

## Eastern Suffolk BOCES School Library System Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 8:30 – 9:30 A.M.

Remote via Zoom

### Present:

Theresa Ameres  
Melanie Ash  
Alexandria Hiam  
Katie McIntyre  
Fabio Montella  
Luisa Reichardt  
Darla Salva-Cruz  
Melissa Tunstead  
Carl Vitevitch

### Welcome

Ms. Theresa Ameres, Council Chairperson, welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 8:35.

### Information Items

Ms. Ameres shared the following informational items with Council:

#### *Upcoming Council Meetings for 2021-2022*

- All meetings 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, March 17, 2022
- Friday, May 13, 2022

#### *Upcoming Liaison Meetings for 2021-2022*

- Time and Location TBD
- SLS will survey liaisons to determine how many would be able to obtain substitutes should we have an in-person meeting.
- Thursday, March 17, 2022
- Friday, May 13, 2022

#### *Virtual Reference Collection*

- 46 districts + 2 non-publics and 3 Western Suffolk  
Participation fees and cost per student for the 2022-2023 school year to be reported at the March meeting.

#### *Digital Media Library*

- 33 districts/113 sites + Eastern Suffolk BOCES Special Education students at 30 sites
- Mr. Vitevitch reported that the vendor SLS had been using for the DML closed their business and SLS would be moving to a new vendor. SLS has been

working with MediaFlex to incorporate the DML into the VRC. Currently, only Discovery Ed must be accessed via the old DML link; SLS is working to address this. DML pricing will be affected.

- Mr. Vitevitch is exploring the possibility of Discovery Ed being made available as a supplemental database.

#### *Library Automation*

- 44 districts, 28 Follett and 16 OPALS + 2 non-publics

#### *Annual Report*

The annual report was submitted to NYS by Mr. Vitevitch. It has been returned with a request to adjust a few minor items.

#### **Voting Item**

##### *Council Minutes*

The minutes from the October 5, 2021 Council meeting were previously approved via email.

#### **Discussion Items**

Ms. Ameres shared the following financial information:

##### *State Aid*

##### *Operating (960)*

Beginning Balance: \$199,853.00

Current Balance: \$44,470.15

Expended on Salaries, Benefits and Indirect Costs based on NYS guidelines

##### *Supplemental (968)*

Beginning Balance: \$57,670.00

Current Balance: \$2,903.95

Expended on Salaries and Benefits

##### *Categorical (920) - Automation (includes union catalog and OPALS)*

Beginning Balance: \$19,985.00

Current Balance: \$19,985.00

Should be 0.00 by March; anything left will be rolled over to next year.

##### *CoSer 508*

Beginning Balance: \$446,072.00

Current Balance: \$93,734.59

### CoSer 516

Beginning Balance: \$2,217,459.00

Current Balance: \$124,044.50

### *Rollover Funds* (three combined Budget Codes from previous year balances)

Beginning Balance: \$28,329.00

Current Balance: \$0.00

Purchased 12 Rosen eBooks

### **Other Items**

Ms. Ameres and Mr. Vitevitch asked members for ideas to consider for future liaison meetings or Library Leadership Academies. Mr. Vitevitch indicated that at present there is a fairly full workshop schedule. However, there has been low participation in these programs. The last four workshop had zero participants. It was suggested that the timing of the workshops may be an impediment for some. Ms. Keller polled the group to identify which days and times would be most opportune. She will also survey liaison members. Mr. Vitevitch invited Council members to present.

Mr. Vitevitch showed on screen the SLS LibGuides page where program videos and handouts are posted. He also reported that the position of Technology Integration Specialist remains unfilled.

Mr. Vitevitch informed the group regarding what would be presented at the upcoming liaison meeting.

Concerns were raised over the increasing number of school library book challenges state-wide and among Long Island school districts. Discussion ensued. The importance of having appropriate policies in place beforehand was stressed. Resources to assist with this were shared by Mr. Vitevitch.

Ms. Keller will re-send a survey to liaisons relating to their existing challenge policies.

Ms. Ameres shared feedback on the Long Island School Library Systems Fall Institute "SPARK Connections" held on November 2, 2021 via Zoom. Mr. Vitevitch shared on screen the LibGuides page where detailed information from the program is posted.

### *Highlights from the evaluation survey*

- "Collaboration, communication, equity can lead to success!"
- "There is a strong and meaningful continuity of skill sets from K-higher education. We can engage in conversations with academic librarians to facilitate student learning at all levels."
- "I was impressed to see the overlap between the AASL and ACRL frameworks. I think that comparing the three frameworks will inform librarians at all levels and provide better continuity among levels of educational learning. Always a work in progress!"
- "Linda Sue Park was amazing. It was a powerful message to hear from someone from a marginalized

community about what is important to her.”

- “Ms. Park's delivery was engrossing. She made valid arguments for the importance of diversity in school library collections and offered valid arguments to defend collections against challenges

There being no further discussion, Ms. Ameres adjourned the meeting at 9:14 a.m.