

School Library Position

Adopted May 2017

The League of Women Voters Grand Traverse Area believes that School Libraries are of central importance to our community. Therefore, it supports full service School Library systems that:

- A. Assure that the school library program supports student achievement and is supervised by a certified Library Media Specialist (LMS) responsive to the needs of the school community in strategic planning, collection development, technological resources, and curriculum coordination.
- B. Maintain hours so that the school library media center is open the whole school day including lunch time and is supervised by trained staff.
- C. Disseminate information by:
 - 1. collecting/circulating materials in a variety of formats including print, audio, visual, and electronic;
 - 2. presenting programs and materials which will reinforce and extend the curriculum for students and teaching staff;
 - 3. offering programs and services to answer the needs of students of all abilities and backgrounds;
 - 4. recording and reporting student progress in the use of library information skills;
- D. Provide materials that stimulate a lifelong learning and a love of reading, thus supporting reading achievement. *"All children deserve equitable access to books and reading, to information and to information technology in an environment that is safe and conducive to learning."* (American Association of School Librarians *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner*)
- E. Provide a program in which the Library Media Specialist (LMS) teaches key skills including critical thinking, evaluating information from diverse sources, gathering and using information ethically, and using social media tools responsibly and safely.
- F. Maintain budgets to sufficiently support the Library Media Program.
- G. Offer information training and professional development to school staff.
- H. Collaborate with teachers, principals, and other media specialists to provide instruction, learning strategies, and practice in using essential information gathering skills needed in the 21st century.