



Newsletter | December 2015 – January 2016 | Issue #7

## Montana Library/Media Program (ARM 10.55.1801)

The school library media program is essential in creating independent learners who are efficient consumers and producers of information. By using a variety of information formats, focusing on the learning process and collaborating with other disciplines, school libraries provide the entire school community with opportunities to acquire the information skills they need to interact responsibly in a global society. An ongoing desire to know, a love for reading and a respect for information will transform a student into a lifelong independent learner. ***The role of libraries in a democratic society is to embrace the social responsibility of learning.***

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## For the Good of the Order

On December 10, 2015 President Obama signed the new Every Student Succeeds Act, reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. While it is very early to understand the challenges of implementation this new law will face, the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) provided an “Overview of Library Provisions” on November 30. Please visit the [AASL Advocacy site](#) for more up-to-date information.

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### The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015

*Conference Agreement to Reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*

#### OVERVIEW OF LIBRARY PROVISIONS

The Every Student Succeeds Act would update the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA), that was last reauthorized in 2001 under the No Child Left Behind Act. The conference agreement includes the following provisions related to libraries:

**Title I – Improving Basic Programs Operated by State and Local Educational Agencies** – Under Title I of ESEA, local educational agencies (LEAs) must develop plans to implement federal education activities.

- The Conference Agreement includes new provisions that authorize local plans to include a description of how the LEA will assist schools in developing effective school library programs to provide students an opportunity to develop digital literacy skills and improve academic achievement.

**Title II, Part A – Supporting Effective Instruction** – Under current law, Title II, Part A provides funds for States and school districts to increase academic achievement by improving teacher and principal quality (primarily through professional development).

- The Conference Agreement includes new provisions that authorize States to use funds to support the instructional services provided by effective school library programs.
- The Conference Agreement includes new provisions that authorize LEAs to use funds to support the instructional services provided by effective school library programs.

**Title II, Part B, Subpart 2 – Literacy Education for All, Results for the Nation (LEARN)** – Includes a new literacy program to help improve student academic achievement in reading and writing by providing federal support to States to develop, revise, or update comprehensive literacy instruction plans.

- The Conference Agreement requires local grants that focus on children in kindergarten through grade 5 to provide high-quality professional development opportunities for teachers, literacy coaches, literacy specialists, English as a second language specialists (as appropriate), principals, other school leaders, specialized instructional support personnel, school librarians, paraprofessionals, and other program staff.
- The Conference Agreement requires local grants that focus on children in grades 6 through 12 to provide training for principals, specialized instruction support personnel, school librarians, and other school district personnel to support, develop, administer, and evaluate high-quality comprehensive literacy instruction initiatives.
- The Conference Agreement authorizes all local grants (that serve children in kindergarten through grade 5 or children in grades 6 through 12) to provide time for teachers (and other literacy staff, as appropriate, such as school librarians or specialized instructional support personnel) to meet to plan comprehensive literacy instruction.

**Title II, Part B, Subpart 2, Section 2226 – Innovative Approaches to Literacy** – Includes a new authorization of the Innovative Approaches to Literacy program (previously funded through appropriations legislation) that provides dedicated funding to promote literacy programs in low income communities.

- The Conference Agreement authorizes funds to be used for developing and enhancing effective school library programs, which may include providing professional development for school librarians, books, and up-to-date materials to high need schools.

**Title II, Part B, Subpart 2, Section 2232 – Presidential and Congressional Academies for American History and Civics** – Includes a new American History and Civics Education program to improve the quality of American history education and teaching.

- The Conference Agreement defines an eligible entity as an institution of higher education or nonprofit educational organization, museum, library, or research center with demonstrated expertise in historical methodology or the teaching of American history and civics.

**Title IV, Part A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants** – Authorizes a new Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant program to help States and school districts target federal resources on local priorities.

- The Conference Agreement authorizes States to use funds to assist LEAs with identifying and addressing technology readiness needs, including Internet connectivity and access to school libraries.
- The Conference Agreement authorizes States to use funds to assist LEAs in providing teachers, paraprofessionals, school librarians and media personnel, specialized instructional support personnel, and

administrators with the knowledge and skills to use technology effectively, including effective integration of technology, to improve instruction and student achievement.

**Title IV, Part B – 21st Century Community Learning Centers** – This program supports community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children.

- The Conference Agreement authorizes grants to be used to support expanded library service hours (consistent with current law).

**Title VIII – General Provisions** – Contains definitions that apply to all activities under ESEA.

- The Conference Agreement updates the definition of “specialized instructional support personnel” to include “school librarians.”

I will share additional information about the Every Child Succeeds Act as it becomes available in 2016.

### **Standards Revision Update**

Over the past few months I’ve been working with various standards committees to support their work on revised standards for Health and Physical Education, Arts, and Science.

#### **Health and Physical Education Standards Revision**

The health and physical education standards writing teams have completed a draft of the new Montana Standards for Health and Physical Education. On September 30, a negotiated rulemaking committee met to review this draft, as required through Senate Bill 345. Please see the [OPI calendar](#) for information about the negotiated rulemaking committee meeting and upcoming activities.

#### **Arts Standards Revision**

The arts standards writing teams completed the review and revision of the Montana Arts Standards for five disciplines: dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts. A negotiated rulemaking committee reviewed the draft of these new standards on October 26, as required through Senate Bill 345. Please see the OPI calendar for information about the negotiated rulemaking committee meeting and upcoming activities.

#### **Science Standards Revision**

A team of science educators was convened in early November to begin reviewing and revising the science standards. A draft of the new science standards is expected to be completed by January 2016. Then, the OPI will convene a science standards negotiated rulemaking committee to review the standards and create an economic impact statement. Please see the OPI calendar for information about the negotiated rulemaking committee meeting and upcoming activities.

For 3-minute video overview, please watch [“Your Guide to Montana’s Content Standards Revision Process.”](#)

As we move into 2016, take some time to reflect on the role you can play as an instructional and professional leader in your school, district, and region. Each teacher-librarian has the potential to provide solutions to the challenges that our schools face in delivering on our promise to provide a high-quality public education. Be courageous in thinking about collaborative ways to accomplish the traditional work of a school librarian and embrace the opportunity to strategically impact student learning through partnerships with other teachers, public and academic libraries, community organizations, students, and parents. Together, we can ensure that: *the role of libraries in a democratic society is to embrace the social responsibility of learning.*



## Professional Learning Opportunities

The [OPI Content Standards and Instruction website](#) has a new design focused on bringing you information about Montana's academic standards and professional learning. Visit the [OPI Professional Learning Opportunities Portal](#) for a calendar of workshops and the NEW [Teacher Learning Hub](#) for online courses. All courses on the Teacher Learning Hub are free! All courses include renewal units upon completion. For information on the courses or enrollment, visit the Learning Hub or contact Jessica Bryant ([jbryant3@mt.gov](mailto:jbryant3@mt.gov))

**New to the Learning Hub?** It is a digital platform dedicated to providing free high quality professional learning opportunities for all K-12 educators across Montana. We aim to minimize the time teachers spend away from their classrooms to attend trainings as well as save school districts money on professional learning costs.



## Teacher Learning Hub Courses for Teacher-Librarians

### Montana Teacher-Librarian Digital Blasts and Resources

The content in this course was created from the 2014-2015 series of live webinars. View each of the recorded Montana Teacher Librarian Digital Media Blast sessions and post your comments or share an idea for each recording. A copy of each presentation is available in pdf if you wish to use it.

To earn renewal credits you must complete all activities (reading, video, assignment, etc.) within the course, including the course evaluation at the end. To help you keep track of your progress each activity has a light gray box off to the right side of the screen. This box will contain a check mark once you have completed the requirements of that particular activity. Note: some activities may be optional, such activities will not have a check box.

#### Learning Objectives

- To help teacher-librarians share ideas, best practices, expertise, and support each other.

**Estimated time to complete this course:** 5 hours

**Types of Course:** Self-paced

- The course does not have a start or end date.
- The course can be completed on your own schedule.

**Renewal Units:** 5 renewal units

### Standards-based Grading and Reporting

This course is designed to introduce you to standards-based grading and reporting.

To earn renewal credits you must complete all activities (reading, video, assignment, etc.) within the course, including the course evaluation at the end. To help you keep track of your progress each activity has a light gray box off to the right side of the screen. This box will contain a check mark once you have completed the requirements of that particular activity.

**Estimated time to complete this course:** 2 hours

**Course Type:** Self-paced

- The course does not have a start or end date.
- The course can be completed on your own schedule.

**Renewal Units:** 2 renewal units

## Hidden Treasures

This course is designed to introduce you to several underutilized resources available to Montana teachers.

To earn renewal credits you must complete all activities (reading, video, assignment, etc.) within the course, including the course evaluation at the end. To help you keep track of your progress each activity has a light gray box off to the right side of the screen. This box will contain a check mark once you have completed the requirements of that particular activity.

**Estimated time to complete this course:** 1 hour

**Types of Course:** Self-paced

- The course does not have a start or end date.
- The course can be completed on your own schedule.

**Renewal Units:** 1 renewal unit

## 2016 MLA Annual Conference

Save the Date for “Find Your Inner Superhero: Protect!

Empower! Inspire!” April 6-9, 2016, Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula. Check <http://mtlib.org> after the New Year for registration and program information.



**Montana Library Association**  
*Montana's Libraries from the Mountains to Plains*

## Montana State Library Information

The Montana State Library has launched a re-designed website. Please take a few minutes to navigate the new streamlined site. If you aren't familiar with all of the programs and services the library provides, I recommend starting with a look at the [Network Advisory Council](#) page. School library representatives on this committee are [Joanne Didriksen](#) (Helena High School) and [Dana Carmichael](#) (Whitefish Middle School).



The Network Advisory Council (NAC) represents the interests of all types of Montana libraries and maintains the perspective of statewide geographical balance as it

- explores technology resources
- assists with the official procurement process of those resources
- reviews and evaluates the feasibility, design, and outcomes of statewide library projects
- assists with statewide planning
- advises the State Librarian and the State Library Commission

I also invite you to review the [State Library Commission](#) page. While the State Library and its governing commission are primarily responsible for public libraries, many of the information resources and services of the State Library are available to all library types (including schools) and to all Montana citizens.

The State Library Commission sets forth policies and funding priorities that empower the State Library to meet its mission and statutory obligations and to advocate for the State Library and the Montana library and information communities whenever possible.

The Montana Shared Catalog (MSC) is an example of one of those programs that provide a platform for collaboration and resource sharing for all libraries.

The 2016 Montana Shared Catalog New Library Application is now available for download from the MSC home page at: [http://libraries.msl.mt.gov/Home/statewide\\_projects/montana\\_shared\\_catalog](http://libraries.msl.mt.gov/Home/statewide_projects/montana_shared_catalog) in the “How Do I Join” section.



Why should your library consider joining the MSC? For starters, the MSC currently includes 177 multi-type libraries from around the state serving: public patrons, school and college students and faculty, medical professionals and state agency staff. MSC members include your colleagues and library friends statewide. They work together in areas of library and collection development, resource sharing, best cataloging practices and the delivery of print and digital materials.

The resource sharing model of the MSC does not refer only to library materials. The resources shared by the MSC membership include server hardware, software, technical support, maintenance, bibliographic records, authority maintenance, interaction with peers, OCLC updates, and training opportunities. They also share costs related to ongoing system and consortium operation. The financial strength of sharing resources allows the consortium to carry more weight when negotiating with vendors and to consider group purchases to cut costs. Joining forces, this group is well prepared to meet and greet the technological challenges and changes ahead for all of us.

The 2016 MSC new library **application deadline is 5:00pm Friday, February 12, 2016**. This will be the only application period for 2016.

LSTA funds will be made available to cover most, if not all, vendor startup costs. Applications are accepted from all library types. The number of libraries accepted is dependent upon the number of applications received, library type and size, support staff limitations, and the amount of LSTA funds available to pay vendor startup costs. Contact Amy Marchwick to obtain a cost estimate or to answer any questions you may have about the MSC or the application process.

Amy Marchwick | MSC Systems Technician | 406-548-2539 | [amarchwick@mt.gov](mailto:amarchwick@mt.gov)

## Government Resource Spotlight

from [Susanne Caro](#), UM Mansfield Library

Title: [Chronicling America](#)

Agency: Library of Congress

Subjects: History with a focus on America

Grade Levels: None specified, good for 5<sup>th</sup> and up.

## CHRONICLING AMERICA Historic American Newspapers

[Chronicling America](#) is an amazing collection of American Newspapers from 1836-1922. This searchable database allows users to see full newspaper pages including advertisements and images. Users have options for simple and advanced searches with results showing full pages, with search terms highlighted in red. Once a user opens a newspaper they can easily navigate around the page and enlarge the text. Montana newspapers are included in this database. If you are teaching history, bookmark this page!



Title: [Park Geology in 3D](#) (and non-3D)

Agency: United State Geological Survey

Subjects: Geology, maps, history

Grade Levels: Not specified, but could be used for K-12.

Standard and 3d photo tours of national parks show students wonderful rock formations. There are 67 different tours available from Arches to Zion.

Information accompanying these images include the formation, type of stone, and how the formation was created. More detailed information on the age, geologic province, geographic area, and references are also provided. The parks available focus on the western states. Other resources you can access through this page include historic photo tours of American Indians of the Southwest, 1871-1975 (stereo-scope images), Powell Surveys of the Colorado River Canyons, and a game: Name that Park. This resource is great for teachers looking for images to incorporate into their lessons!

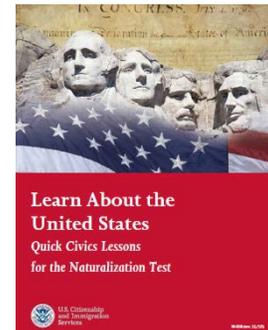
Title: [Study Materials for the Civics Test](#)

Agency: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

Subjects: Civics, U.S. History

Grade Levels: None specified, good for 5<sup>th</sup> and up.

These resources are intended for those who are studying for the civics portion of the citizenship test, but the materials provided are also great for the classroom. Materials include flashcards, history booklets, MP3 files of questions and answers, videos and an online test. Materials are available for download or can be ordered. Many FDLP libraries have these materials available for loan.



The booklet *Learn About the United States: Quick Civics Lessons*, is formatted as questions and answers, is very accessible, and well written. These materials are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and other languages.



Title: [Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government](#)

Agency: Government Publishing Office

Subjects: Civic

Grade Levels: ages 4-8, 9-13, 14+

**Ben's Guide** is a great, recently updated site developed by the Government Publishing Office to provide fun and educational resources for students. Basic

information on the founding and organization of the U.S. Government is provided for three grade levels (4-8, 9-13, 14+).

The two main sections are the Learning Adventures which cover the branches of government, how laws are made, symbols, songs and structures, the election process and historical documents. The Games section has printable word searches and crosswords and the somewhat addictive Branch-o-Mania, where a cartoon Ben Franklin catches falling pictures representing the responsibilities of the different governmental branches. This is a great resources for civic information.

Title: [Primary Source Sets](#)

Agency: Library of Congress (LOC)

Subjects: American History, Art, Culture

Grade Levels: 3-12



Would you like so additional materials for your classes? Do you have student researching American History? The Library of Congress has 35 different subject-specific collections of materials drawing from the library's collections of films, music, reports, images, maps and manuscripts. Each collection comes with guides to the materials and you can search all the LOC materials by state standards, Common Core standards, grade and subject.

## Twitter Highlights from @cbartow

- How Literacy Programs and School Libraries Fare Under ESSA  
[http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2015/12/literacy\\_school\\_libraries\\_ESSA.html](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2015/12/literacy_school_libraries_ESSA.html)  
[#mtedchat](#) [#ncccechat](#) [#tlchat](#)
- Report Examines School Internet Connectivity State by State  
<https://thejournal.com/articles/2015/12/15/report-examines-school-internet-connectivity-state-by-state.aspx>
- Helena students join global computer coding initiative: [bit.ly/1UApOxH](http://bit.ly/1UApOxH) via [@helenaironline](#)  
[#mtedchat](#) [#mtedu](#)
- Primary Source Lesson from Montana Historical Society  
<http://mhs.mt.gov/education/women/HazelHunkins> [#mtedchat](#)

#MTEdchat: 8:00 p.m., every Tuesday. Live Twitter chat for, with, and moderated by Montana educators. Colleagues from across the nation join in, with connections to Idaho, Wyoming, South Dakota, and other neighboring states. Go to <https://sites.google.com/site/mtedchat/> to view the archives, suggest new topics and watch the Tweets roll by.



## Connect With Your Professional Organizations

- Montana Library Association <http://mtlib.org>
- Montana Council for Computers and Technology in Education <http://www.mcceonline.org/>

## Contact Information

Colet Bartow | [cbartow@mt.gov](mailto:cbartow@mt.gov) | 406-444-3583 | Twitter: @cbartow

Montana Teacher-Librarian Google site: <https://sites.google.com/site/montanateacherlibrarian/home>