

**MINUTES OF  
YONKERS CITY SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM COUNCIL MEETING  
September 29, 2021**

The meeting was held at Saunders Trades and Technical High School and was called to order by Jim Riley, Council President.

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

**Excused:** Don Solimene, Steven Mazzola, Angelo Petrino, and Jesse Montero.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting were approved with corrections.

**Reports:**

**Membership:** (Carol Westphal)

- Update YCSLS Council List for 2021-2022 to reflect SLMS assigned schools.
- Ghada Salim, Non-Public Representative has resigned from the YCSLS Council. She now works in NYC and we wish her the best and thank her for her service.
- Tracey Wong will reach out to the Non-Public Schools for a new candidate to fill this position.

**Professional Development:**

- Library Services:
  - September 22, 2021 – Introduction to Schoolwires – Karen Loia
- SLMS have attended Schoology, Canvas, Common Lit, and IXL Webinars throughout the month of September.
- Jim Riley attended PD through the Middle School Summer Enrichment Program. Topics covered were Social Emotional Learning, Nearpod, and Virtual Field Trips.

**Professional Development (Upcoming):**

- Library Services:
  - October 13, 2021 – Screencastify – Tim Montalvo

**Yonkers Public Library Report:** (Z Baird)

- September is National Sign-up for a Library Card. SLMS have been proactive in this endeavor. Send all YPL card applications to Tracey Wong.
- Both the Will and Riverfront Branch are open for browsing, study rooms and computer usage. The Crestwood Branch will open soon.
- All YPL are participating in Check out an Adventure! Families can call to reserve a bag of Explorer Tools along with ideas for exploring nature.
- All YPL are participating in Hispanic Heritage Month. Activities include Storytellers, Musicians and Chefs.
- America Reads will begin for ages 5-12 on October 6, 2021 at the Riverfront Library. This event will take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-6:00pm.
- Homework Help will start for grades 1-6 on Oct. 21, 2021 at the Will and Crestwood Branches. This event will take place Monday – Thursday from 3:30-5:00pm, when YPS are in session.

- All YPL are participating in Story Time. The libraries are cutting back on Zoom and are doing some outside programming.
- Tech Central will be opening soon for in-person 3D printing. Peter Sieh will reach out to Christine Bittetti to discuss class visitation program days and hours.
- Z Baird (YPL) will visit Lincoln HS and will team with Karen Loia (SLMS). They will share library resources and programs at the YPL, as well as the school library. Date TBA.
- ALL YPL will celebrate Holiday Traditions around the World.

**Library Services Report:** (Tracey Wong)

- Library Services will offer all SLMS Professional Development once a month.
- All High Schools in the district have a Fabrication Lab in the Library Media Center.
  - Four HS received a Glowforge Plus Printer last year. The other four HS will receive one this year.
  - PEARLS, and School 13 received a Makerbot 3D Printer last year, along with most of the HS. Riverside HS will receive a Makerbot this year.
  - Would like to see students engaged in using this technology to create projects.
  - Would like us to give HS students the opportunity to broadcast the daily morning announcements in TEAMS for the entire student body.
- The district will purchase SORA. Students and staff will access SORA on the individual school websites and have a web sign-on.

**Website:** (Don DeMatteo)

- All library-reconfiguring rights have been changed to the school the SLMS is assigned to this school year.
- The six schools that have NO SLMS have their webpage assigned to SLMS Dr. Dan Sabol, Riverside HS.
- SLMS can now login and fix their webpage. Tracey will post a message in the Library TEAM.
- This year students and staff will go back to resetting their password every 90 days.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

- SLMS are facilitating at Teach and Learn workshops for staff and parents.

**Announcements:**

- The district is applying for more federal aid. This can create more SLMS jobs.
- Will increase funding for Social Emotional Wellness materials.

**Next Meeting:** November 4, 2021 - Yonkers Montessori Academy Library

**Motion to Adjourn:** Approved

**Minutes:** Respectfully submitted, Carol Westphal