

KY School Library Media News

Kentucky Represented Well at AASL Conference



McCracken County school library media specialists, pictured above, were part of a group of Kentucky school library media specialists who presented sessions at the American Association of School Librarians Conference in North Carolina in November. Pictured are Lisa Hughes (Heath High), Jennifer Wetzel (Hendron Lone Oak Elementary), Brenda Metzger (Lone Oak High), Shelia Swab (Lone Oak Middle), and Terri Kirk (Reidland High). They presented a session entitled **“Rev Up Relationships@Your Library.”**

Other presentations by Kentucky school librarians:

“Start a Game Program for Under \$100”
 Terri Kirk, Reidland High

“Books Ordered Online by Kids in Schools: A Grant to ‘Rev Up’ School Libraries”
 Karen Parsons and Mary Bryant, Jefferson County Library Media Services

“Reading Pit Stops: Refueling a Love of Books”
 Jennifer Wetzel, Hendron Lone Oak Elementary

Advocacy at the Kentucky School Boards Association Conference

School board members at the recent 2010 Kentucky School Boards Association Conference in Louisville participated in a session entitled: “The Library Media Center: A School’s Common Wealth.” Ballard High School Library Media Specialist Laura Younkin and Kentucky Department of Education Library Media Consultant Kathy Mansfield facilitated a 75-minute session about what makes a strong school media program and how school board members can support librarians and libraries.

Laura and Kathy asked session attendees for feedback to some of the following questions:

- *What were your school library experiences growing up?*
- *What does a good library program look like today?*
- *How do you know if the libraries in your school district are effective?*
- *What can you do to support the libraries and library media specialists in your districts?*

Session participants received copies of *Beyond Proficiency*, as well as the new *AASL Standards for 21st Century Learners*, to help them know what to look for in an effective library program. Attendees also heard from students, teachers, and parents (via video) about what they think a good library looks and sounds like.

Read these recent articles supporting school libraries in *American School Board Journal*:

- [“The Changing Library”](#) (August, 2009)
- [“The Future of Libraries”](#) (January, 2010)

Information and Updates

Professional Resource Highlight

The School Library Link is a newsletter to help school library teachers promote their school library programs. The audience for *The School Library Link* is **parents**. The newsletter is available **free** to school library teachers/school library media specialists, who then can download it, print it out and send it home with their students.

<http://www.theschoollibrarylink.com/>

The School Library Link is published monthly by Michelle McGarry, a former writer and editor turned school library enthusiast.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can follow Kentucky's Commissioner of Education **Terry Holliday** on Facebook, Twitter and his blog:

<http://kyedcommissioner.blogspot.com/>

Twitter: **kycommissioner**

Promote Your School Library!

- Create (and maintain) a library Website.
- Distribute a regular library newsletter.
- Host family reading nights.
- Write book reviews for the local paper.

Advocate for Your Library!

- Run for the SBDM council.
- Serve on school and district committees.
- Join a professional organization.



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Bluegrass Award Resources

Visit the Kentucky Reading Association's Wiki for PowerPoint slide shows of this year's KBA nominees, as well as KBA master lists, ideas for promoting the Bluegrass Awards at your school and opportunities for online discussions.

<http://kentuckyreading.pbworks.com/Bluegrass+Awards>

Professional Organizations for School Librarians

Kentucky School Media Association (KSMA)
www.kysma.org

Kentucky Library Association (KLA)
www.kylibasn.org/

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl

American Library Association (ALA)
www.ala.org

Kentucky Reading Association (KRA)
www.kyreading.org

KSMA Fall Conference

September 17-18, 2010
Galt House Hotel and Suites
Louisville, Kentucky

*"In These Extraordinary Times . . . Libraries
Now More Than Ever"*