

**MINUTES OF
YONKERS CITY SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM COUNCIL MEETING
November 16, 2022**

The meeting was held on Zoom and was called to order by Jim Riley, Council President.

Council Members Present: James Riley (President), Peter Sieh, Nicole Taylor-Wernham, Carol Westphal, Jesse Montero, Z.Baird, and Tracey Wong, *ex officio*.

Excused: Karen Loia and Don DeMatteo.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the October 13, 2022 meeting were approved.

Reports:

Membership: (Carol Westphal)

- The YCSLS Council List for 2022-2023 was updated and distributed to all members.

Professional Development:

- Library Services:
 - November 8, 2022 – LMS attended a presentation by Colin Seale titled - Beyond Inclusiveness: Implementing Culturally Responsive Critical Thinking Pedagogy as an Accelerator for Real Learning Outcomes. In the afternoon the LMS reported to the Library at Gorton HS, where they worked with Makey Makey and had a Clevertouch demo.
 - November 8, 2022 – Carol Westphal attended a full-day Montessori Summit at YMA.
 - November 15, 2022 – Jim Riley, Peter Sieh, Ingrid Sutherland and Tracey Wong attended a SMART workshop at Gorton HS. The focus was on drones and robots. Each LMS will partner with a teacher at their school to do a project.
- District Secondary Department Meeting:
 - October 20, 2022 – Standards for Mathematical Practice: Developing Mathematically Proficient Students – Frank Hernandez and Michael McDonald.

Yonkers Public Library Report: (Jesse Montero and Z Baird)

- The YPL relaunched the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program.
- The Grinton I. Will Library turns 60 years old today.
- Homework Helper is available at all YPL branches.
- The YPL is celebrating all December holidays with a Winter Wonderland. There will be singing, book readings and hot chocolate at all branches.
- Patrons can register for the Winter Reading Warmup Challenge at any branch. The program takes place from January 1 – March 15, 2023.
- Do we need to make any revisions to YPS Summer Reading List? The theme is All Together Now, which includes kindness, friendship, and unity. Meetings and updates should begin as early as January 2023.
- Many classes have begun to revisit the Riverfront Library.
- The Yonkers M/H School IB Research Day will take place on December 7, 2022 at the Riverfront Library. Nicole Taylor-Wernham, LMS at Yonkers M/H School will attend.

Library Services Report: (Tracey Wong)

- Waiting for furniture deliveries for School 9, Martin Luther King Academy, Barack Obama for Social Justice, Riverside HS and Yonkers Montessori Academy library commons.

- Tracey Wong has received the Book Orders from all LMS and they are being prepared to go to Board Resolution.
- Students are reading Culturally Responsive eBooks on SORA. eBooks on SORA are aligned with Benchmark and Achieve 3000.
- Students at Martin Luther King Jr. Academy, Riverside HS, Roosevelt HS and Saunders HS participated in a Service Learning Project with Joan Lloyd. All students made a pair of earrings to keep and one to donate to a woman in a shelter.

Website: (Don Dematteo)

- No updates.

Old Business:

- Nicole Taylor-Wernham sent 50 Yonkers Public Library Card applications and Carol Westphal sent 132 to Emily Power at the Riverfront Library. Library cards were returned to the LMS and were distributed to students immediately.

New Business:

- All students and faculty accounts have been updated in SORA. Students have different access levels based on their grade level (Juvenile or Young Adult).
- Tracey Wong will contact OverDrive about making all High School LMS admins, so they can run their own SORA Reports.

Announcements:

- YMA celebrated our Summer Reading Challenge on November 30, 2022. Ninety-five students in grades 1-8 received certificates in front of their families and classmates. After the ceremony students reported to the library and enjoyed a snack and beverage and received a pencil and a bookmark all courtesy of our PTSA. They also received a reading sticker from Ms. Governali and the Pre-Teaching Magnet Students. Finally, each student was able to select a new book for their home library provided by assistance from Carol Westphal and Tracey Wong.
- At YMHS Nicole Taylor-Wernham has started a Poetry Club, titled Can You Hear Me Now? She provided all 12 girls with their own journal. They are working on a Hand off Poem – each girl will write a line. For National Poetry Month the girls will participate in Poem in a Pocket Day on April 29, 2023. They would like to host a Poetry Slam and are also discussing fundraising to attend a Poetry Slam.

- **Next Meeting:** TBA
- **Motion to Adjourn:** Approved
- **Minutes:** Respectfully submitted, Carol Westphal