

PNW School Library System
Council Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2014

Attendees: Karen Baker, Patricia Canini, Laura Jensen, Katherine McCabe, Cathy Gelman, Mary Jane Karger, Joseph Mannozi, Elizabeth Krieger, Francine Vernon, Diane Moller, Nina Levine

Minutes:

Motion to accept the minutes of May 7, 2014: Cathy Gelman
Second: Francine Vernon

Appointment of new council members:

Elizabeth Krieger and Laura Jensen were officially appointed to the council.

Old Business:

1. The first meeting of the 2014-15 school year will be September 23, 2014. The draft of the agenda was reviewed.
 - Paige Jaeger workshop has been rescheduled for November 14, 2014.
 - J. Mannozi will be conducting site visits and welcomes invitations.
 - J. Mannozi will provide a refresher on the database portal including the new ebook collection.
 - Laura Jensen volunteered to prepare a short video tour of her library pre- and post renovation as the first 'virtual library visit' of the year. The protocol going forward would be to have a library media specialist show a 360 of his/her library plus showcase a best practice.
 - The ebook initiative was discussed. Access is primarily provided through the database portal. For those schools not using the portal, a 'portal page link' can be provided with the necessary password. All titles are multiple simultaneous access. The titles are from Mitchell Lane, non-fiction, appropriate primarily for grades 3-8. No audio is included.
2. We reviewed the results of the SLS Evaluation Survey from 2013-14.

New Business:

1. The annual joint conference with Southern Westchester BOCES School Library System will be held March 6, 2015 in SW. There is no snow day. Refunds will only be provided if your school is actually closed. There will be 3 additional vendors, 3 additional poster sessions, an expanded Exploratorium, and a raffle with stamps from "presenters". There will be an unconference in addition to the usual concurrent sessions (GLSEN, makerspaces, literature programs, etc.). There will be a keynote speaker.
2. Again we raised the question of how to proceed regarding the Partnership Dinner. No decision was made.
3. Francine Vernon shared news from Westchester Library System.
 - The NYLA/YSS conference in 2015 will be held in Islandia on Long Island.
 - The Battle of the Books will be held on October 18 at the Scarsdale Middle School from 9-2. Teka McCabe is one of the judges. Prizes will be awarded. Teams from public libraries, in some cases with school library cooperation, will compete in one of three age divisions. Each division is provided with a set list of books to read and discuss. The children practice with these books only. Recruitment was in the late

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spring. For the next iteration, we suggest the possibility of partnering with school libraries are hosting a summer school program. Liz Krieger shared her experience in working with the students in her school who participated in the (Putnam) Mid-Hudson Library System Battle of the Books program which has a long history.

4. Mary Jane Karger of GLSEN updated us on various programs and plans.
 1. The project: Shared Stories, Open Mind was conceived as a partnership between school and public libraries with GLSEN. Children in participating sites read the book *Better Nate Than Ever* (twens) or *And Tango Makes Three* (primary).
 - The *Better Nate Than Ever* program includes a video by the author about the character, the writing process, etc. This will be tied into GLSEN's *Celebrate Kindness* campaign (anti-bullying). Additionally, GLSEN will donate copies of the book to middle school classes or book clubs. Interested librarians/teachers should contact Mary Jane for additional information.
 - The program around *And Tangle Makes Three* includes a reading of the book in both English and Spanish, the video "That's a Family" and a craft where children make 'Tango' penguins. Sites for programs include Riverfront in Yonkers, Ossining, and Chappaqua.
 2. The Safe Space Kit is part of a program intended to educate, inform and inspire the creation and support of safe spaces in schools. Kits were sent to every school including stickers and other resources/materials.

A motion to adjourn was made by Teka McCabe and seconded by Cathy Gelman.

The next council meeting will be held on November 12 from 3:30 to 4:30pm.

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November 12, 2014

Attendees: Sudha Narsipur, Susan Polos, Karen Baker, Diane Moller, Elizabeth Krieger, Laura Jensen, Patricia Canini, Katherine McCabe, Cathy Gelman, Francine Vernon, Joseph Mannozi, Nina Levine

Minutes approved [TM motion, LJ second]

Old Business

Networking meetings

Virtual Visits:

- Thanks to Laura for her virtual visit video shown at the first networking meeting in September.
- Suggest that we invite some of the librarians who are registered for a given networking meeting to present either their website or a photo montage

Future topics:

- Book talks
- Summer reading
- Announce topic(s) in early announcements of networking meetings as a way to focus and entice participants
- Database reviews and discussions [what works best, what's new, etc.]

Annual Report for Library Systems was reviewed and approved. [NL motion, PC second]

Library Visitations

JM will be exploring interest in school library visitations

- Solicit volunteers at networking meetings
- Split into level specific groups for secondary and elementary. Consider interest in specific middle school group.
- Should we invite the SW BOCES librarians?
- Consider options for debrief

Regional Ebook Service

- Please use the portal page for access to ensure that usage statistics are collected for use by the SLS and individual libraries
- MARC records will be sent out to everyone

New Business

AP Photo Archive: Issues are currently being worked out with the vendor

Planning for Professional Development for the 2014-15 school year

- Paige Jaeger workshop on November 14: *Repackaging Research for the Common Core*
- *School Libraries: Radical School Libraries* on March 6, 2015
 - Joint conference with SW BOCES
 - Keynote speaker is R. David Lankes, author of ***Expect More: Demanding Better Libraries for Today's Complex World.***
 - Administrator of the year award will be presented

- Watch for invitation to submit Exploratorium proposals
- Concurrent sessions
- Registration is open in MyLearningPlan
- Partnership 'dinner' was again discussed without resolution
 - Suggestion that both public and school librarians have much to say/do for summer reading, that this might be a topic to engage us in cooperative activity
- End of year breakfast - RESCHEDULED - for May 5, 2015
- Last Council meeting will be May 6, 2015

Francine Vernon shared news from the Westchester Library System

- The Battle of the Books was held on October 18 at Scarsdale Middle School
- Summer reading efforts will be starting soon in preparation for summer 2015

Motion to adjourn [KM motion, EK second]

PNW BOCES School Library System Council Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2015

/Attendees: Nina Levine, Joseph Mannozi, Cathy Gelman, Katherine McCabe, Karen Baker, Laura Jensen, Susan Polos, Elizabeth Krieger

Meeting called to order by Karen Baker at 3:45pm

Minutes were reviewed and approved
KM motioned to approve. EK seconded.

Forming ground rules:

JM shared ground rules from Curriculum Council as a frame for establishing our own **Meeting Guidelines**.

Members decided on the following guidelines:

1. Maintain a positive, constructive focus.
2. Stay committed to remaining on task.
3. Hear every voice. Be an active listener. Build on others' ideas.
4. Be aware of own air time.

KB will send an email message to the listserv sharing/soliciting input. "In the interest of making our meetings more productive and useful for you, the SLS Council has generated a list of guidelines for our meetings."

Guidelines will be printed on a bookmark, 4 bookmarks per page, to be distributed in folders at future networking meetings.

Agendas for upcoming meetings:

Secondary networking meeting will be March 10, 2:30-4:30.

Elementary networking meeting will be March 11, 2:30-4:30.

Given the proximity of these meetings to the March 6 joint conference, the idea of combining the networking meetings and seeking an April date was raised and discussed. The meeting would be 3-5pm. We also discussed the possibility of adding on a Fireside Chat at the conclusion of the meeting.

Agenda:

- March 6, Radical Libraries Conference debrief. How have you applied or implemented what you saw/heard at the conference?
- Best Practices sharing
- Virtual tour
- Break into secondary and elementary groups to discuss favorite books and databases
- Ebook program feedback

We will hold a virtual vote on the application(s) for Administrator Award.

Radical Libraries Conference:

Currently there are 26+ attendees from PNW BOCES School Library System.

Four of the Exploratorium tables will be hosted by PNW BOCES School Library System members.

Next Council meeting is March 24.

Meeting was adjourned.
SP motioned. KM seconded.