

EASTERN SUFFOLK BOCES SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, March 7, 2024, 8:30 – 9:30 A.M.  
SCLS Blue Room and Remote via Zoom

In Attendance

Luisa Reichardt  
Meghan Bishop  
Krystle Barnett  
Melissa Tunstead  
Carl Vitevitch  
Amy Jo Southworth  
Alexandria Hiam  
Fabio Montella  
Melissa Tunstead  
Jacqueline Wilson (Zoom)

The meeting was called to order by Alexandria Hiam, Council Chairperson, at 8:36 a.m.

Minutes from the December 13, 2023 Council Meeting were approved via email.

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

The December 13, 2023 Liaison Meeting Evaluation was shared.

Highlights from the Evaluation

- “As a High School Librarian, I am excited about the idea of pairing with academic librarians to try and build relationships. We already have a great relationship with our public librarian and do things on a monthly basis with them.”
- “I learned a lot about the computer standards and it was great to collaborate with colleagues.”
- “I saw this presenter at another workshop. She covers a lot of resources maybe too much and some are not easily used because of Ed2D compliance or other issues but there were several that I made note of that I am looking to further explore.”
- “Though I very much appreciate Maria Esposito's obvious expertise & the thought that went into providing this as a valuable presentation, this might be better suited for a small group/ED Camp style venue. The large space, number of attendees, and slow internet inhibited how some of the content landed. Also, Maria had done a nice job covering some of this same content the last time. Perhaps, as a second round, a breakout room structure could have allowed more sharing & deep diving.”

- “I enjoyed the morning session, Ms.Esposito was really knowledgeable. Her tips & tricks were ideas that I will definitely put into practice. Teachable Machine is something I really want to learn more about!”
- “The speaker provided many useful resources, it was just difficult to follow her. I know there were issues with wifi connectivity though, so I’m sure that had something to do with it.”
- “I was under the impression that we were going to really dive into the standards rather than look at edtech tools that could help meet the standards. Learning about Thinglink and Canva as tools was not helpful. I felt that the presenter kept bringing up how we could create lessons for the Smart Goals Grant and not showing us things that were already created. Or she talked about taking the Molloy classes for certification. But not about how we could help our districts meet the standards.”
- “I found the entire presentation very informative. I have shared the sites with the other Librarians in my District as well as several teachers. My only disappointment in the presentation was our inability to access the wifi constantly and do some group work.”
- “I think you already know the issue: WiFi lacking made it hard for presenter and for participants “

Council ideas to consider for future Liaison meetings or Library Leadership Academies were solicited.

Mr. Vitevitch indicated that the May meeting will comprise four to five author visits, each of whom will give a brief presentation. These authors are available to visit school through Arts and Education.

Budget information was shared.

a) Library Automation Co-Ser 508

1. 44 districts plus 2 non-public schools ~ Ross School and St. John the Baptist participate
2. Current Financial Status: Revenue \$564,825.00 (last year \$531,409.00)

b) Library Services/Media Co-Ser 516

1. Virtual Reference Collection (VRC) listed on Shared Services Response Pages at \$10.75 per student in grades 3-12. 2024-2025 will have a 1.99% increase
2. 47 districts plus 2 non-publics, Huntington UFSD, Babylon UFSD, and Smithtown CSD in Western Suffolk participate
3. Current Financial Status: Revenue \$2,780,947.00 (last year \$2,563,288.00)

4. Renewal of services information has gone out to public school districts, non-public to follow shortly.
5. The contract modification form for *Learning A-Z* will be sent out at a later date.

c) State Aid (F Codes)

F960 – Operating Aid

Starting \$207,766.00; present balance \$24,757.77

F968 – Supplemental Aid

Starting \$59,732.00; present balance is \$21,368.12

F920 – Categorical Aid - Automation

Starting \$20,777.00; present balance \$8,818.13

This funding is being put toward Long Island Students Read, a collaborative project among the three Long Island BOCES, which is a free Overdrive/SORA collection available to schools.

Mr. Vitevitch introduced Donna Moss, the new Senior Account Clerk.

New York States' 2024-2025 budget has an approval deadline of April 1, 2024. The Regents did include funding for NOVELny in the budget.

As of February 2, 2024, the School Library System Union Catalog contains 784,920 bibliographic records and 2,320,329 item records

Legislative Advocacy Day was February 7, 2024. An effort is being made to get the Library Materials allocation raised from the current \$6.25. Mr. Vitevitch informed the group that prison libraries get \$11.00 per person.

LILRC is providing access to the *Health Reference Center* until 2025. This new database has been added to the VRC High School Collection.

The following upcoming meetings and workshops were announced:

Follett Users' Group Meeting  
April 4, 2024 ~ Zoom

OPALS Users' Group Meeting  
April 3, 2024 ~ SCLS Training Room

Council Meeting  
May 17, 2024 ~ 8:30 – 9:30 am ~ SCLS Blue Room or via Zoom

Liaison Meeting  
May 17, 2024 ~ 8:00 am – 3:00 pm ~ SCLS Auditorium

Library Leadership Academy

*Updates can be found here:* <https://www.esboces.org/Page/1683>

March 12, 2024 ~ Discovery Education Bootcamp (Training Lab)

March 20, 2024 ~ Books. Share. Eat. (Auditorium)

April 16, 2024 ~ Digital Citizenship (Auditorium)

April 16, 2024 ~ EBSCO (Training Lab)

Mr. Vitevitch announced that going forward recorded items (workshops, etc.) will be posted to a new video platform, Yuga. Asynchronous leaning classes are planned. Mr. Vitevitch is working out how to include them on Frontline. It is hoped that this initiative will help librarians complete their PD requirements.

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Hiam at 9:06 a.m.