

Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES
School Library System
Council Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2021

Attendance:

Kate Hammill - SLS Director
April Broughton
Barbara Ciambor
Dr. Robert Ike
Christine Joslyn
Stephanie Post
Andrea Snyder
Merrilee Witherell
Sharon Zadarlik, SLS

Absent: Margaret Dempsey, Michelle Langley

Welcome

Kate welcomed everyone. Materials for the meeting are in the Google drive and can be accessed at any time.

Andrea Snyder spoke on the Digital Libraries Forum that she is attending this morning. This forum is hosted by Senator Lunsberg, she is the chair of the subcommittee of digital libraries in the assembly. She is bringing together library staff from across the state to speak on what digital libraries mean to the communities, what the challenges and successes are and what the assembly can do to help ensure that everyone across the state has equitable access.

Kate stated that Andrea will be representing our region. Through the public library connect with Sora, we are working with PLS to ensure that happens.

Andrea spoke on the Emergency Broadband Benefit, this is for eligible households, they can receive up to \$50.00 towards their broadband cost. Eligible households need to receive either Snap, a decrease in household income or receive free lunch. The program lasts until the money runs out or until a certain amount of time after the pandemic is declared over. The website ebbghep.org has the application information, Andrea has rac cards that she could send, if anyone interested, contact Andrea or Kate.

The Council meeting was called to order by Stephanie Post at 9:15 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Stephanie Post called for the review and approval of the March 19, 2021 minutes.

The minutes were approved with the following correction:
SLIMPE was changed to SLMPE

Barb Ciambor motioned to approve the minutes and Merrilee Witherell seconded the motion.

Council & Coordinator Membership Next Year

Kate stated that at the end of the school year, the current Council membership will expire. Those whose terms will expire this year are Barb Ciambor, Merrilee Witherell and Christine Joslyn. The Council is appointed by the SLS Director, Kate will reach out to individuals on filling these roles.

Communication Coordinator current membership will expire at the end of the school year. The process for appointing the Coordinator is done by the District Superintendent. The memberships that will expire the end of this school year are Courtney Marr, Jeanne Taylor, Kathy Lepkowski, Christine Joslyn, Tina Wilfeard, Colleen Betrus, Merrilee Witherell, Stacy Merrill and Danyelle Westbrook. Communication Coordinators that are retiring are Nancy Galusha and John Lacitignola.

Kate reached out to DLD and inquired about guidelines for meetings next year. It is acceptable to have all four meetings virtual in the future. Kate will send out a survey as to what is the preference.

Merilee Witherell asked if there is something formal to appoint a Communication Coordinator where there is only one Librarian in the district.

Kathleen Liebenritt announced she is retiring, congratulations to Kathleen.

Kate stated the Communication Coordinator position must be filled by a certified Librarian. If there is only one Librarian in the district, they will fill the role. Sharon sends the forms to the District Superintendents for signature.

Council Reports

Barb Ciambor spoke on the RRLC Summer Conference on August 16-19, 2021, the conference is Evolving Libraries: Thriving While Moving Forward & Navigating Change. They are looking for proposals for the summer conference and are interested in all areas of libraries, proposals need to be submitted by June 1st.

There is the Pillars Symposium on July 7-8, 2021, it is sponsored by the Empire State Library Network. Danyelle Westbrook will be facilitating at this conference.

Danyelle stated that she and two individuals from U of R will be facilitating the workshop, An Inadvertent Opportunity: Open Access, Digital Equity, and a High School-College Collaboration. They will talk about open access and how working with college libraries helps to find information for students that do not have access to databases. Google Scholar and different avenues are used to give students the research they need and the resources without having to pay for databases they may not have access to during the shutdown.

Barb Ciambor congratulated the RRLC 2021 Library of the Year within the region, Canandaigua Middle School, Librarian Melanie Dyroff. The RRLC 2021 Library All Star within the region is Teresa Keyes from Canandaigua Primary.

SLS Directors Report

Kate put the link in the SLS Directors Report for the RRLC 2021 Library of the Year and Library All Star. Penn Yan Middle School, Midlakes and Canandaigua Middle School (twice) have won

awards. Library All Stars is new, the winners are nominated by colleagues, there are individuals in different roles who have won this award.

NYS Library Museum and Archives will reopen on May 17, 2021, the state library and museum are in the same building.

The Emergency Broadband Benefit program in which households or individuals apply for, opens on May 12th. There is heavy traffic in the portal, keep trying if you are unsuccessful getting through.

There is a toolkit that Kate linked, to help involve families in the community. There are multiple programs available for individuals and there are a lot of acronyms. There is something called the ECB or ECF which is more for schools and public libraries. If this is something of interest or a way to outreach to families or the community, do that in conjunction or with the advisement of your administration so that there isn't an overlapping. There are multiple webinars coming up for these programs, there is one on June 4th on ECF.

There was a training on inventory and weeding, SLS is willing to come and support any inventory and weeding projects in your district. With the support of Dr. Ike and Palmyra Macedon Librarians, SLS did a weeding project at Palmyra Macedon Intermediate, SLS will finish up the project next week. Four other projects have been scheduled for the end of the school year, North Rose High School and Williamson Elementary.

Stephanie Post stated that there is a company, Baker and Taylor that is a division of Follett, they have a sustainability program. They will come in and appraise what your weeding, if it is salvageable, they have a place to send those books. Books that are beyond repair or not useful, they will recycle them. Register through Baker and Taylor and type in sustainability project. It was asked if Stephanie went through the process, she has not but has pulled some books that are still of value and came across the sustainability program.

Amanda Fleig stated that Stephanie shared this info with her and she shared it with her admin. They had a question on how the money that is given for the books, is received.

Stephanie stated that it can be found out.

Eric Bateman stated that Baker and Taylor gives a credit, but school libraries don't buy books from Baker and Taylor anymore, they are bought from Follett.

Stephanie stated Baker and Taylor is a division of Follett.

Eric stated Follett doesn't mention Baker and Taylor for the school library division, the credit would have to be a Follett credit.

Kate stated that this would be of value to one library versus another depending on the nature of the library and district policy.

NOVELny and SLS databases will remain the same for the 2021-2022 school year. SLS purchases National Geographic Kids, National Geographic Online and Smore has been renewed. All the Media Library resources have been renewed for the next school year. SLS has purchased more Rosen ebooks, Spotlight on Civic Action and Spotlight on the Civil Right Movement. NOVELny provides Britannica and Gale resources, there is a link on the Director's Report to the site.

The Sora Sweet Reads is from May 5th to August 20, 2021. It promotes summer reading, the books are available for simultaneous use, check them out, they are available. There are ebooks and audio books provided by OverDrive.

The Teen Book Fest is on May 15th, it is fully virtual. Kate Rice is on the committee.

Kate Rice shared that there are 32 authors, and she will be running a couple of sessions on writing comics and writing outside of your genre. People from all over the world will be joining this year because it is live online.

Shaun David Hutchinson will be at Teen Fest, he did a webinar PD for educators, some in the group were able to attend his PD. He spoke about his experience as a youth, LGBTQ and mental health issues, how educators can work to connect with students.

Amanda Fleig spoke on the Celebration of Life event for Michelle Miller. It will be on June 9th from 6:30 pm – 9pm at King's Catering in Canandaigua. Due to the pandemic, her family was not able to have a funeral or calling hours. If you have any pics of Michelle, please send to the email on the invitation. There will be light refreshments, towards the end of the night, a candlelight vigil will be held in the parking lot. Michelle was a Librarian at the Middlesex Valley school for many years and then went to the Gorham Elementary. Michelle was Amanda's mentor through undergrad and graduate school, Amanda subbed for her when she got sick.

Kate stated Michelle was NYLA/SSL President and involved as a Council member and Communication Coordinator. Michelle loved MacKenzie Childs, this will be a great celebration of her life.

The link to the ESLN Pillars Symposium is on the Director's Report, this is the new Tech Camp, there has been some changes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 am.