

**MINUTES OF
YONKERS CITY SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM COUNCIL MEETING
November 4, 2021**

The meeting was held at Yonkers Montessori Academy 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, Jesse Montero Z.Baird, and Tracey Wong, *ex officio*.
Excused: Steven Mazzola.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September 29, 2021 meeting were approved.

Reports:

Membership: (Carol Westphal)

- The YCSLS Council List for 2021-2022 was updated and distributed to all members.

Professional Development:

- Library Services:
 - October 13, 2021 – Screencastify – Tim Montalvo
- On November 1, 2021 - Jim Riley presented the District Library Resources to the staff.

Professional Development (Upcoming):

- Library Services:
 - November 23, 2021 - Glowforge – Laughton Huggins
 - December 8, 2021 – New Features in TEAMS 2021 – Tim Montalvo
 - January 5, 2022 – Prezi – Rob Bayuk and Paul Teske

Yonkers Public Library Report: (Z Baird)

- Z Baird spoke about the services, programs and digital resources available at the YPL.
- During COVID the YPL hosted 25,000 virtual events.
- Around 1000 patrons registered for the Summer Reading Program.
- The YPL can host class trips and Homework Help is available in person and online.
- The Riverfront and Will Branches will open, while Crestwood is only curbside pick-up.
- All YPL are participating in a Diwali Celebration via Zoom on Friday November 5, 2021.
- LGBTQ+ Book Club (ages 12-21) will meet via Zoom on November 9, 2021 to discuss *Felix Ever After* by Karen Callender.
- Comics Digest: A Book Club for Graphic Novels (ages 13-18) will meet via Zoom on November 26, 2021 to discuss *Superman Smashes the Klan* by Gene Luen Yang.
- Anime Hotspot for Tweens and Teens meets the last Monday of each month at 4:00pm in person at the Riverfront Library or via Zoom.
- Children 8+ and adults can Zoom with Zoe by appointment to learn how to play a guitar.
- Join Teen Tuesday via Zoom to catch up, share a poem or short story and more!
- Join the Will Teen Green Team on Wednesdays to earn community service hours.
- Join Mark Young via Zoom to hear the history of Fire Stations of Westchester County.
- The Riverfront Library is offering Saturday STEM with Science Dad.
- The Will Library is offering Activities for Teens on Monday.

Library Services Report: (Tracey Wong)

- SLMS have submitted their Book Orders to Library Services. Tracey Wong is creating a spreadsheet for Vicky Sweet. Only eBooks with no expiration date will be ordered.
- The school libraries will offer a Reading Challenge for their students.
 - Reading Ambassador (Elementary Schools) – Students will read 25 books (5 must be in 5 Dewey Decimal Categories). Students will complete their reading passport and write 5 brief summaries what they thought about each book. Participants will receive incentives for various accomplishments.
 - Read Woke (High Schools) – SLMS will advertise this challenge, which will include announcements and displaying posters in the school. Students will meet to discuss the book and create either a book trailer or flipgrid for each book read. After a student has read three books, they will receive a Read Woke T-shirt.
- Both Gorton and Lincoln HS have green screens and Mac Notebooks. They will begin to have students record and broadcast their morning announcements.
- High School SLMS will introduce Ted Talks to their students. Tracey Wong would like to plan a Districtwide Ted Talk for all High Schools in the spring.
- On December 4th and 5th, 2021 - Nicole Taylor-Wenham and Tracey Wong attended *Project Look Sharp*. In collaboration with Ithaca College SLMS are discussing and learning how to integrate media literacy into the inquiry based library curriculum.
- United Way donated 6047 books to Yonkers. The books were distributed to students and staff at Yonkers Montessori Academy and Yonkers Middle/High School.

Website: (Don DeMatteo)

- Some Schoolwires trainings has taken place over the last few weeks.
- The school websites are preparing for school choice.
- SLMS can access and maintain their pages on Schoolwires.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Ms. Governali and Ms. Westphal have teamed to host a Reading Initiative titled “100 Books, 100 Days” to all Primary students at Yonkers Montessori Academy. Every family received a flier outlining eBook choices on Clever and a Reading Log to keep track of books read. All Reading Logs should be returned on February 18, 2022. The class that reads the most will join us for a Reading Celebration and a Pizza Luncheon sponsored by YMA’s Student Government Organization.
- Tracey Wong provided us with an article about *Genreification*. She asked, “Would shelving the library books by topic increase circulation?”

Announcements:

- The district is looking to provide students with a Saturday Academy. More info to follow.

Next Meeting: TBA

Motion to Adjourn: Approved

Minutes: Respectfully submitted, Carol Westphal