



Summary of PSLA Board Meeting on October 29, 2016

President's Report

- The House Education Committee Hearing went well. Allison Burrell will write a follow-up letter to the committee on behalf of the PSLA Board to clarify a few misconceptions. A video of the hearing may be found here: <https://youtu.be/JmyTfVaoOoc> Allison's testimony was reworked into an op-ed piece and the article was published in *The Patriot News* on October 25, 2016.
- This quarter included the final working group and stakeholder sessions for the Pennsylvania ESSA work. Allison Burrell and Allison Mackley attended both sessions. Full recommendations may be found here: <http://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/About%20PDE/ESSA/October%2018,%202016/AIR%20Report%20PA%20ESSA%2010%2014%2016.pdf> .
- Allison Burrell continues to write an article for each issue of the PA PTA newsletter.
- At PaLA, Allison Burrell presented the AASL Commendation to PA Forward. She also presented a report of PSLA's activity since the last PaLA meeting at the Governor's Advisory Council's Open Forum. It was well-received and GAC members made some positive comments about the House Education Committee hearing, whether they attended or watched the YouTube video.
- On October 25, our AASL Region 2 Director, Laura Hicks, presented a workshop about ESSA to 16 PSLA members at the Toftrees Resort in State College, PA. This was a very valuable workshop and provided an excellent opportunity for library advocates to both learn new information about this important topic and to share ideas with each other. Another presentation of this workshop will be provided as the preconference session at our 2017 PSLA Conference. AASL's ESSA General Information: <http://essa.aasl.org/>; AASL's PA-specific training materials: <http://essa.aasl.org/forums/topic/pennsylvania-102516/#post-354>
- Schoology will be rolled out to the general membership as benefit of membership.
- Allison Burrell and Jennifer Bates will attend the PAESSP (PA Principals Association) banquet on the evening of October 30 at the Penn Stater Hotel.
- In an attempt to help our members learn more about what is actually involved in being a leader in PSLA, PSLA Board members and committee chairs will offer a panel discussion at the conference to share their leadership involvement, as well as entertain questions from the audience about their roles and experiences.

Report from Quantum Communications (Kevin Harley)

- Allison Burrell and Kevin Harley are in regular communication (bi-weekly meetings).
- Share unique stories with Allison Burrell and Kevin Harley and they will work to have those stories picked up by local newspapers.

- Kevin Harley proposed a legislative initiative to add a section to the public school code that requires each public school to employ at least one professional certified librarian.

Old Business

- Natalie Hawley will be applying for Pennsylvania tax exempt status in the near future once all reports and forms are compiled.
- Some school districts have yet to respond to the 2016-17 Staffing Survey.
Number of School Districts Responded to Date: 449
Number of School Districts Need Survey Data to Date: 51

New Business

- PSLA Leadership—Terminology: Summer meetings will take place every year because of the change in the leadership structure. The name of the summer meetings (previously known as PSLA Leadership) will now be called PSLA Summit.
- A donation feature will be added to the renewal page on Reg Online that will allow members to donate to the fund for “Me? A School Librarian?”
- AASL Concerns/ Commendations: It was suggested that PSLA bring up the possibility of a position statement from AASL regarding transgender patrons.
- Potential “Legislative Liaison” Role: The Board is investigating the role of a legislative liaison. Deb Kachel offered to attend meetings in Harrisburg on behalf of PSLA.
- Representative Stan Saylor will receive a Special Recognition at the 2017 PSLA Annual Conference due to his involvement with the House Education Hearing.
- Legislative Initiative: The Board moved to go forward with a legislative initiative to advocate for the requirement of professional school librarians in the public school code. This initiative was presented by Quantum Communications.
- The contract for the 2018 PSLA Annual Conference Keynote Speaker was approved.
- A Conflict of Interest Policy was approved for PSLA.
- Amendment of PSLA Bylaws—Secretary & Treasurer term limits were approved for ballot vote: “Secretary and Treasurer shall serve for two-year terms. Incumbents may succeed themselves twice.”
- Approved Policy Amendment: Financial Policies, Reimbursement to Delegates; Section I. Authorization: Add “President-Elect.” Section III. Coverage (State); Delete “BOARD MEETINGS.” Add Section: VIII. Board Meeting Reimbursement Policy: Up to a limit of \$200 per member per fiscal year, PSLA officers and board members will receive reimbursement (at the IRS Charitable Rate) of their actual transportation expenses to and from the meetings of the Board. Members should pay all travel related expenses and submit approved forms to the PSLA Treasurer for reimbursement no later than June 1 or at least 30 days before the end of the PSLA fiscal year. This will go into effect July 1, 2017.
- Approved Policy Amendments: Financial Policies have been updated to reflect the new leadership structure: Vice President, President-Elect and President.
- The policy of the PSLA Leadership Project will be archived.
- Reimbursement of travel expenses to Mary Kay Biagini to complete remaining EES trainings after the grant expires was approved.