School Library System

In response to member inquiries on the use of library report card grades within the OCM region, implementation of the NYS Common Core Learning Standards, and the APPR the School Library System created and distributed the School Library Report Card Survey to the 94 SLS member librarians in March, 2012.

48 school librarians, primarily elementary/intermediate/middle, representing 17 school districts and three nonpublic schools completed the survey.

The majority of the 75% of the respondents work in school of various configurations that serve grades K-8. The average k-8 building size is 449 students. The average K-6 grade size is 81 students, and 7-8 grade size is 153 students. 95% of the school librarians are employed full time.

Highlights:

**Question 7 – How many hours per week do you have for instructional planning with teachers?**
The majority - 68% - had 0-2 hours per week to devote to planning with teachers.

**Question 9 – Indicate your schedule**
83% of the school librarians are full time in one building.
81% of the schools have part time support staff working in the library on an average of 28.9 hours per week.

**Question 12 – Type of school library schedule:**
The school libraries are split fairly evenly between a fixed and flexible schedule.

**Question 13 – When fixed schedule students come to the library teachers...**
The survey showed that very few of the teachers stay and work with the school librarians on a regular basis – 92% of the teachers leave the students.

**Question 14 – Do any students receive any type of grade on their report card for library?**
The overwhelming majority of K-8 students do not receive any type of library grade – 75% of the total. 0% of the 9-12 students receive grades.
The majority of students who receive grades get them twice per year.
81% of the grades use a number scheme.
All of the participants based their grades on the Information Literacy Standards.