

# STUDENTS REACH GREATER HEIGHTS WITH SCHOOL LIBRARIANS



## INFORMATION LITERATE STUDENTS ARE BETTER PREPARED FOR COLLEGE, CAREER, AND LIFE



- Post-secondary institutions, employers, and civic life demand the ability to find, evaluate, use, and create information in multiple formats.
- School librarians—schools' only certified information professionals—teach information, digital, and media literacies, as well as digital citizenship.

## STUDENTS VALUE THE SCHOOL LIBRARY AS A SAFE SPACE



- Students who feel safe and well-supported are more engaged in school and perform better academically.
- School librarians provide judgement-free learning spaces, curate resources that nurture student health and well-being, and promote reading for pleasure.

## LEARNING AND TEACHING ARE ELEVATED BY HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES INTRODUCED BY THE LIBRARIAN



- Students learn to safely and constructively navigate tools and resources that deepen inquiry, collaboration, and creation.
- Teachers enhance classroom teaching with resources provided by the school librarian.

## STUDENTS FIND RESOURCES APPROPRIATE TO THEIR NEEDS IN A SCHOOL LIBRARY



- School librarians curate diverse collections that support varied abilities and learning styles; and that provide mirrors, windows, and doors so that all students better understand themselves and the world around them.
- School librarians empower students to embrace curiosity and learn independently.

## STUDENTS ACHIEVE MORE IN SCHOOLS WITH LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS



- Students with professionally staffed school libraries have higher reading, writing, and information literacy scores, as well as higher graduation rates.
- Studies show that Title I students and English language learners recognize even greater academic gains with a certified school librarian.

## INFORMATION LITERATE STUDENTS ARE BETTER PREPARED FOR COLLEGE, CAREER, AND LIFE

School librarians teach essential skills that prepare today's learners to become tomorrow's leaders in our global information society.

Huisman, R. (2015). Library As Place in Urban High Schools: Connecting College Readiness to Librarian Intervention and Community Partnerships. <https://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org/acrl/files/content/conferences/confsandpreconfs/2015/Huisman.pdf>

HEAD, A. J. (2012). How College Graduates Solve Information Problems Once They Join the Workplace. Project Information Literacy Research Report. [https://projectinfolit.org/pubs/workplace-study/pil\\_workplace-study\\_2012-10-16.pdf](https://projectinfolit.org/pubs/workplace-study/pil_workplace-study_2012-10-16.pdf)

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## STUDENTS VALUE THE SCHOOL LIBRARY AS A SAFE SPACE

School librarians create welcoming and safe learning environments that support students' well-being and health literacy, nurture empathy, and facilitate deeper engagement in assigned and self-directed learning.

Merga, M. (2020). A Place to Get Away From it All: 5 Ways School Libraries Support. <https://theconversation.com/a-place-to-get-away-from-it-all-5-ways-school-libraries-support-student-well-being-145180>

Merga, M. (2021). Libraries as Wellbeing Supportive Spaces in Contemporary Schools. Journal of Library Administration. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/01930826.2021.1947056>

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## LEARNING AND TEACHING ARE ELEVATED BY HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES INTRODUCED BY THE LIBRARIAN

From personalized learning to alternative assessment tools, from virtual field trips to guest speakers from around the globe, school librarians are technology leaders--introducing, teaching, and integrating high quality tools that enhance learning and expand student opportunities.

Johnson, Doug. (2018). The School Librarian: Your Ultimate Digital Resource. Educational Leadership. <https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/the-school-librarian-your-ultimate-digital-resource>

## ALL LEARNERS FIND RESOURCES APPROPRIATE TO THEIR NEEDS IN A SCHOOL LIBRARY

School librarians curate diverse resources that enable every learner to see themselves and learn about others, with materials across grade levels and in multiple formats that support both assigned and self-directed learning.

2019 Emerging Leaders Team, (2019). Developing Inclusive Learners and Citizens. [https://www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org/aasl/files/content/aasissues/toolkits/Include\\_Infographic\\_190619.pdf](https://www.ala.org/aasl/sites/ala.org/aasl/files/content/aasissues/toolkits/Include_Infographic_190619.pdf)

Ishizuka, K. (2018). Can Diverse Books Save Us? In a Divided World, Librarians Are on a Mission. <https://www.slj.com/?detailStory=can-diverse-books-save-us>

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## STUDENTS ACHIEVE MORE IN SCHOOLS WITH LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS

School librarians are teachers in the school's largest classroom and integral to educational equity. Research shows the presence of a professionally staffed school library improves achievement for all students, with proportionately higher benefits for disadvantaged students.

Achterman, D. (2008). Haves, Halves, and Have-Nots: School Libraries and Student. <https://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc9800/>

Kuon, T., Flores, J., & Pickett, J. (2014). The Biggest Classroom in the Building. Phi Delta Kappan, 95(7), 65-67. <https://doi.org/10.1177/003172171409500715>

Lance, K., & Kachel, D. (2018). Why School Librarians Matter: What Years of Research Tell Us. <https://kappanonline.org/lance-kachel-school-librarians-matter-years-research>

Williams, D., Wavell, C., & Morrison, K. (2013). Impact of School Libraries on Learning. <https://keithcurrylance.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/WilliamsWavellTLfeb2014.pdf>

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To learn about National School Library Standards, visit: <https://standards.aasl.org>.

For the American Association of School Librarians position statements regarding school librarians, visit: <https://www.ala.org/aasl/advocacy/resources/statements>.

For more information about how administrators can support effective school library programs, visit: <https://www.msmelalew.com/for-administrators>.