

School Librarians Transform Learning

School librarians ensure their students have the best chance to succeed.

“The internet makes doing research easier—easier to do well and easier to do poorly.”ⁱ

Increasing amounts of information demand students acquire the skills to select, evaluate, and use information appropriately and effectively.ⁱⁱ

“Your school librarian can help you co-plan and co-teach lessons that focus on the evaluation of sources and information, providing your students with the discernible eye they’ll need to survive in college and the workplace.”

— Kimberly Shearer, 2012 Kentucky Teacher of the Year^{ix}

STUDENTS

Equate research with Googling

Use search engines instead of more traditional sources

Lack the ability to judge the quality of online informationⁱⁱⁱ

Today’s Digital Technologies Teachers Report:

- 83% information available online is overwhelming for most students^v
- 60% digital technologies make it harder for students to find and use credible sources of information^{vi}
- 71% digital technologies discourage students from finding and using a wide range of sources^{vii}

TEACHERS

Self-described “tech savvy” teachers are more likely (65%) to use media and technology in the classroom “a lot” than teachers who are “comfortable” (33%) or “uncomfortable” (12%) with it.^{xiv}

School librarians are enabling and empowering teachers’ skills with digital content:

SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

85% answer questions about technology tools

66% participate with teachers in professional learning communities

33% train teachers how to locate and evaluate digital content.^{xv}

NOTES

- ⁱ Purcell, Kristen, et al., 2012. *How Teens Do Research in the Digital World*. Pew Internet and American Life Project. www.pewinternet.org/files/old-media/Files/Reports/2012/PIP_TeacherSurveyReportWithMethodology10112.pdf.
- ⁱⁱ AASL, 2009. *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner*.
- ⁱⁱⁱ Purcell, Kristen, et al., 2013. *How Teachers Are Using Technology at Home and in Their Classrooms*. Pew Internet and American Life Project. www.pewinternet.org/files/old-media/Files/Reports/2013/PIP_TeachersandTechnologywithmethodology_PDF.pdf.
- ^{iv} comScore, Inc., 2014. “comScore Releases June 2014 U.S. Search Engine Rankings.” www.comscore.com/Insights/Market-Rankings/comScore-Releases-June-2014-US-Search-Engine-Rankings.
- ^v Purcell, Kristen, et al., 2013. *How Teachers Are Using Technology at Home and in Their Classrooms*.
- ^{vi} Purcell, Kristen, et al., 2013. *How Teachers Are Using Technology at Home and in Their Classrooms*.
- ^{vii} Purcell, Kristen, et al., 2013. *How Teachers Are Using Technology at Home and in Their Classrooms*.
- ^{viii} Purcell, Kristen, et al., 2012. *How Teens Do Research in the Digital World*.
- ^{ix} Shearer, Kimberly, 2012. “Why You Need Your School Librarian,” *Kentucky Teacher*. www.kentuckyteacher.org/kentucky-teacher-of-the-year/2012/07/why-you-need-your-school-librarian/.
- ^x PBS LearningMedia, 2013. *Teacher Technology Usage Survey*.
- ^{xi} The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2012. *Technology and Effective Teaching in the US*.
- ^{xii} Purcell, Kristen, et al., 2013. *How Teachers Are Using Technology at Home and in Their Classrooms*.
- ^{xiii} AASL, 2009. *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner*.
- ^{xiv} Common Sense Media, 2012. *Children, Teens, and Entertainment Media*. www.commonsensemedia.org/file/view-from-the-classroom-final-reportpdf-0/download.
- ^{xv} Project Tomorrow, 2011. *The New 3 E’s of Education: Enabled, Engaged, Empowered*. www.tomorrow.org/speakup/pdfs/SU10_3EofEducation_Educators.pdf.

Sources students are “very likely” to use in a research assignment:

Their peers 42%

16%

A librarian

18%

Print or electronic textbooks

94%

Google

75% Wikipedia

52%

YouTube/social media

17%

Online databases

25%

News sites of major news organizations^{viii}



Number of Google searches per month: **12.050 BILLION**^{iv}



73% of teachers believe educational technology has the potential to “respond to a variety of learning styles”^x



49% of teachers report that students’ access to technology at home is one of the “biggest barriers to incorporating technology into their teaching” because the students are “often not digitally literate enough”^{xi}



56% of teachers of the lowest-income students say that a lack of resources among students to access digital technologies is a “major challenge” to incorporating more digital tools into their teaching^{xii}

School libraries provide equitable physical and intellectual **access to the resources and tools** required for learning in a **warm, stimulating, and safe environment.**^{xiii}



TRANSFORMING LEARNING
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

The AASL infographic *School Librarians Transform Learning* is part of the digital supplement to the Sept/Oct 2014 issue of ALA’s *American Libraries* magazine. Members of the media and public are permitted to repost the PDF infographic, provided no alterations are made and that the posting is for educational, noncommercial purposes only. [www.ala.org/aasl/digitalsupplement] ©2014 American Association of School Librarians. All rights reserved.