“School libraries help teachers teach and children learn. Children and teachers need library resources—especially books—and the expertise of a librarian to succeed. Books, information technology and school librarians who are part of the school’s professional team are basic ingredients for student achievement.”

— Laura Bush


“We most value those subjects that help students think critically, solve problems, and develop skills that enable them to deliver goods and services to the world. School libraries help students think critically, solve problems, and develop skills that enable them to deliver goods and services to the world.”

— J. S. Clark, National Commissioner on Libraries and Information Science


“Like elementary schools, high schools tend to have better test results where teachers reported that they initiate collaboration with the library media specialist on the design and delivery of instruction at least weekly or monthly.”


“According to the American Association of School Librarians, students who use information literacy can:

- Improve, think critically, and gain knowledge;
- Draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge;
- Share knowledge and participate effectively and productively as members of our democratic society; and
- Pursue personal and aesthetic growth.”


“School libraries are extensions of the classroom. Rich with print and electronic resources and the technologies necessary to view, hear, and use them, the school library allows students to delve deeper into classroom subjects and topics of personal interest. Reading as a developmental skill is supported and promoted by the school library program. Research has shown that students’ standardized reading test scores are higher when they have access to a well-resourced school library staffed with a full-time certified/licensed school librarian who partners with teachers on student instruction and provides teachers with staff development on resources and information technologies.”

This brochure outlines goals and key questions for you to consider as you collaborate with the school librarian to improve instruction and learning for students. By pulling together the resources and talents of all educational specialists in our schools, we share responsibility for educating tomorrow’s workforce and global citizens. Together we can equip our students with the 21st-century skills and knowledge they will need to succeed.

The school librarian collaborates with classroom teachers to provide instruction and authentic learning experiences so students can master 21st-century skills in the context of the content curriculum.

The school librarian provides opportunities for students to learn the use of information (print and electronic).

Does the school librarian collaborate with classroom teachers to provide instruction and authentic learning experiences so students can master 21st-century skills in the context of the content curriculum?

The school library is the central learning hub of the school for all students and staff.

Is the library a welcoming, pleasant, accessible, and inviting place that encourages students to spend time there?

What changes and improvements have been or are underway to support students’ reading interests through online sites, digital content, and other technologies?

The school library program provides open access for all teachers and students to library resources.

Does the school and students have current access to the school librarian and a full-time second licensed librarian throughout the school day?

As a teacher, do collaborative class visits to the library as part of the classroom research project?

The school library program demonstrates and provides the legal and ethical use of information.

Are the school's circulation policies and procedures for handling challenged materials that support and supplement classroom learning as well as personal learning needs.

Does the school library have appropriate resources and technology tools to support research and instructional learning?

Does the librarian use print and digital information-use strategies, and technologies throughout the school day?

Does the librarian use print and digital information-use strategies, and technology tools?

Does the librarian offer staff-development opportunities that improve teachers' information, communications, and technology skills?

Does the school library be the focus of information and knowledge management?

The school librarian actively engages in supporting the school’s curriculum, site-academic standards, and school- and district-wide initiatives.

Does the librarian continually share the reading sufficiency overview, information, and strategies for reading enrichment skills and integrated with technology tools?

Does the librarian use print and digital communication tools, including a library website, social library services and social media sites, and academic databases?

The school librarian actively engages in supporting the school’s curriculum, site-academic standards, and school- and district-wide initiatives.

As a teacher and colleague, do you work with the school librarian on instruction?

Does the school librarian collaborate with classroom teachers to provide instruction and authentic learning experiences so students can master 21st-century skills in the context of the content curriculum.

The school library program demonstrates and provides the legal and ethical use of information.

As a teacher and colleague, do you work with the school librarian on instruction?

Does the school librarian provide opportunities for students to visit the library to select and read materials, supporting their eighth-grade level of development?