



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:

Kachel, D. (2017, February 10). Who should teach our kids the difference between real and fake news? Our librarians. *Pennlive.com*. Retrieved from [http://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2017/02/who\\_should\\_teach\\_our\\_kids\\_the.html](http://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2017/02/who_should_teach_our_kids_the.html)

Lance, K. C., & Kachel, D. E. (2018). Why school librarians matter: What years of research tell us. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 99 (7), 15-20. Retrieved from <http://www.kappanonline.org/lance-kachel-school-librarians-matter-years-research/>

Prepared by the PSLA Local and State Advocacy Committee.  
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