (the basic version is free, other plans are available for a fee.) that users can download for Windows, MAC, IOS and Android. Skitch is an organization and management tool that allows users to communicate with others visually! Skitch is a go to vehicle for screen capture and annotation.

Easily use Skitch to take a screenshot and markup and edit images. Add text, highlight, blur, embed arrows and stickers to mark images. Use this tool to add labels, as a visual for a "how to," and to blur or enhance a part of an image, for example.

One great feature of Skitch is it’s integration with Evernote. Screen captures/images can be archived in Evernote and easily retrieved when needed. Marked up images can be exported as a graphic and easily shared through email, Twitter, Facebook, etc. Visit the website for more information - https://evernote.com/skitch/?var=3

Digital Learning Day 2016

Digital Learning Day (www.digitallearningday.org) is Wednesday, February 17, 2016! It began five years ago as a way to spread innovative practices and ensure that all students have access to high-quality digital learning opportunities.

Digital Learning Day is an excellent way to recognize and highlight some of the great teaching practices that showcase what educators are doing with technology and how that impacts learning.


Add Your Celebration to the Map

Official registration is now open!
New DPLA Source Sets

The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) has released another collection of Primary Source Sets at http://dp.la/primary-source-sets/. These sets are designed to help students develop their critical thinking skills by exploring topics in history, literature, and culture through primary sources. The sets, which the DPLA has been working on since July 2015, were curated by the Education Advisory Committee including educators and librarians from around the country.

Developed for student and teacher use in grades 6-14, each set includes an overview, 10-15 primary sources, links to related sources for research, and a teaching guide. The DPLA will be adding new sets and features through Spring 2016. There are many topics to explore, users can filter by subject and time period, below are some examples:

Electrifying America -
http://dp.la/primary-source-sets/sets/electrifying-america

The Great Migration -
http://dp.la/primary-source-sets/sets/the-great-migration

Beloved by Toni Morrison -
http://dp.la/primary-source-sets/sets/beloved-by-toni-morrison

The New Woman -
http://dp.la/primary-source-sets/sets/the-new-woman

Booklist: Top 10 Multicultural Fiction

It’s clear that diversity in children’s literature continues to be a hot-button issue. Although progress has been made (the most recent ALA book award winners can attest to that), there’s still a long way to go. Consider some of these titles below to add to your collection!

Younger Readers
- Mango, Abuela, and Me - By Meg Medina (Gr. 1–3)
- Miracle on 133rd Street - By Sonia Manzano (PreS–Gr. 2)

Middle Readers
- Bayou Magic - By Jewel Parker Rhodes (Gr. 4–7)
- Full Cicada Moon - By Marilyn Hilton (Gr. 4–7)
- The Land of Forgotten Girls - By Erin Entrada Kelly (Gr. 5–7)

Older Readers
- Black Dove, White Raven - By Elizabeth Wein (Gr. 8–11)
- Shadowshaper - By Daniel José Older (Gr. 8–11)
- Diego’s Crossing - By Robert Hough (Gr. 9–12)
- The Merit Birds - By Kelley Powell (Gr. 9–12)
- X - By Ilyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon (Gr. 9–12)

Grants, Awards & Other Opportunities

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 https://feedback.sixflags.com/rts/.

Ezra Jack Keats Mini Grants
Nearly $850,000 Given Directly to Educators at Public Schools and Libraries across the United States. The deadline is extended to 3/31/16. For more information, visit http://tinyurl.com/p3q7ktf.

Snapdragon Book Foundation
The Snapdragon Book Foundation provides funds to improve school libraries for disadvantaged children. Deadline to apply is 4/15/16. Visit http://www.snapdragonbookfoundation.org/
Webinars and Opportunities

**EdWeb.net**
7 Ways You Can Be a Digital Citizenship Leader - Learn about seven essential ways you can build a positive culture around media and technology in your school or district. Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 4:00 pm. Register at [http://tinyurl.com/houowk2](http://tinyurl.com/houowk2)

**Proquest for NOVELNY**
Elibrary Elementary and NOVELny - This webinar was created specifically for NOVELny and covers the content, features and tips for using ELibrary Elementary as well as incorporating ELibrary Elementary into classroom curriculum. Monday, February 22, 2016 4:30 pm. Register at [http://tinyurl.com/h8yyac4](http://tinyurl.com/h8yyac4)

**AASL**
Twig to Tree: Creativity, STEM, and the Connected School Library - This free webinar will share scholarly research in youth development and STEM learning, then translate that research into practical programs that school librarians can integrate into their practice. Wednesday, February 24, 2016, 7:00 pm. Register at [http://www.ala.org/aasl/ecollab/twig](http://www.ala.org/aasl/ecollab/twig)

**Scholastic**
Blending Scholastic GO! with Common Core, Social Studies Framework, and the C3 Inquiry Arc - Key topics ranging from Primary Sources, Information Text and Vocabulary, Text complexity and more. February 25, 2016, 3:30pm. Register at [http://tinyurl.com/jkynyj2](http://tinyurl.com/jkynyj2)