Pennsylvania School Librarians Association

PA Senate
“One Certified Librarian Per Public School Building” Bill

Please contact your state Senator to sign the co-sponsorship memoranda “One Certified Librarian Per Public School Building” being circulated by Sen. John Blake.

Read the co-sponsorship memo at https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/CSM/showMemoPublic.cfm?chamber=S&SPick=20190&cosponId=28504.

Talking Points:

• All students deserve access to quality resources and instruction that a school library program with a certified librarian provides, not just those who live in a wealthy zipcode.

• Pennsylvania ranks number six in the states that have lost the most school librarians since 2010.

• School librarians teach students to evaluate information that they read, see or view, learning how to distinguish reliable and trustworthy information from misinformation and fake news.

• School librarians don't just read stories and check out books, they are teachers who teach skills mandated in Pennsylvania Academic Core Standards, contributing to higher graduation rates.

• Prison libraries are required to have certified librarians in Pennsylvania, but not our public schools.

• School librarians and library programs can close the achievement gap among struggling learners. According to a 2012 study of Pennsylvania reading and writing test scores, we know that students who are poor, black, and Hispanic benefit proportionally more than students generally when they have a full-time certified librarian than those who don't.

For more information:


Prepared by the PSLA Local and State Advocacy Committee.
Co-chairs, Deb Kachel dlachel69@comcast.net and Cathi Fuhrman cfuhrman@psla.org