

**MINUTES OF
YONKERS CITY SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM COUNCIL MEETING
February 16, 2022**

The meeting was held on Zoom and was called to order by Jim Riley, Council President.

Council Members Present: James Riley (President), Peter Sieh, Karen Loia, Nicole Taylor-Wernham, Carol Westphal, Don DeMatteo, Z.Baird, and Tracey Wong, *ex officio*.

Excused: Steven Mazzola and Jesse Montero.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November 4, 2021 meeting were corrected and approved.

Reports:

Membership: (Carol Westphal)

- No updates.

Professional Development:

- Library Services:
 - November 23, 2021 - Glowforge – Laughton Huggins
 - December 8, 2021 – New Features on TEAMS – Tim Montalvo
 - January 5, 2022 – Prezi Video Conferencing – Rob Bayuk and Paul Teske
 - January 26, 2022 – Creating Digital Portfolios – Laura Ogando
- District Secondary Department Meeting:
 - November 17, 2021 – Continuous Improvement/Math – Luis Duany-Blanco
 - December 8, 2021 – Social Studies and the Inquiry Method – Dawn Bartz
 - January 26, 2022 – Multilingual Learners – June Wai
- Carol Westphal attended Diversifying your HS Library Collection for MLL's (Multilingual Learners) on November 30, 2021 and December 14, 2021. Dr. Nancy Cloud presented many resources to help SLMS determine how diverse their library collection is to meet the needs of their MLL population. She also provided a list of various book vendors.
- Brenda Francis-Knowles, Robert McDonald, Jim Riley and Mariana Sugrim meet on December 16, 2021 with Dawn Bartz, YPS staff and staff from Teacher's Columbia University to explore inquiry-based learning environments through transdisciplinary project design.
- On March 1, 2022 Jim Riley, Nicole Taylor-Wernham and Carol Westphal met on Zoom to discuss and prepare the district's Challenged Library Materials Policy and Forms. The documents are posted on the Yonkers School District Library Services Webpage.

Professional Development (Upcoming):

- Library Services: TBD
- District Secondary Department Meeting:
 - February 16, 2022 – Writing/Media Literacy – Maria Meyer and Tracey Wong
 - March 2, 2022 – Creating Independent Readers and Critical Thinkers – Maria Meyer
 - May 11, 2022 – NYSSLS Updates and Science Focused Activities and Tour of Hudson River Museum – Eric Wright, Nasser Ibrahim, Kelly Jakab and Kathleen Ruperto

Yonkers Public Library Report: (Z Baird)

- YPL is redesigning the website for their main page and all three branches.
- The Winter Reading Warmup Challenge runs from 1.2.22 – 3.15.22. All patrons can register and log their reading for a chance to win an Amazon gift card. Each program and each library branch will hold its own drawing.
- YPL Virtual Programs are now using QR codes, connected to the Events calendar and Zoom link.
- All YPL will host Black History Month events the week of February 21, 2022.
- The YPL will work in collaboration with the Hudson River Museum. Each library branch will receive another circulating telescope.
- The Yonkers Public Library in partnership with the Hudson River Museum has received a grant from the Metropolitan NY Library Council (METRO) to fund cultural learning opportunities for students and families residing in Yonkers and Westchester County.
- The YPL has received \$30,000 from Westchester County Legislatures for Environmental Projects on library property.
- YPS Librarian Ingrid Sutherland invited YPL Librarian Z Baird to visit her fourth graders at Gibran. Z spoke about YPL Resources, Hoopla and how SORA is matched with Libby. Students also signed-up for YPL cards.
- Karen Loia, Century Honors Seniors and ENL students welcomed Z from the YPL to Lincoln HS. She prepared students for life after graduation, explaining many resources that are available for free with a YPL card. Z discussed the following library programs: Homework Help, Tutor.com, Jobs for Teens, Online Learning, Test Prep and how to access eBook apps.
- All branches are in the process of planning activities for Women's History Month and Poetry Month.

Library Services Report: (Tracey Wong)

- This year's Library budget was reduced; therefore, we will not offer Trueflix next year.
- Students and staff can only access TumbleBooks from home, not in school; however, we could access these eBooks with a NYC Library card. In September, schools will have students sign-up for a NYC Library card.
- The YPL is collaborating with the Hudson River Museum to offer passes for two elementary schools and one high school to visit the HRM.
- The Library at School 9 is under repair. At its reopening ceremony, the library will be dedicated to the memory of John Grillo, the schools technology liaison. Gorton HS will make the plaque in their Makerspace.
- Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO) awarded \$8800 to Yonkers School System for Build a Better Book Project. All student projects will need to be completed by June 30, 2022.

Website: (Don DeMatteo)

- Site Editors attended Professional Development at the beginning of the school year.
- After winter recess, Don DeMatteo will meet with Mariana Sugrim to discuss maintaining the district Libraries Services Schoolwires webpage.
- SLMS can move their shared Teacher App on the district webpage to their school page.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- At Yonkers Montessori Academy, our Reading Initiative will end on February 18, 2022. Carol Westphal will collect all Reading Logs submitted by our Primary students. Ms. Governali and I will host our Reading Celebration Pizza Luncheon on March 25, 2022.
- Jim Riley will schedule classes at Saunders HS to introduce students to SORA.
- Nicole Taylor-Wernham created a resource list for Women in Stem for a project at YMHS. She also assigned her sixth graders at YMHS a digital etiquette project. Students are also using the MakerBot Sketch to print 3D roses for Mother's Day.
- During the month of February Peter Sieh demonstrated to students at MLKA and School 13 resources in Clever, such as Discovery Education, BrainPop, Nearpod, Britannica School and Kahoot.
- In conjunction with the art and music, teachers at MLKA Peter Sieh made a film that they submitted for the District Virtual Black History Month Celebration. Members of the school community can view the film on the school TV or on the school website.
- Laura Cacace, author of Trace the Edges, and a Yonkers Public Librarian visited Lincoln HS to meet with Karen Loia and some of Ms. Santiago's creative writing classes.

Announcements:

- The following SLMS are working in the Saturday Enrichment Program: Peter Sieh (King) and students are using ozobots, Makey Makey to make a banana piano and green screening. Mariana Sugrim (School 23) is coding with her students. Dr. Dan Sabol (Enrico Fermi) is working on various STEM projects with his students on building and engineering, greenhouse and solar power.

Next Meeting: TBA

Motion to Adjourn: Approved

Minutes: Respectfully submitted, Carol Westphal