

Learning Commons in the 21st Century

On **November 18th**, Allison Zmuda will work with district instructional leadership and the accompanying lead-LMS for the district to begin the process of visioning *your* Learning Commons of the future (LC21).

This will be followed up by a visit from David Loertscher on **December 1st**. David is the author of *The New Learning Commons: Where Learners Win*. He will tell us about the cutting edge in libraries, media centers, and learning commons.

In **January**, we will embark on a *virtual* out-of-state field trip to see a “state of the art” learning commons in action. We will get to “see” the learning commons and chat with the director. Date and time TBA.

Allison Zmuda will return to OCM BOCES on **February 17th** when she will complete the visioning process and help you start to formulate a plan to achieve your vision.

Districts are invited to send a partnership to the LC21 process: the district instructional leaders and the lead-librarian from the district. Participation in the LC21 project is paid for by a member-item grant from NY Senator David Valesky.

Contact Judi Dzikowski, OCM BOCES School Library System Coordinator, with your questions and to make your reservation to the process. Sessions will be held in the Rodax 8 Large Conference Room.

What we want to do with our libraries is make students comfortable with this strange, hybrid print and digital world of ours by incorporating some of the traditional messages of past libraries - the ones Barnes and Nobles has used to such great effect in their bookstores - with the technology our students need, We want to do it in a way that says to students: this is a place you want to be. This is yours. You have citizenship in the realm of knowledge.

Fundamentally, learning isn't about use of tools, it's a social experience. We should make it easier for our students to conceptualize research as a social act, not simply manipulating inert bits of information and documenting where those bits came from.

Barbara Fister

