

## **SCHOOL LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS**

### **Scope**

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (the Board) believes that our students today live in a challenging, exciting world of information, within a society that is increasingly dependent on knowledge. A dynamic, student-centered, library media program, available at the point of need, at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the beginning of the student school day, throughout the student school day and at least thirty (30) minutes after the end of the student school day, is necessary to foster information literacy and lifelong learning. The intent of this policy and accompanying regulations is to cover both the school library media program and the central Learning Resource Services/Instructional Technology department.

The school library technology program provides opportunities for cultivating authentic, information-based learning that will help meet the educational needs of each student. The purpose of the school library technology program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information enabling them to be literate life-long learners. To meet the needs of today's personalized learner, Colorado Springs School District 11 (the District) libraries support the development of all students' skills of critical thinking, collaboration, invention, self-direction, and information literacy. This is accomplished with sufficient funding and resources, by the school library staff, in collaboration with the school community. Therefore, the Board directs the Superintendent or designee to ensure that every District school has such a library media program. The Superintendent or designee will develop regulations (See Regulation IJNC-R) to accompany this policy to give guidance to each school in developing their library technology program.

Learning Resource Services/Instructional Technology supports school library media programs with program direction, consultation, and resource support. It also provides staff with a collection of materials suitable for the many instructional content areas and levels in the District. Services of the department shall include provision for a professional library for current pedagogy and professional development reading and research. Therefore, the Board directs the Superintendent or designee to ensure that the District maintains a professional library available for the use of all District personnel. Employees are urged to avail themselves of this service.

### **Definitions**

The following words and terms, when used in the policy and accompanying regulations will have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

**Personalized Learner Library** - To meet the needs of today's personalized learner, District libraries are evolving to support learning needs with more electronic resources and technologies. Our libraries will become open learning spaces with printed books, access to a growing collection of electronic or e-books, and include spaces for power stations, presentation stations, and small and large group work areas. Furniture may be on wheels in order to facilitate flexible learning spaces. Students are encouraged to bring their own device in order to access numerous resources and develop skills of critical thinking, collaboration, invention, self-direction, and information literacy.

Standards-based Curriculum integration and Instructional Partnership – An educational philosophy whereby, the library media program fully integrates into the education program, strengthening the teaching/learning process so that students can develop the vital skills necessary to locate, analyze, evaluate, interpret, and communicate information and ideas. It is an environment where teachers and library technology educators work collaboratively to improve student learning.

Facilities – Physical space that houses the library collection, resources, and materials, as well as space for students, staff, and instruction, plus storage and secure areas; also includes appropriate space for computers and other devices that permit off-site use of electronic resources.

Flexibly-scheduled program – The philosophy of standards-based curriculum integration and instructional partnership requires that students and teachers be able to come to the library throughout the day to use information sources, to meet and work with other students and teachers, and to allow the teacher and library technology educator to deliver collaboratively developed learning activities designed to meet all learner needs. Classes are not scheduled in the library media center to provide teacher release or preparation time.

Information Literacy – The ability of students to identify information needs, seek out resources to meet those needs, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize the information, and apply the knowledge gained to their work.

Interlibrary loan – A process that permits library materials and resources to be borrowed or shared between two libraries that are not under the same governing or funding authority.

Point of Need – That serendipitous point at which learning occurs or when information is needed to support that learning.

Real-time – Access to online electronic resources for library users that is available during actual connection time.

Resource – Items acquired for the library collection that instruct or support learning and the curriculum; includes print, electronic, and non-print materials, such as audio-visual materials, games, models, posters, pictures, and kits.

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CROSS REFS.: IJL, Library Media Selection, Adoption, Acquisition and Reconsideration  
IJNC-R, Regulation to Policy IJNC, School Library Technology Programs