



BE PREPARED	<p style="text-align: center;">INFOhio</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FACT SHEET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">February 10, 2011</p>	
		KNOW THE FACTS

FACTS ABOUT INFOhio & School Libraries

- ❖ School libraries and librarians have a positive impact on student achievement.
- ❖ Automated school libraries also have a positive impact on student achievement.
- ❖ Automated libraries have the infrastructure and connectivity to help teachers teach and students learn.
- ❖ Books, non-print materials and digital content are heavily used in schools with automated libraries.
- ❖ INFOhio helps school librarians cost effectively catalog their print and non-print materials.
- ❖ Although the paper card catalog is obsolete, some Ohio schools still use them and their students are lagging behind in critical 21st century skills.

FACTS ABOUT INFOhio & Teaching and Learning

- ❖ INFOhio engages students in an active process of building their own understanding and knowledge.
- ❖ INFOhio is an agent for individualized learning, knowledge construction and academic achievement.
- ❖ INFOhio connects school librarians with their academic librarian counterparts to encourage a seamless student transition from high school library to college library.
- ❖ INFOhio's Certified ICoach program supports educators using 21st century instructional strategies.
- ❖ The INFOhio 21st Century Learning Commons helps teachers effectively use Web 2.0 tools and teaching strategies.

KEY FACTS ABOUT INFOhio

- ❖ INFOhio is a statewide information system which uses a highly centralized and very cost-effective, system architecture for delivery.
- ❖ INFOhio is a nationally recognized model of shared services and cost efficiencies.
- ❖ INFOhio is *one of five core services* which must be provided by each ITC, as *mandated in the Ohio Administrative Code*.
- ❖ INFOhio has grown substantially since automating its first two school libraries in 1994.
- ❖ INFOhio is one of the largest library and information networks in the United States.
- ❖ The licensing cost to automate libraries through INFOhio has not increased since 1994.
- ❖ With 2447 libraries, the average annual maintenance fee paid to SirsiDynix is less than \$275 per library.
- ❖ INFOhio is much more than a library automation supplier.
- ❖ INFOhio provides equitable statewide access to essential K-12 electronic resources.
- ❖ State funding for INFOhio has decreased significantly even as it has substantially expanded services.
- ❖ INFOhio's ability to provide databases in the future is threatened by funding reductions.

FACTS ABOUT INFOhio & School Libraries:

1. School libraries and librarians have a positive impact on student achievement.
 - A national research study involving over 13,000 Ohio K-12 students showed clear evidence that "an effective school library led by a credentialed school librarian plays a critical role in facilitating student learning and knowledge building."
2. Automating school libraries has a positive impact on student achievement.
 - An evaluation by the State Library of Ohio found that the automation of Ohio's schools libraries "has had major positive impacts on K-12 education in Ohio – access to information is more equitable; important searching skills are taught through the online catalog, ...and students are better prepared to continue their education and/or become lifelong learners."
3. Automated libraries have the infrastructure and connectivity to help teachers teach and students learn.
 - Automating behind-the-scenes library functions frees the librarian to be able to work with students and teachers.
4. Books and other resources are heavily used in schools with automated libraries.
 - Last year 18.5 million books & non-print materials were circulated in the 2,447 INFOhio-automated libraries, a rate of 15+ per child.
 - Ohio school libraries have approximately half the books Ohio's university libraries have, but K-12 students circulate almost three times the books per year.
5. INFOhio helps school librarians cost effectively catalog their print and non-print materials.
 - INFOhio's shared Curriculum Resource Catalog has over one million unique bibliographic records which can be copied at no cost by school librarians
6. Although the paper card catalog is obsolete, some Ohio schools still use them.
 - While no public or academic library in Ohio has had a card catalog for over fifteen years, there are still 229 Ohio school libraries (including 36 high school and 193 middle/elementary schools) which have only paper card catalogs.
 - In addition, 841 school libraries, which are still not a part of INFOhio's automation network, are automated with less sophisticated stand-alone systems.

FACTS ABOUT INFOhio & Teaching & Learning

1. INFOhio engages students in an active process of building their own understanding and knowledge.
 - The INFOhio Discovery Portal (formerly SchoolRooms) offers a one-stop, single-search capability, unique among Ohio libraries.
 - It brings together 23,000+ educator-selected, age-appropriate websites and INFOhio's electronic resources, all aligned to curricular subject areas.
2. INFOhio is an agent for individualized learning, knowledge construction and academic achievement.
 - The INFOhio Research Project Calculator provides an online template for doing research, developing a timeline, asking good questions, taking notes, etc.
 - The Research Project Calculator is nationally recommended as an online aid for student research.
3. INFOhio's Certified Coach program supports teachers in using 21st century instructional strategies.
 - The ICoach program is a statewide effort to train educators to effectively utilize 21st century learning and to integrate INFOhio resources into the classroom. The ICoach team has been divided among 16 regions throughout Ohio.
4. The INFOhio Learning Commons helps educators effectively use Web 2.0 tools & teaching strategies.
 - It offers a free self-paced online course, *21 Essential Things for 21st Century Success*.

-- It also offers a graphical approach to incorporating information literacy skills using INFOhio's DIALOGUE Model, and ways to enhance the use of INFOhio's Core Collection.

KEY FACTS ABOUT INFOhio:

1. INFOhio is a statewide information system utilizing a highly centralized and very cost-effective system architecture for delivery.
 - INFOhio's library automation system, currently in 2,447 libraries in 514 districts, operates on only 20 shared servers.
 - OhioLINK currently has 60 hosting sites for 115 libraries.
2. INFOhio is a nationally recognized model of shared services and cost efficiencies.
 - INFOhio has achieved substantial cost savings by sharing hardware and software and by standardizing practices and procedures to create economies of scale.
3. INFOhio is **one of five core services** which must be provided by each ITC, as **mandated in the Ohio Administrative Code**.
 - Per ORC 3301-3-01 Scope and definitions (5) "Core services" (d) Library automation, curricular resources, and educational technology services to support academic content standards and effective instruction.
4. INFOhio has grown substantially since automating its first two school libraries in 1994.
 - It took almost ten years to automate the first 900 libraries; it took five years to automate the next 1,500.
5. INFOhio is one of the largest library and information networks in the United States.
 - 2,447 individual school libraries automated with INFOhio serve nearly 1.2 million K-12 students and educators.
 - Based on the number of automated libraries, INFOhio is the largest automation system supported by SirsiDynix, the largest automation vendor in the United States.
6. The licensing cost to automate school libraries through INFOhio has not increased since 1994.
 - The original cost of \$4.10 per ADM has remained constant.
7. With 2,447 libraries, the average annual maintenance fee paid to SirsiDynix is less than \$275 per library.
 - Annual maintenance paid to SirsiDynix averages **55¢ per ADM**, based on a 10% annual rate.
 - Without INFOhio, the annual cost would be **\$4.40 per ADM** and at the industry standard of 18%.
8. INFOhio is much more than a library automation supplier.
 - INFOhio, initially a library automation project, has evolved into an electronic and digital content provider.
 - It is also a primary source of instructional services, professional development and training for teachers and other educators.
9. INFOhio provides equitable statewide access to essential K-12 electronic resources to all Ohio students.
 - Collection is funded by a combination of state and federal funds working collaboratively with Libraries Connect Ohio partners. INFOhio funding reductions caused the elimination of *SIRS Discoverer*, a qualified elementary database for grade appropriate access for K-6.
10. Funding for INFOhio has decreased significantly even as it has substantially expanded its services.
 - Overall state funding for INFOhio has declined 46% since 2001, even though INFOhio automated an additional 942 (+63%) libraries with no increase in staff and use of the electronic resources increased by 888% (for searches) and 329% (for articles printed).
11. INFOhio's ability to provide databases in the future is threatened by funding reductions.
 - With only \$150,000 allocation, INFOhio is unable to pay its fair share of the \$4.1 million statewide total cost.
 - Given the economic situation, if funds are eliminated districts would need to pay \$19.90 per ADM to continue these resources.