School Library System Council Meeting  
December 18, 2018  
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm  
Board Room, Administrative Building, Main Campus

Attendance: SLS Council: Tracy Mammone, Council Chair, Canastota, CSD; Jaclyn Buzzard, VVS CSD; Kristin Strohmeyer, Hamilton College; Nicole LeClair, Madison CSD; Ellen Dupree, NYS School for the Deaf; Kalpana Lennox, Oneida City SD; Marc Wildman, CLRC; Sue LeBlanc, Madison-Oneida BOCES

Absent: S. Keesler, Rome CSD; Jackie Groves, Morrisville-Eaton School Board; Louise Rutherford; Camden CSD; Heather Urtz, Mid-York Library System.

S. LeBlanc welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the table.

The minutes from the SLS Council/Communications Coordinator meeting held on October 4, 2018 at the Burke Library, Hamilton College, were presented and read as well as the current meeting agenda. Both were accepted.

School Library System Plan of Service (2017-2022) – Review of Goals:

S. LeBlanc distributed copies of the Plan of Service, explaining that it is a guiding document that helps Council assess progress towards goals and determine programming priorities.

Resource Sharing

S. LeBlanc is now formally working with the RIC’s Automation Service, representing the greater region.

The groups involved with the Union Catalog (Jeff-Lewis BOCES SLS, Oneida Herkimer BOCES SLS, Madison-Oneida BOCES SLS, Library Automation Staff, and Media Flex) are engaged in a review process to determine the best way to clean up the catalog and, once done, to train the region’s school library staff on how to enter records properly to keep the catalog clean.

Delivery service of ILLs was discussed. M. Wildman introduced the ELD System as an alternative to the Campus Ship System we are using now. ELD is more cost effective, however the tracking of books must be researched further.

The Overdrive Shelf is a work in progress. Students at all secondary level buildings have been set up, or are in the process of being set up, for access to the shelf. For districts where sixth grade is housed in elementary buildings, access is still being worked out.
Grants
This year’s Rochester Teen Book Festival was cancelled, so S LeBlanc withdrew the Target Field Trip Grant Application that she had submitted in September to fund a regional group’s attendance at that event.

The Expand our Students’ World Mini-Grant deadline will be extended to Jan. 31 from December 21, which will still give applicants enough time to complete the project within the fiscal year.

PD/Continuing Ed/Collaborations

On March 12, MO SLS is co-sponsoring a workshop on Civic Online Reasoning with presenter Sarah McGrew of Stanford University History Education Group. The other sponsors will be OCM SLS, TST SLS, and Cayuga-Onondaga SLS.

On April 10th, MOBSLS and OHMSLS are co-hosting a workshop with Kathleen Odean to be held at the MVCC Community and Dining Hall on the Rome Campus. The topic will be ‘Best New Young Adult Books” appropriate for grades 6-12. There will be no cost for this workshop.

A comparable “best new books” workshop for elementary grades is being researched, with the possibility of a fall 2019 date. October was identified as a good month to hold such an event as it will help with book orders.

A workshop on developing a culture of reading with Pernille Ripp is being arranged for summer 2019. M. Wildman offered CLRC help and suggested it be a region wide event, perhaps a dinner open to all including ELA teachers, public librarians, parent groups.

The Administrator Breakfast & Awards Ceremony in May will feature an administrator from Louisiana who will share why he chose to reinstate certified school librarians in many of the buildings of his large district. In the second half of the morning, J Redeker will give a TED Style talk entitled Developing Empathy in the Age of Acceleration, which aligns with our bigger theme of Expanding Our Students World. A discussion of PD for the afternoon portion of the day followed. J. Buzzard suggested a session focused on sharing reading promotion ideas, like the one at our summer SSL Institute. K. Lennox suggested a collaborative sharing session.

Communications
It was agreed that the News & Notes communication from Sue, a monthly summary of updates via email entitled “SLS Updates,” works well for the school librarians in the region.

Advocacy
There have been many changes in our state level representatives with the latest election cycle. It is hard to predict how library funding will look, with so many new state level legislators. Locally, John Salka beat Bill Magee in a close race for Assemblyperson. And, Rachel May beat Dave Valesky for State Senator.

NYSUT is making a push to establish a School Librarian subject area committee in order to support a larger state-level push for mandating elementary school librarians in every building.

Feb. 27th is Advocacy in Albany. CLRC offered the bus transportation and they will make a Utica stop this year. Student attendance encouraged.
Around the Table

T. Mammone – there has been a lot of position shuffling at Canastota CSD this year.

E. Dupree – NYSSD Director is retiring; there has been a focus on accreditation focus.

J. Buzzard – McAllister’s principal has announced his retirement and there have been changes in administrative positions at the district level. There may be some interest in getting the Supplemental Coser back for the libraries.

K. Strohmeyer – Hamilton college students are more digital.

M. Wildman – CLRC offers several grants including Access and Digitization (RBDB) grants which some school libraries have taken advantage of to digitize yearbooks. Each library system type will be represented on the search committee for the next State Librarian.

N. LeClair – becoming more comfortable as first year librarian; doing lots of coding.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by M. Wildman and seconded by K. Strohmeyer. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.