

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Instructional Support Services
Instructional Media Services
Library Services

DISTRICTWIDE LIBRARY PLAN

The mission of Library and Information Services is to improve student achievement by providing resources and learning opportunities to enable students and staff to become effective users of ideas and information.

Mission

The Districtwide Library Plan aligns with the District's mission statement:

The teachers, administrators, and staff of the Los Angeles Unified School District believe in the equal worth and dignity of all students and are committed to educate all students to their maximum potential.

The Districtwide Library Plan supports the Superintendent's Goal #1 on Literacy and also focuses on improving students' achievement by aligning with the District's K-12 Literacy Plan (2001) to improve reading achievement and literacy levels of all students. Library and Information Services also strives to implement the Board's Resolution on Libraries adopted in October 1997 and the Inspector General's Report of Audit issued in July 2002.

In addition, the mission of Library and Information Services echoes the mission of school library media programs nationally, as expressed in *Information Power*, the national school library guidelines, "to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information" (ALA & AECT, 1998).

The following goals have been established to help schools achieve this mission:

1. Create and communicate a vision for effective school library programs and services.
2. Work with schools and Local Districts to implement the mission.
3. Provide access to appropriate technology for students and teachers.
4. Evaluate and provide access for students and staff to high quality learning resources.
5. Provide professional development to share instructional strategies and best practices.

Goals and Strategies

1. Create and communicate a vision for effective school library programs and services.
 - Develop District library standards for new and existing school libraries.
 - Collaborate with other offices to develop and implement the Measure K Library and Information Services Strategic Execution Plan.
 - Implement Centralized Library Automation System (CLAS).
 - Collaborate with other offices to develop and implement Districtwide book theft detection systems for library media centers.
 - Align libraries to support the curricular and instructional focus of LAUSD.
 - Partner with Wonder of Reading program and other community groups.
 - Provide updated information for new and existing school libraries.
 - Make accessible a database of evaluated books containing over 65,000 records.
 - Expand resources and accessibility to Digital Library (70 paid online references sites).
 - Leverage the bulk-buying power of LAUSD to buy books at a reduced rate.
 - Prepare and distribute updated information about LAUSD libraries.
 - Empower Coordinating Field Librarians (CFLs) to work with Local Districts, library personnel, and site administrators in appropriate situations and circumstances.
 - Provide updated information to Board Members and Central Office personnel.
2. Work with schools and Local Districts to implement the mission.
 - Coordinating Field Librarians (CFLs) visit schools in their Local Districts and establish a collegial relationship with library and school personnel.
 - CFLs provide staff development.
 - CFLs work with community benefactors to identify funding opportunities and sources of assistance.
 - CFLs assist sites in the purchase of new books and other resources.
 - CFLs provide information regarding collection development.
 - CFLs serve as a resource to schools and Local Districts to enhance their programs.
 - Ensure that new and re-opened school libraries have fully equipped, well-stocked, and functional school libraries.

3. Provide access to appropriate technology for students and teachers.
 - Put a standardized library automation system in each school to provide access to local collections.
 - Implement CLAS (union catalog) and provide ongoing training on the system.
 - Continue accessibility to LAUSD Digital Library databases.
 - Establish Internet accessibility in all libraries.
 - Empower students and teachers with the ability to access, evaluate, store, research, save, write, and print information.

4. Evaluate and provide access for students and staff to high quality learning resources.
 - Evaluate books and other resources as to quality and usability in terms of curriculum, standards, and appropriateness.
 - Increase the number of library books per pupil. (National average is 18 books per student. State average is 13 books per student. LAUSD average is 9 books per student.)
 - Identify, reward, and publicize Model Libraries that have developed exemplary programs, collections, and/or services for their patrons.
 - Use centralized buying power to offer high quality, low cost options.
 - Provide purchasing guidance.
 - Produce basic collections of books for all school libraries.

5. Provide professional development to share instructional strategies and best practices.
 - CFLs provide staff development to LAUSD school-based library personnel.
 - CFLs attend and present at California School Library Association conferences.
 - Assist with updating the *Recommended Literature: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve* lists published by the California Department of Education.
 - Contribute to the implementation of the District's Information Literacy Standards for students in all grades.
 - Share up-to-date research findings on the impact of school library programs on student achievement.