

## What School Library Programs Should Provide for Your Children and Teens

### ACCESS

- Availability of a full-time certified/licensed school librarian
- An attractive, pleasant, and friendly library that your child enjoys visiting
- Ability to visit the school library frequently with a class, individually, and in small groups as needed throughout the school day
- Time for your child to browse and independently explore topics of interest for leisure reading
- Internet-connected computers and other electronic devices needed to use digital, audio, and video resources
- Flexible library circulation policies that meet the needs of your child
- Availability to borrow electronic devices (such as laptops, audio players, etc.) that might be needed to use library resources during non-school hours
- A library website that offers access 24–7 to an online catalog, selected electronic resources, databases, and curriculum-related websites

### INSTRUCTION

- A certified school librarian who works with teachers and the school's curriculum to teach your child to:
  - find needed information,
  - select and evaluate appropriate information,
  - paraphrase information and give credit to authors,
  - present and share what is learned, and
  - self-assess his/her work.
- A certified school librarian who teaches students a research process that includes posing questions, finding answers, and developing critical thinking and communication skills
- A certified school librarian who teaches students strategies regarding Internet safety and safe uses of social media websites and tools (i.e., blogs, wikis, Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- A certified school librarian who teaches the legal and ethical uses of information, including copying and downloading video, audio, and photos from the Internet
- Assistance and guidance in completing homework assignments
- Promotional activities to encourage and increase reading
- Exposure to new and interesting authors, genres, and other resources
- Assistance in guiding your child's reading by providing reading lists or recommended titles

### RESOURCES

- A wide variety of up-to-date books, digital resources, and other materials that support classroom learning, as well as your child's personal interests
- Appropriate resources and technology to meet any special learning needs of your child
- Assistance in using Internet-connected computers and other electronic devices needed to use digital, audio, and video resources
- Opportunities for your child or teen to recommend library resources or to borrow them from other libraries