NYCSLS Library Council Meeting #4
Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO)
599 11th Avenue, 8th Floor,
New York, NY, 10003
April 16, 2019
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Present: Jennifer Abounader-Ciesla, Shauntee Burns, Michael Clark, Margaret Dennehy, Michael Dodes, Marta Dospiva Legan, Leanne Ellis, Sheneatha Frison, Damary Gonzalez, Nickelos Grant, Melissa Jacobs, Jillian Lazaridis, Vicki Madden, Christine Poser, Lynne Kresta Smith, Sally Young

Welcome: Christine called the meeting to order. After the Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and a few minor corrections made, Christine asked the Council to pass the Minutes and the Agenda.

Motion: Jennifer Abounader-Ciesla
Second: Michael Clark

Spring Institute - May 21 and 22, 2019: “School Libraries Inspire Leaders”

Highlights of the Spring Institute are

- Dr. Jen Cannell, Keynote speaker: “Owning your Potential: Librarians as Leaders”.
- Lisa Von Drasek will present “Writing Boxes: The Reading/Writing Connection Supporting Literacy in the Library”.
- Literary Speed Dating.
- INNOVATION! Island.

- Featured Authors are
  - Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen
  - Don Brown

- Attendees will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite NYCReads365 Book Trailer, and network with other librarians.

Recruitment and Certification: Open Market Hiring System will open on May 9. Currently, NYCSLA is holding interviews and has a bank of highly qualified librarians. These include graduates from LIU, Queens College and Syracuse University. Schools looking for a qualified LMS should reach out to NYCSLS.
**BEDS and Compliance Question (CL15):** Currently, there are 1800 schools (1200 buildings), but only 287 librarians. This acute shortage is due to the fact that School Library Media Specialists are certified by the NY State Department, while their license is issued by the New York City Department of Education. In addition, classroom teachers do not want to change their license because they would lose tenure.

NYCSLA will address the problem by:

- Meeting with UFT
- Recommending that the probation period be changed from 3 years to 1 year.
- Simplifying the process of obtaining a license.
- Ensuring that principals assign the role of the librarian in Galaxy
- Making sure that principals realize that they need a full time Librarian to apply for the MyLibraryNYC program and library grants.

**Teacher2Librarian:** To date, 25 individuals have applied to Syracuse. Of these 20-23 will receive scholarships, while the rest will be placed on a waitlist. The course will start in July and the first two weeks will be live. The rest of the sessions will be online. During the summer, NYCSLA will offer tenure workshops for librarians, and will continue to work with UFT to resolve the issue of "loss of tenure". In the interim, librarians are asked to advocate for libraries and to reach out to their principals and administrators.

**ELI Session - Building the Learning Environment and Empowering All Learners - May 9th:** Melissa and Leanne will give the ELI workshop, which will focus on helping principals understand the role of the librarian and the importance of building and maintaining an effective library program.

**UFT Article:** [http://uft.org/learning-curve/importance-having-school-library](http://uft.org/learning-curve/importance-having-school-library): The UFT interviewed two librarians (elementary and high school), and Michael Dodds, Office of Library Services. The article discussed libraries and how they support schools and the curriculum and detailed the many resources NYCSLA offers librarians and teachers.

**SLIMPE:** NYCSLA is currently working with the State to develop the SLIMPE rubric, which will be completed by Summer 2019. The annual evaluation is scheduled for the Fall of 2019.

**ESIFC and SLPR Plan:** Barbara Stripling and Dr. Jan Canell, will complete their work on the ESIFC. NYCSLA will hold "trainer training" workshops" on 15 & 16 July (TBC) in New York City.

**System Updates:** Member Plan (mandated every 5 years): As the Member Plan was completed in 2018, there are only a few minor changes to be made this year.

**Partnerships:**
Field Support Centers: (FSC/Borough Offices (BO): FSC representative informed the council that due to restructuring of their respective regions, they now spend most of their time in schools.

Carmel Hill Fund: Damary told the Council that they had just finished a new library. Most of the 50 libraries they are supporting are in charter schools.

Visions: The Campus Librarian workshops, which included a variety of field trips were very successful. In addition to working with the Astor Fund and NYCSLS, New Visions will also partner with, NYCSLA, NYLA and HVLA.

I.S. 024R School Library: Christine reported on a collaborative initiative between Great Kills Public Library and the school library. The focused was on parent education.

Library Staff Plan: The deadline for the survey has been extended.

Tri-Library Systems: Summer Reading Programs

Queens Library: The summer reading program, entitled “A Universe of Stories”, will be launched on 6 June. Queens Library will offer "Summer Meals".

Brooklyn Public Library: On June 1st the library will launch its program entitled "A Universe of Stories". During the Summer there will be:

- Reading contests with prizes to all participants.
- Summer Meals which will be offered at 29 branches.
- Brooklyn Library CookMobile.

NYPL: The Summer Launch Party for "BLAST OFF" will be held at Tompkins Square Library on Thursday June 6.

MyLibraryNYC: It has been an amazing year for the program. In addition to very successful author visits, the Tri-library systems sponsored "meet and greet" events. During the summer, they will work on creating multi model manipulatives that will include playday puppets, math and STEM materials. They are also working on building additional set of launch pads and playaways, as well as large print books for grades 3-12. Melissa reported that the new contract will be finalized by the end of the school year.

NYCSLS 2018/2019 Initiatives/Collaborative Projects

- MyLibraryNYC: In addition to the DOE schools, seven non-public schools participated in the pilot program.
- NYCReads365: Collaborative initiative with Bound to Stay Bound and Mackin.
- Museum of the City of New York,
- New York Hall of Science
• “Civics For All” collaborative initiative with Social Studies Teachers.

• REACH Grant: Five school Libraries received the grant. The funds will be used to make improvements that will promote students’ learning in the library.

• Ezra Keats Grant: There were 100 applications. Of these, 30 schools received the grant.

• VITAL: Thanks to Jared Fox, NYCSLS received $80,000, to be awarded to needy schools for collection development. A portion of the funds will also be allocated to MyLibraryNYC to purchase 140 Capstone Books for teachers’ use.

ALA: Melissa reported that Loida Garcia-Febo, ALA President, will visit the library at A. Philip Randolph Campus High School (Juan Rivera is the Library Media Specialist),

The Fall Conference will be held on November 5, 2019, at Citifield. The following have been confirmed:

Keynote Speaker: Denielle Miller, Education Consultant
Closing Speaker: Jon Scieszka
Opening Remarks: Evelyn DeJesus, Vice President for Education, UFT

Council Meetings Scheduled for the 2019/2020 school year:

Friday, October 18, 2019
Friday, December 6, 2019
Friday, February 7, 2020
Friday, May 1, 2020

Motion to Adjourn: Christine
Second: Jennifer