Kentucky

School Media Librarians Make A Difference!



KASL
Kentucky Association
of School Librarians

Who We Are...

KASL is the professional organization of all Kentucky school librarians.

We are a section of the Kentucky Library Association.

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Kentucky Revised Statutes

KRS 158.102 requires the employment of a **certified school media librarian** to be assigned to **each school** to organize, equip, and manage the operations of the school library.

KRS 158.791 requires each elementary school to provide high quality library media programs. "High quality" is defined in Beyond Proficiency, KDE's guidelines for effective school library media programs.

KRS 160.345 requires the school council consult the certified school media librarian regarding the maintenance of the library.

The School Library - Teaching, Coaching, Connecting

School libraries are not book warehouses. They offer a **unique** space in the school where learning from all subjects can merge. Opportunities for reading, inquiry, refining their analog and digital skills, information literacy and more are part of a high performing school library program when led by the guidance and support of a **certified teacher librarian**. Combining access to these types of learning opportunities in a single space can create powerful, vibrant learning experiences that will be found nowhere else.

- Developing the **love** of reading & lifelong learning
- **WHOLE**-school access to resources and an information and media expert
- Information and media **literacy**
- Neutral and welcoming environment for extending **background knowledge** in curriculum topics and personal student interests
- Collaboration with regular classroom teachers to **bridge** topics and make connections with units of study
- Hands-on development of **creativity**, designing, and making
- Giving students access to **resources** they might not otherwise have at home or in regular classrooms

A Day in the School Library!

Kentucky School Librarians are:

- Certified Teachers
- Literacy Leaders
- Instructional Partners
- Information Professionals

- While classroom teachers see specific class rosters, **librarians teach and mentor 100% of the student body** and collaborate across **all grade levels**
- Librarians can help **motivate students** who CAN read to WANT to read
- Managing **digital databases**, curated **print collections**, and **educational technology** to ensure safe, relevant, and equitable access
- School librarians often **mentor** classroom teachers in technology and inquiry instruction

Preparing for the future...



The future is tricky. We don't know exactly what students will need to know in the future, but... School librarians work to make sure 'school' is more than just a test. They provide **safe opportunities for students to think, create, share, and grow through the exploration of high quality literature, resources, and tools.**

School librarians focus on providing **transferable skills** which our students can use in any classroom and in their future adult lives. Focusing on topics like media, news, understanding AI, and information literacy skills will help our students navigate this complex world. These skills, combined with a love of reading and learning, will **set all students up for success** regardless or their path.

Thank you!

If and when questions arise connected to school libraries, KASL is here to help you.

www.kasl.us

contact@kasl.us

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