

Schuyler-Steuben-Chemung-Tioga-Allegany (SSCTA) BOCES  
School Library System (SLS)  
Council Minutes  
March 14, 2011  
Campbell-Savona HS  
7:45 AM-8:45AM

Present: Debbie Miller, Addison Central School District (CSD); Maryalice Kilbourne, Avoca CSD; Julie Feenaughty, Canisteo-Greenwood CSD; Robin Robarge, Corning-Painted Post Area School District; Annelise O'Hara, Elmira City Schools; Judy Sell, Horseheads CSD; Maggie Edgley, Watkins Glen CSD; Lorie Brown, Southern Tier Library System; Sara Balliett, Campbell-Savona CSD; Stephanie Wilson, SSCTA School Library System

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 A.M. Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made.

The second year of the LSTA grant "Read Away with Playaways" will begin on 4/1/11-3/31/12. The target population this year will be grades K-6. All elementary and intermediate librarians will be notified by e-mail to contact their teachers for title recommendations. All requests must be received to the SLS office by Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

The legislature has approved the release of Supplementary Funds to library systems. Stephanie W. has calculated the amount to be approximately \$34,464. These funds will be used in part to offset the deficit in the Operating Aid budget, as funding was appreciably lower in the 2010-11 year than anticipated.

Final database requisitions will be due to the SLS office no later than June 15, 2011. May 1<sup>st</sup> final intents are due back to the business office at which time all librarians will have a firm grasp of their budgets for the upcoming year. It is highly recommended that librarians have their requests in well before the June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline as the SLS needs to start compiling the information for purchase orders to vendors beginning on July 1.

Currently the governor is proposing an \$8.45 million cut to libraries. Many advocacy efforts are in the works and Stephanie W. urges all librarians when asked to send emails/faxes to their representatives asking them not to cut funding. Libraries have sustained major cuts in the past five plus years and if the governor's proposal passes, this will put SLS funding at pre-1990 levels.

The School Library System will be cutting some services to maintain staff and balance the budget. After some discussion with Stephanie W.'s administration it was decided that the librarian/administrator breakfast will no longer be held. The breakfast cost was in excess of \$5,000 including food, speaker's fees, transportation, supplies and additional materials. Administration felt that with the difficult financial times districts are facing it is not prudent to be serving food and asking staff to be away from districts.

Secondly, One Click Audio (the online e-books) will not be renewed. The cost to the System last year was in excess of \$34,000. Due to major budget cuts, the System can no longer support this service. Stephanie W. will be in contact with the Recorded Books representative to get pricing if individual schools or districts wish to purchase this service on their own.

Stephanie W. will also be putting out a survey regarding the interest in Teachingbooks.net. Last year the survey was a 50-50 split so it was decided to keep this for another year.

The SLS will be renewing the subscription to the electronic ASCD subscription as this service is being used by teachers. It is highly advised that librarians promote using this service because if usage drops, the service will be discontinued at some point.

The South Central Regional Library Council is conducting a survey to evaluate the usage of the databases they currently provide and also the services they provide. It is widely believed at this time that Newsbank will not be renewed due to low usage statistics. Stephanie W. will contact Newsbank for pricing if individual schools or districts are interested in purchasing this on their own through the 508 co-ser.

We are currently working with the regional representative of Gale-Cengage Learning to review what districts are purchasing and at what cost. After this review, we will possibly look at bundling products for better pricing. The results of this review will be discussed at a later date.

It is still unclear whether or not supplementary funds will be made available to Systems in the 2011-12 school year. The governor has proposed putting this into Education Law, but at this time the Senate and Assembly are still working on the budget and no final word will be received until the budget is passed. It is crucial that this become law because of the major cuts libraries have sustained. This would help balance budgets, keep staff and maintain some staff development in future years.

The January council meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at a location to be determined. Our next council meeting will be Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 7:45 AM – 8:45 AM at Campbell- Savona HS. Following the meeting will be a full day workshop presented by Starr LaTronica.

Stephanie W. passed around a handout, “Updates in the SCOOLS Catalog” for everyone to review as a question about updating the SCOOLS catalog was asked at the last meeting.

Stephanie W. also followed up by asking if anyone was still having problems accessing the SCOOLS catalog. A couple of people were still having issues and Stephanie will have Kelli Edwards, Interlibrary Loan Coordinator send out an email to troubleshoot this problem.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Wilson  
SSCTA School Library System Director