

VSLA Board Meeting November 8, 2007

AASL Report

There have been no affiliate meetings since my last report. The next affiliate meetings will take place at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia, January 2008. I have my travel plans in place so I can attend.

I did not attend the AASL conference in Reno last month but Georgeanne Bonifanti very kindly sent the link to all the program handouts via our listserv. Here is the link she sent, just in case you deleted by mistake:

<http://www.eshow2000.com/aasl/handouts.cfm>

The new national standards for school library media programs were released in Reno and are available on the AASL web site:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/learningstandards/standards.cfm>

I also have copies of the standards brochure to share with the board.

For Your 2007 – 2008 Calendar

January 11-16, 2008 Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
(Info online starting Aug. 1st)

June 26- July 2, 2008 ALA Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA
(Affiliate assembly Fri., 6/27 and Sunday 6/29)

NEEMA Report

CT is in a leadership crisis, they are looking for folks to serve on the board and especially looking for someone to step into the role of vp. CT expressed concern about professional development in their state due to the decrease in leadership. In the past CASL put on 2-3 workshops during the year but this may change and asked NEEMA to respond. Carol Gordon and Ross Todd are currently developing Powerpoints on research-to-practice which will be disseminated via Scholastic. People would be paid and trained to be professional developers with these materials with the pilot group on the East Coast. The next step is video. Look for talent within your organizations who might be good professional developers who could be trained to use the Powerpoints.

MA

Members of MSLA were very busy throughout the spring and summer legislatively, preparing to promote their House Bill 564, now before the Education Committee. H564 asks to clarify for school districts the ability to designate Chapter 70 funds toward school library certified staffing and resources by inserting the words "school libraries" into the Ed Reform Ch70 law in Massachusetts.

NH

New Hampshire has been focusing on their spring conference as the school librarians and public librarians have decided to part ways. The 2008 New Hampshire Educational Media Association conference will be held May 13-14 at the Radisson in Nashua –off Route 3-Exit 1- formerly the Sheraton Tara. The theme of this year's conference is Collaborate for Literacy @ Your Library. While the theme has been chosen, the specifics are still being worked out. The NH conference does fall on the same days this year as the Vermont conference, an unfortunate

coincidence, and we hope this does not cause vendor conflicts or other problems. We will attempt to collaborate with the Vermont Conference Committee to make sure both conferences go as smoothly and positively as possible.

ME

Maine DOE produced the pamphlet entitled "Universal literacy elements for deeper and more powerful content learning". The document was edited by MASL librarians and includes the phrase "Coordinate efforts with school library media specialists." Here is link to the document online: <http://www.literacyforme.org/LitResources.html>

Draft of the New England Educational Media Association Hall of Fame Award Application

This year the NEW England Educational Media Association turns 90 years old. At the March 2007 Annual Meeting, a motion was made to create a Hall of Fame Award to recognize the many members of NEEMA—library practitioners, supervisors, officers, committee chairs and members, vendors and administrators – who have through their hard work given so much of their time and their heart to the library profession through their membership in NEEMA.

This award will recognize those living and deceased who have contributed to the library media profession over the last 90 years as a member of NEEMA. We are asking the Boards of each state, as well as NEEMA to make this Hall of Fame Award an agenda item. Take out your old NEEMA VIEWS and review the names of members from your state who made a contribution to NEEMA. Nominations may be made by individuals or submitted by a State Board.

All nominations need to be submitted to Harriet LaPointe, P.O. Box 287, Bristol, RI 02809 by ? During the dinner at Anthony's Pier IV, recipients of the award will gather to share a special birthday cake and to be recognized by NEEMA.

NEEMA Board

Susan Ballard took over as NEEMA president at the September meeting. Merlyn Miller is vice-president. For current board info, please check www.neema.org

NEEMA Leadership Conference

Registration will be available shortly for the 2008 NEEMA leadership conference. The date this year is Friday, April 4 at the Moakley Courthouse in Boston featuring Dr. Henry Jenkins, Director, Comparative Media Studies Program and Professor of Literature, MIT. The keynote presentation is "Where Soulja Boy Meets Herman Melville: What Remix Culture Can Tell Us About the New Media Literacies." Jenkins is the author/or editor of 12 books on various aspects of media and popular culture.

A keynote response panel will include students and educators.

Christopher Harris is the coordinator of the School Library System of Genesee Valley BOCES serving school libraries of 22 districts in western NY state. His afternoon presentation will be "Gaming as a New Literacy."

The leadership conference is near completion and I will put it on the listserv as soon as it becomes available.

Respectfully submitted,

Merlyn Miller

