

LIBRARY MEDIA

Teacher librarians play an essential role in the implementation of all curricula. They are important instructional partners and consultants in supporting and expanding existing curricula. As information specialists, teacher librarians work collaboratively with students, teachers, administrators, and parents to:

- Provide knowledge of availability and suitability of information resources to support the implementation of Montana and MCPS Standards. This is particularly relevant with the Indian Education for All Law.
- Partner in educating students, developing curricula, and integrating resources into teaching and learning.
- Serve as an expert in organizing, synthesizing, and communicating information. Acquisition, organization, and dissemination of resources to support the curricular areas through the library media center are cost-effective methods for the entire school district.
- Teach and integrate literature and information skills into the curriculum. They plan and teach collaboratively based on the needs of the student.

(Adapted from ALA statements, and School Libraries Work!, Scholastic Library Publishing, c2008.)

Information literacy is the ability to recognize when information is needed and then locate, evaluate, and effectively use the information. (Adapted from ACRL)

All Missoula County Public School students require equitable access to a variety of resources, encompassing the breadth of human conversations and creations for academic achievement and personal growth. By learning to access and evaluate information they gain an appreciation and respect for diverse ideas and creative expressions. By using information literacy skills in all aspects of learning, students become empowered and engaged lifelong learners. To thrive in the 21st Century, students must employ a process of inquiry that can be adapted to any information need. By learning strategies to manage and ethically use information, Missoula County Public School students open the door to the world in all its diversity. Library media specialists, in collaboration with other classroom and content area teachers, empower all students to become information literate.