Newport Public Schools

Elementary Library Media Centers Mission Statement and Standards 2007-2009

*The Mission of the Newport Public School System in partnership with parents, families and the community, is to provide challenging education with appropriate supports so that all students will possess the knowledge, skills, and character essential to productive citizenship, life-long learning, and the ability to adapt successfully in a rapidly changing world.*

**Vision:**

The vision for the Newport Elementary Schools’ library media centers is for the library centers to play a central role in a standards-based curriculum by providing a resource & technology rich environment coupled with the staffing necessary to support parents, students, teachers and staff throughout the school day. Our vision is to see each library function as an integral part of the school to help students achieve standards.

**Mission Statement:**

The Library Media Centers at the Newport Elementary Schools are committed to supporting the Newport Public Schools’ mission by developing and maintaining an organized collection of information resources and activities that support the curriculum. The Elementary School Libraries offer direct instruction in information literacy skills, serve as active partners in teaching and learning, and insure all students develop a love of literature, become lifelong learners, and acquire the informational literacy skills necessary to effectively use the information and technologies of the 21st century.

Our mission statement actively incorporates teaching the Big6™ Information Problem solving process to all students, as well as the Rhode Island State and the National Information Literacy standards.

**Goal 1**

*Students will become lifelong lovers of reading.*

The library will expose students to a variety of literature through collaboratively scheduled library classes and through the judicious selection of fiction, non-fiction, and periodicals that will reflect the interests and reading levels of all students. In addition, the library will serve as a resource to both parents and teachers for the purpose of accessing books, periodicals, and online resources for both in-classroom and at-home use.

The libraries will also select and maintain web links and on-line databases to support the curriculum on the library’s web pages.
The Newport Elementary School libraries will be state certified by Libraries of Rhode Island (LORI). Through LORI, libraries will participate in the Inter-library Loan system of Rhode Island.

Goal 2

*Students will be able to locate, evaluate, and use information in a variety of formats.*

The library will provide instruction in the Big6™ information problem process/skill set, to enable all our students to become lifelong learners.

The library will provide students with direct instruction in the use of the Big6™ information problem solving process.

The library will develop and implement professional development activities for faculty to incorporate the Big6™ model into student research assignments.

Goal 3

*Students will demonstrate technological literacy in the various disciplines taught in the Newport Public Schools.*

The library will provide instruction in the use and practice in a variety of software applications, including keyboarding, spreadsheets, word processing and other software necessary for an information literate society. The library will also provide instruction in the ethical use of information including Internet safety.

**Personnel:** Librarians will be RI-certified LMS professionals with Masters in Library Science from an ALA accredited institution.

**Patrons:** The Newport Elementary School libraries primary purpose is to serve the students, faculty, and parents of the elementary school on a daily basis throughout the school year, in accordance with each school’s schedule. Other school libraries are also served through the interlibrary loan system without fees, to make each library’s materials accessible to all.

The following State and National Standards are incorporated in the above mission statement:

**National Information Literacy Standards**

Standard 1: The student who is information literate accesses information efficiently and effectively.
Standard 2: The student who is information literate evaluates information critically and competently.
Standard 3: The student who is information literate uses information accurately and creatively.
Standard 4: The student who is an independent learner is information literate and pursues information related to personal interests.
Standard 5: The student who is an independent learner is information literate and appreciates literature and other creative expressions of information.
Standard 6: The student who is an independent learner is information literate and strives for excellence in information seeking and knowledge generation.
Standard 7: The student who contributes positively to the learning community and to society is information literate and recognizes the importance of information to a democratic society.
Standard 8: The student who contributes positively to the learning community and to society is information literate and practices ethical behavior in regard to information and information technology.
Standard 9: The student who contributes positively to the learning community and to society is information literate and participates effectively in groups to pursue and generate information.

**Rhode Island State Standards for Information Literacy:**

1. Student will exhibit lifelong reading and lifelong learning skills.

2. Students will demonstrate information-seeking strategies to identify, locate, access and retrieve information in all formats.

3. Students will demonstrate an ability to synthesize and analyze information in all formats.

4. Students will demonstrate an ability to organize and evaluate information in all formats.

5. Students will demonstrate an ability to communicate ideas and information through the use of various media.

6. Students will communicate an understanding of responsible and ethical practices related to the use of ideas and information.

Approved: Jackie Naspo, Ed.D., Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development

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