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Director's Report
Northern Lights Library Network
February 17, 2018
Kathy B. Enger, Executive Director

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The Pay Equity Report was submitted to the Minnesota Pay Equity Management System on January 5, 2018.

NLLN facilitates collaboration, cooperation, and resource sharing among libraries throughout the NLLN region and the State of Minnesota by traveling to libraries throughout the NLLN region, attending local, regional, and statewide meetings and conferences, serving on professional library committees, and working with libraries in the region. Strong support of libraries throughout the State of Minnesota maintains and builds a strong library infrastructure in the region and state, communicates the purpose and benefits of libraries to citizens of the region, and may result in continued funding.

Executive Director Kathy Enger attended the following meetings since the last board meeting on December 16, 2017:

December 18: White Earth, drove the Christmas Drive gifts to White Earth.
January 17-19: St. Paul, quarterly multi-county, multi-type director's meeting.
January 26: Bemidji, Kitchigami Regional Library System meeting with Marian Ridge, director, and NLLN Governing Board members, Adell Bridgeford, Hannah Buckland, and Reed Olson to discuss funding eAudio books for the region.
January 31: Moorhead, meeting at the St. Joe's library with Dawn Barerra, media specialist, to discuss eBooks Minnesota.
February 1: Moorhead, McGrath Reading of the six broadsides in the MSUM Library Porch.
February 10: Alexandria, meeting with Lynette Schwagerl and Glenn Heinecke to plan the "Better Together" workshop.
February 14: Morris, meeting at Morris Area Elementary School with Noelle Mickelson, media specialist to discuss her upcoming meeting with the school board to discuss the value of school libraries and school librarians. We used the media specialist research material.
February 17: Moorhead, NLLN Governing Board meeting.

Interlibrary loan support for Viking Library System (VLS) and bookmobile service to Campbell, Minnesota. $5,600.00 was sent to the VLS for interlibrary loan and bookmobile service. Timely access to library materials in the NLLN region eventually results in improved literacy rates and better quality of life for citizens in the region.

Former intern, Aleta Sanford, is volunteering at NLLN. Aleta is a Junior at MSUM, majoring in English and Business Administration.

Minnesota Book Awards. NLLN is an educational sponsor of the 2018 Minnesota Book Awards.

NLLN increases awareness of the importance of and need for library media centers and continues to address concerns about the loss of certified teacher librarians managing library

media centers. Executive Director Kathy Enger met with Noelle Mickelsen from Morris Elementary School in Morris on February 14, 2018, to share the media specialist research. Noelle is meeting with the school board to emphasize the need for a media specialist in Morris Public Schools, using the research from NLLN. A variation of the handout, below, was given to Noelle to share with the school board. The following is a summary of the research:

Why Schools Need School Librarians

Spring, 2018

Students in schools with full-time, certified media specialists, or teacher librarians, do

significantly better on standardized tests than students in schools without certified media

specialists (Bleidt, 2011; Farmer, 2006; Francis & Lance, 2011; Hughes, 2014; Hughes, et al,

2013; Kuon, Flores, & Pickett, 2014; Lance & Hofschire, 2012; Montiel-Overall, 2009; Neuman

& Celano, 2001; Small & Snyder, 2010; Strong, 2014).

Media specialists, "are uniquely qualified to teach the information literacy skills that are paramount in a knowledge-based economy" (Francis & Lance, 2011, p. 65).

Using a grounded theory, qualitative approach we examined sixty-seven full-text scholarly articles in the literature of Library and Information Science on the terms "Media Specialist" and "School Librarian" from 1997-2016, including sixty-eight Internet documents from state education websites and district education websites totaling 2,240 pages of documents, to determine the skills media specialists impart to students. Charmaz (2014) recommends the use of documents as a source of data, particularly in developing grounded theory.

Media Specialists teach the following skills:

- **Information Literacy**
- **Digital Literacy**
- **Library and Information Science Skills**

Throughout the Information Literacy, Digital Literacy, and Library and Information Science skills acquisition process students are:

Analyzing, Synthesizing, and Evaluating

the information they find and use.

Analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating are higher-order thinking skills, Bloom (1956).
Information Literacy Skills

- The Need to Access Information is Realized

In school environments, students are required to complete assignments that necessitate access to knowledge to validate their work and meet academic standards for course completion. Media specialists discuss students' information needs, ask questions, and define the problems students seek to solve.

- The Information or the Knowledge Needed is Located

Reference questions for simple information needs are retrieved by a simple Google search. Access to knowledge requires connecting students to peer-reviewed research articles in databases and library collections through online catalogs and interlibrary loan links. Media specialists teach the difference between popular and scholarly publications, current vs. historic documents, and the difference between primary and secondary sources.

Students access and process knowledge rather than information. Knowledge is accessible through the scholarly work academics perform in journal articles, books, and reference materials. These resources are rarely free and require the knowledge of someone to know about them, to purchase them, and to make them accessible by organizing them and teaching students how to use them.

Google search = Information
Access to Databases + Books = Knowledge

- The Accuracy, Value, and Relevancy of the Knowledge Located is Determined

Students evaluate the sources they find in terms of accuracy, bias, relevancy, currency, credibility, purpose, validity, and social and cultural context. Online reading comprehension is important and material from a variety of sources is synthesized. Students need to determine what they will use and not use from what appears to be limitless sources of material.

- The Knowledge Located is Organized

Material located is organized into a manageable and understandable form. A student imposes structure on the knowledge located. Students need to learn about plagiarism and how 'cutting and pasting' what they find is illegal. If they are writing a paper, they need to understand what style the paper will be written in and the bibliographic format they will use (i.e. APA, Chicago Style Manual, MLA, etc.)

- The Knowledge Located is Put to Use

Students have the resources they need to create a paper, a presentation, or project. Students have integrated the knowledge found and acquired into their own personal knowledge base and learning occurs.

Schools without media specialists do not employ anyone whose explicit job it is to impart the understanding of knowledge acquisition to students.

In addition to analysis, synthesis, and evaluation,

Reading and Writing

are required throughout the information literacy process, providing a well-rounded learning

experience for students.

Digital Literacy Skills

Media specialists teach along a spectrum of digital literacy skills:

- from developing usernames and passwords,
  - manipulating a mouse,
  - learning keyboarding,
  - using email and websites,
  - and practicing digital etiquette,

to the more advanced skills of

- navigating social media sites such as wikis, blogs, evaluating websites,
  - manipulating data with spreadsheets,
- creating multimedia presentations with digital imagery, digital audio, digital video
  - using smart phone and tablet technology

to understanding

- how subsystems fit together to form systems or networks.

Digital literacy focuses on the technological skills required to learn, rather than the knowledge seeking behaviors associated with information literacy. Media specialists teach students about the information/knowledge resources they need, then how to use the appropriate access technology to find and use these resources.

Library and Information Science Skills

Reading, reading, reading, reading, reading, reading, reading, reading, reading, reading …

The first and primary skill related to the library and information science skills media specialists impart to students is simply reading. Students become interested in books, learn about genres, grow as readers, develop individual tastes, and learn to appreciate the content books represent, such as the natural world, science, literature, and the arts. Students also become independent and critical readers and begin to realize that reading can become an integral part of life. Throughout the enrichment reading provides, students can improve academic achievement and reading comprehension. The media specialist her/himself represents reading to students and is a role model for reading.

It has been widely shown that literacy levels improve as access to reading material and literature increases (Anderson, Wilson, & Fielding, 1988; Crosnoe & Cooper, 2010; Duke, 2000; Krashen, 2016; McQuillan & Au, 2001; Neuman & Celano, 2001; Saenz & Felix, 2007; Sanacore, 2006; Sanjana & Krolak, 2015).

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Executive Director Kathy Enger continues to review papers for publication in *College & Research Libraries* and *Data and Information Management*.

NLLN supports literacy initiatives among all types of libraries region through the *Minnesota Literacy Initiative.* From early reading activities to advanced literary discussions, library literacy initiatives bring people together to get to know books in enjoyable and satisfying situations. Literacy promotes personal improvement and enlightenment, ensures equity, dignifies, and creates prosperity**.**   NLLN continues to fund career development, professional engagement, scholarships, and library service funding for staff and library board member participation in continuing education programs, events, and participation at national and international conferences for library professionals in the region who may not be able to attend without the support of Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN). Library staff attendance at local, regional, national, and international conferences generates new ideas and best library practices among colleagues and library constituents.

NLLN provides ongoing library administrative and technical support for the White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood Program (WECC/ECP) and supports the Tribal College Libraries. The NLLN Governing Board participated in the White Earth Annual Child Care Early Childhood Program Christmas Drive and brought the donated toys to White Earth on December 18th.

The Tribal College Library Directors continue to meet regularly. Funding for the libraries is an ongoing concern.

"Poets Across Minnesota" and Broadsides.
NLLN and MSUM sponsored a reading of the broadside poets at the McGrath series at Minnesota State University Moorhead on February 2, 2018. About forty people attended the event and NLLN hosted comfort food in the Faculty Development Center following the event (grilled cheese sandwiches, tomato soup, chili, and hot apple cider).

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Thomas McGrath Visiting Writer Series Reading
Thursday, February 1, 2018
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
The Library Porch
Livingston Lord Library
700 13th Street South
Moorhead

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Broadside poems written by six local poets were read at The McGrath Reading Series Thursday evening, February 1, from 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the Library Porch at Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM).

The signed and numbered broadsides were created by Patrick Vincent, former professor of visual arts at MSUM. A primary goal of Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN) is to bring resources from the state and national level to the local level. Another goal is to discover resources within the region and share them universally. The broadsides are for sale at $25 each

to raise funds for NLLN's scholarship fund. Framed broadsides were presented to Minnesota State University Moorhead at the reading.

Descriptions of the poems and the poets who created them follow:

"At the Library," by Lina Belar

"At the Library" joins two sisters who read through all the books gracing a library's shelves in a single summer. Belar attended Columbia University and served as museum director in several cultural organizations throughout Central Minnesota. Her poems are published in *Rural Score* and another book to be published shortly.

"Carnegie Libraries," by Dr. Kenneth Bennett

"Carnegie Libraries" depicts the architectural beauty of Carnegie libraries, and the people, young and old, who enjoy them. Bennett received his undergraduate degree from MSUM and was editor of *The Advocate* during the turbulent 1960s. Bennett taught at both MSUM and NDSU for many years and has published several books of poetry, including *Surviving Each Other* and *Grandma's Rebellion.*

"The Longest Hour," by Professor Travis Dolence

"The Longest Hour" portrays the dedication of librarians everywhere. Dolence is the Director of New Rivers Press and a librarian at MSUM. His work has appeared in the *MacGuffin*, *Burningword*, and the chapbook, *The Lyrical Librarian: Verses from the Stacks*, published by Consortium.

"Birch Bark Biting," by Dr. Denise Lajimodiere

Birch bark biting is a pre-contact Ojibwe and Cree art. Following a ceremony, birch bark is gathered in the spring of the year. Thin layers are then folded and bitten with eye teeth to make designs. Bitings are also used as patterns for quill and beadwork. Lajomodiere is an enrolled Citizen of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and a professor at North Dakota State University. She published *Dragonfly Dance* with Michigan State University Press and *Thunderbird* with the Institute for Regional Studies Press at North Dakota State University Press. She has also published extensive research on the boarding school experience of Native Americans in the United States.

"North of North," by Professor Emeritus Mark Vinz

Winter in the Northern Great Plains is a thing of beauty and pain. "North of North" captures the feelings of those living through the chill, making the experience a vivid metaphor of human perseverance. "It's always colder somewhere else. We praise our plows and furnaces, fall back again on what we know." A professor at MSUM for nearly forty years, Vinz is a much-published poet whose list of collections includes *Climbing the Stairs*, *Mixed Blessings*, *Long*

Distance, *Affinities*, *Late Night Calls*, and *The Work is All*. His memoir, *Man of the House,* was published in 2017, and his latest publication is, *Permanent Record*.

"Used Poetry," by Professor Kevin Zepper

"Used Poetry" makes the creation and editing of a poem relatable to anyone who has ever had vehicle woes. The parallels between poetry and the parts of an automobile will make everyone remember writing his or her first poem or buying his or her first car. Zepper teaches in the English department at MSUM; a collection of his poetry is forthcoming this year from Beatlick Press in New Mexico.

The Thomas McGrath Visiting Writer Series brings authors to Minnesota State University Moorhead to read and share their work with students, faculty, and the community. Thomas McGrath was an internationally recognized and award-winning author who taught at Moorhead State University from 1969-1983. Comparing him to Walt Whitman, The Poetry Foundation describes McGrath as having "a voice as richly American as any in our literature." See:

https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/thomas-mcgrath

The broadsides are one aspect of NLLN's *Poets Across Minnesota* program, which encourages the love of reading, literature, and the spoken word by sponsoring readings and events for regional poets in and through libraries in the region. Poetry in and through libraries extends literacy becauyse it is linguistically rich and as a genre that is read aloud, makes literature a public event. The backbone of *Poets Across Minnesota* is its close partnership with libraries. "Poets Across Minnesota places the value of libraries in front of citizens. Literacy promotes democracy and dignifies, which is at the core of libraries.

Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN) is a cooperative network of 280 academic, public, school, and special libraries in twenty-three counties of North-central, North-west, and West-central Minnesota. NLLN works at the grassroots level to bring together all types of libraries and collections in the region to discover, enhance, and share resources through administrative, technological, and educational support. Northern Lights Library Network is funded by the Minnesota State Legislature through the Minnesota Department of Education.

Thomas McGrath Visiting Writer Series Reading Program

Thursday, February 1, 2018

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

The Library Porch

Livingston Lord Library

Minnesota State University Moorhead

Welcome

President Anne Blackhurst

Minnesota State University Moorhead

Introduction

Dr. Kevin Carollo

Broadside Lecture

Dr. Thom Tammaro

Presentation of the Poets

Kevin Zepper, Professor

Minnesota State University Moorhead

"Used Poetry"

Mark Vinz, Professor Emeritus

Minnesota State University Moorhead

"North of North"

Dr. Denise Lajimodiere, Professor

North Dakota State University

"Birch Bark Biting"

Travis Dolence, Professor, Librarian, and Director of New Rivers Press

Minnesota State University Moorhead

"The Longest Hour"

Dr. Kenneth Bennett, retired Professor

Minnesota State University Moorhead

North Dakota State University

"Carnegie Libraries"

Lina Belar, Museum Director

Wadena County Historical Society

East Ottertail County Historical Society, founder

In Their Own Words Veteran's Museum, founder

"At the Library"

NLLN provides training and onsite assistance for librarians in the region. The Second Annual "Better Together" workshop will be held June 11, 2018. The following is a draft of the schedule for the day:

Draft
"Better Together"

Area Workshop for Educators, Media Specialists, and Librarians

Monday, June 11, 2018
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Lakes Country Service Cooperative
1001 East Mount Faith
Fergus Falls, Minnesota

There is no charge for this workshop

8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. Registration
Coffee, tea, and rolls

9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Introductions, Conversation, and Discussion Forum
Lynette Schwagerl, Cambell-Tintah Schools

10 a.m. – 11 a.m. "Picture Books 101: How to 'Read' a Picture Book"
Carol Sibley, Professor Emerita, Minnesota State University Moorhead
An introduction to evaluating picture books, including text, art, and anatomy (anatomy of a book includes the book jacket, cover, title page, endpapers, back matter, or anything that is not in the body of the actual book).

11 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. *Working Land* By Jon Solinger and Lake Region Arts Council
Artist talk by Jon Solinger and the writers of *Working Land*, along with grant opportunities from
Lake Region Arts Council
Working Land is a wonderful depiction of the beautiful spirit of the people and six family farms
in rural Otter Tail County shown in photographs taken near Jon Solinger's home, along with
commentary by Jon and several other contributors.
See: http://www.jonsolinger.com/galleries/working-land-book/

Members from the Lake Region Arts Council (LRAC) will present the excellent grant
opportunities available from LRAC.

12:15 p.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch
Super Taco Bar. $5 Suggested Donation

1 p.m. – 2 p.m. Technology in the Classroom
Laurie Conzemius
Laurie Conzemius is a long-term board member of ISTE, the International Society for
Technology in Education, and media specialist in schools in Minnesota. Laurie is a technology
expert and will show you electronic tools you never knew existed.

2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Creating a Culture of Reading Panel
Wrap-up
Conversation and sharing of ideas led by Glenn Heinecke (Roseau Schools) and Lynette
Schwagerl (Campbell-Tintah School)

Workshop participants will go home with the following resources:

- Free books, including a copy of *Cover to Cover: Evaluating and Reviewing Children's Books* by K.T. Horning, *Goodnight Server Room* by Tyler Smith, titles from the collection of Dr. Jill Frederick.
- Five Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
- Arts Council contact information from our region along with grant ideas
- Directory of library workers in our region
- Door Prizes (including copies of the Caldecott and Newbery award winning books and copies of Working Land).

The second "Better Together" Area Workshop is sponsored by Campbell-Tintah Public Schools, The John Wallace Ingersoll Foundation Fund, Lakes Country Service Cooperative, Lake Region Arts Council, Laurie Conzemius LLC, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Northern Lights Library Network, and Roseau Public Schools.

Funding for the workshop is made available through NLLN's John Wallace Ingersoll Foundation Fund.

NLLN increases access to books in the region.
Jeanne Ingersoll, media specialist emerita from Moorhead Public Schools gave NLLN sixty children's books to share with schools in the region. The books will be used to give away at the "Better Together" workshop in June.

eAudio book access for citizens in the Kitchigami Regional Library System (KRLS).
As eAudio technology has increased, Kitchimigami Regional Library System has seen a dramatic increase in the use of eAudio books by young adults, adults, and seniors, yet, there is frustration among constituents because there are limited eAudio materials available in the KRLS region. The demand for eAudio books is outstripping Kitchi's ability to provide them. The youth audience in particular has expanded for these items while the older adult audience is growing at a faster rate than anticipated. While students throughout the Kitchigami region have ready access to eBooks, access to eAudio books is limited. KRLS would like to encourage teachers and students to register for KRLS borrower cards and use the eAudio services provided to them through their public library. Rather than schools spending additional funding to purchase their own eAudio book collections and duplicating efforts across the region, KRLS can be the eAudio book access point for the students. Since adults and seniors also have limited access to affordable eAudio books, KRLS can significantly improve their access by the purchase of simultaneous multi-user eAudio titles. With funding from NLLN, KRLS can increase significantly its holdings of juvenile and YA eAudio titles and explore multiple simultaneous user licenses for some titles meant for an older audience.

Ebooks Minnesota and Electronic Library of Minnesota (ELM) in Area Schools
NLLN worked with area schools, Region I, and Minitex throughout Fiscal Year 2018 to get Ebooks Minnesota and the Electronic Library of Minnesota into school libraries in the region. Executive Director Kathy Enger met with Lynette Schwagerl and Pamela Dohman in Breckenridge on October 9 to upload the books to the Breckenridge Destiny catalog and with Kathy Kennsinger at Battle Lake Public Schools to upload the books to their catalog. A total of approximately 4,200 books are available. Sheri Levasseur, media specialists from Pequot Lakes Public Schools tested the children's collection after uploading the .MRC files to her Destiny catalog and learned that children could also access titles in the middle school collection. As a result, Minitex created a standalone version at: mnschool.biblioboard.com. Uploading .MRC records to school library catalogs is no longer suggested. This is the procedure Kathy developed with Minitex for adding Ebooks Minnesota eBooks to online catalogs is here:

Procedure for Adding Electronic Books from Ebooks MN to Online Catalogs

1. First, link to:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B4KSASCjyr2LT2RBa2VBQzB6WVE

https://z.umn.edu/ebooksmnforschools

2. Download the .MRC or .XML files to your computer.

Click on the format (.MRC or .XML) you wish to download and it will open into four module content files: Children's; Middle Grades; Classics, and Adult. .MRC is the MARC record.

3. Click on the individual module file and you should see an option to download. Each file has multiple records.

Again, MARC records are in separate files that align to the four Ebooks Minnesota Modules: Children's, Middle Grades, Classics, and Adult. The Classics are free of copyright restrictions, many cleaned-up public domain records from Project Gutenberg. More modules will be added.

Once the files are downloaded to your computer, upload them to Destiny or your online catalog, as you do with any purchased MARC records.

Follett Recommendations for Uploading to Destiny

These are general guidelines. Contact Follett School Solutions Support if you have questions regarding this section: Follett School Solutions, 1-800-323-3397: Press 3 for Technical Support; press 2 for Destiny Support; press 1 for Library Manager Support. Technical support is available 6 a.m. – 6 p.m., Monday – Friday.

4. Login as Administrator to the site catalog where you want the titles to upload.

5. Destiny – Catalog – Resource List – Add List: Add a resource list for each group of Ebook titles and make the list public. This was recommended by Follett, as it will keep these titles organized and will help with exporting, if needed. The list will move to 'public' after the imports are complete.

6. Back Office – Library Policies – Circulation Type: Add an Ebook Circulation type, if it doesn't already exist. There is no limit on circulation. Do not place barcodes or specify call numbers on these titles.

7. Catalog – Import Titles – Add/Update: Use the defaults for "Title Matching" and "Copy Matching".

- "Strict": Replace the existing title if the incoming title is better; and "Skip" the incoming copy if its barcode matches an existing copy's barcode.

- "Assign Copy Information" Update: -- Change circulation type to Ebooks. Add Minitex as funding source.

- "Import File": Check the box next to the resource list you created for these books.

- Select the file you choose to import, browse and add the file downloaded to your computer.

    Before importing the file to your catalog, make sure to preview the file:

When the job is complete for the import title preview, click view and look at the job summary to ensure everything is correct before clicking on the import button in the job summary.
Is it the right file, the right list, in the right place?

Upload the file.

- View the resource list, it should now be public,

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Contact Follett School Solutions Support for assistance:
Follett School Solutions, 1-800-323-3397: Press 3 for Technical Support; press 2 for Destiny Support; press 1 for Library Manager Support.
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