School Library System Membership

New YorkState Library

Forty-one School Library Systems across New York State promote student achievement and provide services to 3 million public and nonpublic students.

All public school districts and nonpublic schools are eligible for membership in a School Library System. School Library Systems are state-aided consortia which provide vital resources which may be beyond the fiscal ability of their members. In addition to fostering "best practices" in teaching and librarianship, School Library Systems offer their members a variety of services including: resource sharing; electronic catalogs and databases; interlibrary loan; professional development; and curriculum support. http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/slssap>

Member Responsibilities: Commissioner's Regulation §90.18

- each public school district designates a certified school library media specialist as the communications coordinator to the School Library System
- each nonpublic school member shall designate a person to perform communications coordinator duties
- each member will allocate time for the communications coordinator to perform his/her duties
- provide communications coordinators with an outside telephone line, telefacsimile, computer with Internet access and e-mail, and access to photo duplication facilities
- participate in the interlibrary loan of materials
- complete and submit to the system a Member Plan, a self-assessment tool which includes staffing, resources, reporting and communication
- maintain a minimum library collection that is cataloged and accessible in each school library media center:
 - o under 200 pupils, 1,000 volumes
 - o 200-500 pupils, 3,000 volumes
 - o 501-1,000 pupils, 5,000 volumes
 - o over 1,000 pupils, 8,000 volumes
- maintain and provide bibliographic records for the system's shared resources catalog

School Library Systems provide:

- direct access and borrowing privileges to print and electronic collections of all member schools
- timely delivery of books and other library materials among members
- a Cooperative Collection Development (CCD) plan for developing specialized resource collections
- services to meet the needs of special clients http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/ccda
- continuing education and professional development activities
- access to workshops offered by other regional library and professional organizations at little or no cost
- connecting school library media programs, students, teachers and administrators to national and New York State pre-K to 12 Curriculum and Learning Standards

