

AASL Affiliate Assembly Meeting II  
Sunday, June 30, 2013  
McCormick Place convention Center  
Room E354b

With due notice having been given to the members AASL Affiliate Assembly Meeting II was called to order by Pam Renfrow at 8:05 a.m., with introductions and recognition of first time attendees. Pam recognized Gar Sindar from TLC a family owned business servicing 100 school districts for 40 years. They have their system optimized for tablets, e-book checkouts and voice activated navigation.

Karen Eggar presented the Regional Representative policy to the assembly. This is not a new policy but one that came from an earlier meet in AASL. The Regional Representative policy will create a stronger communication link for the affiliate assembly and their members in each region. The rationale for a representative and an alternate are to help alleviate the expense of attending two national conferences. The RR an alternate can choose to attend one or both conferences. The RR duties would be similar to the director elect. An electronic vote for approval will be held. In anticipation of passage during caucus time each region will elect a regional representative and an alternate. The regional representative policy can be reviewed at:

[http://connect.ala.org/files/AA-Regional%20Representative-revision-1\\_0\\_0.pdf](http://connect.ala.org/files/AA-Regional%20Representative-revision-1_0_0.pdf)

**8:15 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. Caucus Time**

Each region will elect a Regional Representative and an alternate in anticipation of approval.

**Freedom to Read Foundation**

Helen Adams gave us a report on the Freedom to Read Foundation. Their website is:

<http://ftrf.org>

The organization offers seven banned book grants that are given to allow for more special banned book events. The application can be found on their website.

Organization Krug fund grants available

- Grants available
- Current cases (FTKF legal arm of AASL)
- Why join FTRF
  1. Dedicated to defend the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment
  2. Supports librarians fighting censorship
  3. Offers legal and financial support in cases involving libraries

Organizational membership is \$50.00 per year

Personal membership is \$35.00 per year

Questions: [hadams@mansfield.edu](mailto:hadams@mansfield.edu)

The Freedom to Read Foundation is the legal arm of AASL and is the only organization defending the First Amendment Rights for libraries and librarians.

Ken Stewart from Hartford, CN presented National Conference Highlights.

AASL President, Susan Ballard gave her welcome and introductions. She discussed the Growing Young Minds IMLS grant.

AASL President Elect Gail Dickinson was introduced and she requested volunteers to help mentor “new” and student librarians and the need for a special activity at the AASL conference in Hartford. AASL Outgoing Executive Director Julie Walker and President Elect, Gail Dickinson encouraged attendance at the AASL conference in Hartford. Her focus is on getting more library school students involved in volunteering for committees they might be interested in. Julie said the largest drop in AASL membership is in the student member division. Gail gave us a link to a website for sign up:

<http://www.ala.org/aasl/aboutaas/aasicommunity/volunteeropps/aaslvolunteeropportunities>

Susan and Gail presented Julie with a gift from AASL as well as a resolution drafted by the Affiliate Assembly Executive Committee and voted on by the membership at Assembly I. Eileen Kern read the resolution to the members.

Julie Walker, Executive Director made her annual statement for the following items:

- Learning standards – have the largest number of hits on the AASL website
- AASL Lesson plan databases need to continue to grow and update
- Research and statistics page lists the outside groups we are working with and these collaborations need to continue to grow with the new director
- Working together is working smarter as a group
- Grant for \$5000.00 is available for teachers and librarians working together for professional development or to develop a cohort. Contact Kara Caving at the national Center for Literacy Education for more information.

### **Candidate Speeches & Election**

Merlyn Miller announced AASL Chair elect nominees.

- Karen Eggar
- Thomas Stream
- Carrie Turner

Merlyn Miller announced AASL Recording Secretary Nominees.

- Devona Pendergrass
- Juanita Jameson

### **Concerns and Commendations**

**Concern #3**-brought forth by NYLA-Section of School Librarians (presented by Eileen Kern)

Many school librarians are utilizing the *Crosswalk of the Common Core Standards and the Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner*. Upon examination of the documents, concerns have been expressed about the inconsistency of standards across grade-levels and a lack of focus and identification of standards that librarians own, teach, and assess.

The action requested:

Review and update the *Crosswalk of the Common Core Standards* and the *Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Learner* for consistency and flow. Collect exemplars from state affiliates' Crosswalks that focus on the standards that librarians own, teach and assess. Publish refined Crosswalk.

Irene Kwidzinski made a motion to forward to the AASL board for discussion at mid-winter. Hilda Weisburg seconded. Motion carried.

**Concern #4**-brought forth by Maryland Association of School Librarians (presented by Michelle Luhtala)

STEM is a key education initiative. Research is a vital component. School librarians are a driving-force in integrating inquiry-based learning and research. Currently AASL does not provide any position or resources related to national STEM initiatives.

The action requested:

Create a task force to produce products such as position paper, toolkits, etc. Investigate partnerships associated with STEM initiatives.

Susan Yutzey made a motion to forward to the AASL board for discussion at mid-winter. Liz Phillipe seconded. Motion carried.

**Concern #5**-brought forth by Region 3, OELMA (Ohio Education Library Media Association) (presented by Sarah Thornbery)

School librarians would like to seek more support of state library agencies in order to work more collaboratively to promote the academic achievement of students in our schools. The decline in credentialed school librarians and quality school library programs is having an effect on students and staff of our schools.

The action requested:

We are requesting that the ALA School Library Task force, initiated by ALA President Maureen Sullivan, seek support of state library agencies.

Recommendations for this are:

- Provide state library agencies with information about the decline of quality school library programs and the implications for student achievement
- Creation of toolkit for state library agencies that would assist in gathering and/or providing data on status of school librarians and school library programs
- Provide advocacy tools for quality school library programs with credentialed school librarians to support student achievement

- Seek representation from state library agencies on the ALA School Library Task Force

Eileen Kern made a motion to forward to the AASL board for discussion at mid-winter. Sue Subel seconded. Motion carried.

**Concern #6**-brought forth by Region 4, Tennessee Association of School Librarians (presented by Kathy Carroll)

The AASL Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Learner Lesson Plan Database is a useful tool in this time of changing curriculum; however, there are two areas that need improvement in order to make the database more effective.

First, the database needs to be expanded with additional lessons as there are only 112 lessons for all subjects and grade levels. This seems low given this is a national database.

Second, there are several ways to search by grade level, subject, and of course, keyword. Librarians can use the Common core State Standards (CCSS) code here (keyword). However, it would be useful to be able to search by the CCSS categories like "Reading Standards Lit in Science 9-10" or "CCSS Writing 9-10". Although the AASL Crosswalk to the CCSS is available in each lesson plan, the database is not searchable by the CCSS.

This is important because:

- 1) The limited scope of the database can discourage school librarians from accessing and utilizing this resource.
- 2) During collaboration, teachers and school librarians need to be able to search for lessons by the general CCSS category.

The action requested:

- 1) Facilitate more contributions of lessons plans to the *AASL Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Learner lesson Plan Database*.
- 2) Make the *AASL Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Learner Lesson Plan Database* searchable by the Common Core State Standards.

Robby Nickel made a motion to move this concern forward to the AASL board for discussion at mid-winter. David Sanger seconded. Motion carried.

**Concern #8**-brought forth by Kansas Association of School Librarians (presented by Ken Stewart)

Since Kansas has extreme levels of poverty and wealth in addition to a vast array of students with high and low reading levels, one concern is the lack of material and library curriculum available to students.

For instance, over 2,000 Wichita school children are considered homeless. Over 66 percent of emporia students accept free or reduced lunch. If AASL wishes to raise awareness about poverty and literacy, perhaps more materials and professionals should be available.

Another complication is the fact that numerous students do not live in one household with two parents/guardians. Often time, students live in one home on select days a month, while living with a grandparent a few days a month. If students live in multiple homes or move several times within a school year, they have limited access to academic resources and educators. If students move from parent to parent or town to town, they are at higher-risk of not graduating high school, not being functionally literate, and not being productive members of society.

Not only are students not returning library materials and textbook, they are leaving without a basic understanding of the curriculum and life-long learning skills. How unfortunate that school libraries across Kansas have transient students who never experience a true library and rarely return books that are vital to the school.

My district is in one of the bottom two lowest income counties in the state. People survive, many times 'off the land' as their family has done for generations. The school is really the pipeline into this century for these kids. It is so important that we provide access and the 'how-to' for all information and the DESIRE for information to these students so that they can at least live an informed life, even if they choose not to leave the area or change their way of living. To me the library and all we can provide offers a life-choice to them that they may not get in the classroom.

We need to go beyond the homeless and non-traditional homes (which are actually becoming the traditional home) to include foster care and migrant worker students.

The action requested:

We would like to see AASL offer programming, strategies or resources for school libraries serving homeless and transient student populations.

Beth Frerkling made a motion to forward to the AASL board for discussion at mid-winter. Hilda Weisburg seconded. Motion carried with four dissenting votes.

**Commendation #1**-Common Ground 2013: Leading and Learning in the Digital Age (Maryland's Premier Professional Development Event) - Maryland

Irene Kwidzinski made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board for review at mid-winter. Susan Yutzey seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #2**-Library: A Weinberg Project (Weinberg Foundation) - Maryland

Donna Helmer made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board for review at mid-winter. Mary Ellen Minichiello seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #3**-Second and Seven Foundations "Tackle Illiteracy" - Ohio

Jay Bansbach made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board for review. Valerie Edwards seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #4**-Cleveland Plain Dealer "Tapping Into Parent Power" - Ohio

Linda Weatherspoon made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board. Mona Batchelor seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #5**-Gary Literacy Coalition – Indiana

Liz Philippi made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board. Sue Subal seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #6**-Humanities Tennessee Student Reader Day Program - Tennessee

April Dawkins made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board for discussion. Lori Donovan seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #7**-Librarian to Librarian Networking Summit – North Carolina

Shelley Stedman made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board. Beth Frerking seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #8**-Tennessee First Lady's Read20 Book Club - Tennessee

Liz Phillipe made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board. April Dawkins seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #9**-YALLFest: Raising local literacy through great YA authors (<http://yallfest.org/>) –South Carolina

Beth Frerking made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board for review at mid-winter. Anne Lemieux seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Commendation #10-BE A PRO – Digital Literacy for Families- California**

Susan Subel made a motion for this to be approved and sent to the AASL board for review. Mona Batchelor seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Shout Outs:**

1. Massachusetts has a bill on their General assembly floor like similar to the Pennsylvania study. President Susan Ballard is helping with this as well.
2. North Carolina received the ABC-CLIO Leadership Grant.
3. Connecticut is reworking their evaluations for school librarians.
4. New Jersey developed exemplars for library evaluations for and sent it to their Department of Education and it now posted on their website for all districts.
5. Colorado school librarians continue their political advocacy. They were able to keep grants that allow funding for school libraries. Each school gets at least \$3000.00 for collection development.
6. Louisiana's President Project and letter writing campaign have kept school librarians and school counselors in schools. Only a district superintendent can close a library and there is an appeal process.
7. Superintendent in Anchorage Alaska is set to dismiss all positions but classroom teachers. There is a political campaign to fight this. Lots of librarians are leaving and they can't fill these positions. After these losses the school board in Anchorage sees the value of their school librarians.

Irene Kwidzinski made a motion to adjourn. Liz Phillipe seconded motion. Motion carried.

Pam Renfrow adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.

AASL Affiliate Assembly Meeting II--Sunday, June 30, 2013

REGION I

AFFILIATE

Anna	Bognani	VSLA (VT)	Regional Rep
Sharon	Hamer	MSLA	Regional Rep Alternate
Nancy	Keane	NHSLMA	Delegate
Irene	Kwidzinski	NESLA	Delegate
Joyce	Lucas	MASL (ME)	Alternate
Michelle	Luhtala	CASL	
Jane	Martellino	CASL	Alternate
Merlyn	Miller	VSLA	
Mary Ellen	Minichiello	CASL	Delegate
Judi	Paradis	MCLA	Alternate
Amy	Short	MSLA	Delegate
Shelley	Stedman	CASL	Delegate
Denise	Weitz	VSLA	Delegate

REGION II

AFFILIATE

Jay	Bansbach	MASL (MD)	Delegate
Sue	Bartl	SSL/NYLA	Delegate
Pam	Gunter	NJASL	Regional Rep Alternate
Eileen	Kern	PSLA	Reginal Rep
Cathie	Marriott	SSL/NYLA	Director
Amy	Rominiecki	NJASL	Delegate
Hilda	Weisburg	NJASL	Delegate

REGION III

AFFILIATE

Renee	Disch	WEMTA (WI)	Delegate
Jean	Donham	IASL	Delegate
Valerie	Edwards	WEMTA	Delegate - AASL Bd
Chris	Graves	ISLMA	Delegate
Kathy	Hicks-Brooks	AISLE	Regional Rep Alternate
Dhaivyd	Hilgendorf	MEMO	Delegate
Katherine	Lester	MAME	Delegate
Leslie	Southerland	AISLE	Delegate
Tom	Stream	MAME	Delegate
Sue	Subel	OELMA	Delegate
Sarah	Thornbery	D E	
Debra	Turner	ISLMA	Delegate
Linda	Weatherspoon	MASL	Regional Rep
Ellen	Wickham	MASL	
Susan	Yutzey	OELMA	Delegate



## REGION IV

## AFFILIATE

Joann	Absi	NCSLMA	Delegate
Mona	Batchelor	TASL	Regional Rep - Alternate
Diana T.	Carr	SCASL	
Kathy	Carroll	SCASL	Director-Elect
Deb	Christensen	NCSLMA	Director
April	Dawkins	NCSLMA	Regional Rep
Gail	Dickinson		
Lori	Donovan	VAASL	Delegate
Beth	Frerking	TASL	Delegate
Adele	Koch	KASL	Delegate
Anne	Lemieux	SCASL	Delegate
Heather	Loy	SCASL	Delegate
Frances	Reeve	VAASL	
Janet	Wells	KASL	Delegate

## REGION V

## AFFILIATE

Elizabeth	Hester	Alabama	Alternate
Charlene	Picheloup	Louisiana	Representative
Ann Marie	Pipkin	Alabama	

## REGION VI

## AFFILIATE

Casandra J.	Barnett	ArASL	Delegate
Julie	Briggs	TASL	Delegate
Earon	Cunningham-not present	OKSL	Reg Rep-Alternate Pend.
Sarah	DiLorenzo	OKSL	Delegate
Carlyn	Gray	AASL	Director-Elect
Susi Parks	Grissom	AASL	Director
Karen	Kessel	TASL	Alternate
Devona	Pendergrass	ArASL	Affiliate Secretary
Elizabeth K.	Philippi	TASL	Regional Rep-Pending
Erin	Shaw	ArASL	Delegate

## REGION VII

## AFFILIATE

Karen	Eggert	NLA	Alternate
Ann	Ewbank	AZLA (Arizona)	Delegate
Jessica	Gillis	CSLA	Director-Elect
Janice	Gilmore-See	CSLA	Delegate
Jane	Lofton	CSLA	Delegate
Robbie	Nickel	NSCLS/NLA	Delegate

## REGION VIII

## AFFILIATE

Dona	Helmer	Alaska/ASL	Alternate
Susan	Nickel	Idaho	
Dave	Sonnen	WLMA/B of Dir	Regional Rep-Alternate
Susan	Stone	Oregon	Regional Rep
Nancy	Sullivan	Oregon	Delegate

## REGION IX

## AFFILIATE

Juanita	Jameson	KS-ASL	
Nancy	McFarlin	KS-ASL	Delegate
Cindy	Pfeiffer	KS-ASL	Director
Linda	Roberts	KS-ASL	Guest
David	Sanger	CoASL	Delegate
Ken	Stewart	Regional Rep	Director-Elect
Carmaine	Ternes	KS-ASL	Delegate
Carrie	Turner	NEASL	Delegate

