



MEDIA CENTER MESSENGER

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Valerie Byrd Fort - SCASL President

Wow! I can't believe it is already November! I am sure all of you are just as busy as I am preparing for book fair, selecting the best books for your collections, and working with students and teachers so much that it seems lunch is now your afternoon snack each day! Whew!

With these busy times I hope you are remembering to take care of yourself. This is so important, because if you do not take care of yourself you cannot be your best self for your students and teachers. Make time to learn something new each day or at least each week by participating in our 23 Things program. We started in September and participants are moving right along learning about and reflecting on Web 2.0 tools and how to use them in their libraries and classrooms. This is a self-paced program, so please join us! For more information, check out: <http://scasl23things.edublogs.org/>.

In addition to the learning opportunity that is 23 Things, be sure you plan to attend the 2009 SCASL Annual Conference in Greenville, March 11-13, 2009 with Doug Johnson, Nikki Grimes, Angela Johnson, and more! This conference is sure to be a "one-stop-shop" for all your professional needs with sessions about technology integration, collaboration, leadership...the list goes on. The Call to Conference is available at www.scasl.net, register for conference TODAY!

I hope you enjoy our first "online" issue of the Media Center Messenger. Many thanks to Laura Jackson, Editorial Chair, for all of her hard work!

Thank you for everything you do for our profession and for SCASL. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to let me know.

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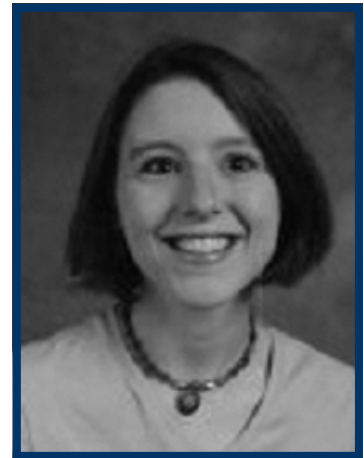


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SCASL MISSION STATEMENT

The South Carolina Association of School Librarians advocates professional excellence, facilitates collaboration and develops leadership to ensure that school library media programs are integral to teaching and learning in every South Carolina school.



KEEP IN TOUCH

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2008-2009 IMPORTANT DATES

November 2008

5-7 South Carolina EdTech
(Myrtle Beach, South Carolina)

11-13 SCASL 2009 Annual Conference
(Greenville, South Carolina)

January 2009

23-28 ALA Mid-Winter Meeting
(Denver, Colorado)

April 2009

National School Library Media Month
13-17 National Library Week
16 South Carolina Read In!

February 2009

19-21 SCIRA 2009 Annual Conference
(Myrtle Beach, South Carolina)

30 El dia de los ninos/El dia de los libros

May 2009

11-12 Library Legislative Day
(Washington DC)

March 2009

9-13 Teen Tech Week

November 2009

HERE COME THOSE HOLIDAY TOY ADS: ANOTHER PERFECT "MEDIA LITERACY" TEACHABLE MOMENT

BY: FRANK BAKER

The catalogs have started arriving in the mail. Saturday morning children's programs are full of them. During this time of year, our younger students are really starting to pay attention, because they will begin making their lists and begging Mom and Dad to "buy me that."

This is an appropriate time to think about using toy ads from magazines and commercials from television to teach media literacy. More specifically we can teach young people not only the "techniques of persuasion" (included in our standards) but also the "techniques of production" (how was that put together?).

To begin with you might want to print out the media literacy "core concepts" and critical thinking (and viewing) questions which apply to ALL media messages.

For specifics on how to incorporate toy commercials into the classroom, check out my page: <http://www.frankwbaker.com/toys>. Recently I uploaded a video segment (from the popular "Buy Me That" Consumer Reports series) that will be useful to any teacher teaching this subject.

Last fall, when I conducted a workshop with some fourth graders, I used the word "deceptive" to describe one commercial and a young lady raised her hand and asked me what deceptive meant. After defining it, I looked at her teacher and recommended she add that word to the week's vocabulary list.

We all know that the media have our students' attention: isn't it time teachers used young people's media and popular culture to meet applicable standards?



Frank Baker

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LIBRARIANSHIP AND THE ART OF METAL FABRICATION

“A man who has seized a cat by the tail has learned a few things that cannot be learned any other way.” Mark Twain

Gaylord Brothers does not sell double bottoms to their metal shelving. That particular fact becomes quite important later on. For the present, suffice it to say I had an interesting summer. For the first five weeks of the break, I was fulfilling the “in sickness and in health” portion of my marriage vows by tending to the needs of my beloved wife who had Achilles tendon reconstruction the day after school let out for summer. I took care of the house, the cooking, the grocery shopping, and anything else she pointed out needing done. My wife is one of the most dynamic people I know and having to sit stationary for five long weeks almost proved her undoing. She was not a patient patient.

After seeing her onward towards recovery, I journeyed down to my school to check out the damage. Our district closed our sixth grade center at the end of last school year because of maintenance issues that are not discussed with those of my pay grade. My only concern in the matter was that I would have nine more teachers to love and spoil as well as over a hundred more students. I was so naïve.

My trusted assistant and general right hand Chris had already been by the school. He told me to double my “happy pill” dosage for a few days before coming down just to be safe. I was filled with dread and trepidation and I was not disappointed. In the center of the floor, from wall to wall, was a solid square of Walmart layaway boxes stacked three high with labels like “Fiction A-Be” and other such cryptic missives from my sixth grade colleague at the closing school. While she had done hardy yeoman’s work in packing this copious quantity of literature and other realia, her ability to make my job easier had its limits. So, I did what any stout hearted librarian would do upon seeing his or her formerly lovingly ordered space reduced to utter chaos – I sat down on the floor and cried like a baby.

After giving voice to my misery for ten minutes, I called Chris and asked him if he would meet me the next day. He said he would and so the next morning at eight o’clock A.M., he and I set to the task of somehow pouring the proverbial ten gallons of liquid into the proverbial five gallon bucket. It’s germane to the story to note here that our library was originally an auditorium and has floor to ceiling southward facing windows. Furthermore, our district administration had decreed in May no air conditioning would be turned on during the summer to save money. In the three weeks we worked to make room for the additional books, my library turned into Dante’s Sixth Circle of Hell. The temperature daily topped

ninety degrees outside. Inside our pressure cooker, a wall-mounted thermometer often passed 120 degrees. Add in 85% + relative humidity and we were truly a miserable pair. But we persevered, weeding both collections as we went.

We finished half the first stack and realized that, as much as we loved the airy feeling of using just the middle three shelves, we weren’t going to have enough room. So we stripped the shelves and started over using four shelves. We finished the entire first stack before we realized we still wouldn’t have enough shelves. So we stripped the shelves again using all five shelves, watching our light airy stacks turn into ponderous enclosing walls of books. We managed to shelve the unified hardcover collection on the shelves we had started with, but the paperbacks, picture books, and Spanish language sections remained. Journeying to the former sixth grade center, we found an older set of wooden shelves to house our Spanish books and picture books. We’ll eventually paint the shelves to match the half-wall they abut so they will look more like a natural growth of the wall -- a tumor-like, bulbous growth -- but a growth nonetheless.

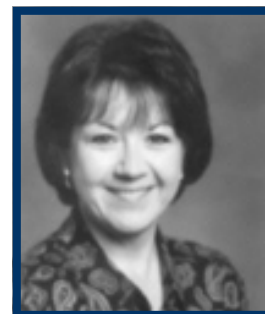
All that remained was the paperbacks. That’s when I had an epiphany. We had two empty single shelves in the back room. They were meant to be wall-mounted, but, I thought, could easily be converted to double-sided freestanding stacks. Problem solved. So full of renewed confidence, I called Gaylord Brothers only to be told that they did not stock or sell double bottoms separately from the shelving units. Our solution was shot.

At that point, I was no longer sad. I was no longer aggravated. I was hot, with rivulets of sweat pouring out of every pore. Enough was enough. I would have my double bottom. Chris noticed the manic look in my eyes as I ripped the two bottoms from the single units. I grabbed the hammer we keep in the library and began bending metal with a cacophony of blows and curses. Then, I got my drill from my truck and found a pack of self-tapping sheet metal screws. An hour and lots of loud noises later, I had the double bottom that Gaylord Brothers refuses to sell. Now our paperback section is handsomely displayed on our newly packed shelves and the tic I developed on first seeing the mountain of books we were gifted with has all but subsided. Now, if I can just figure out how to fabricate about six more document cameras . . .

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SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SERVICES

BY: MARTHA ALEWINE



From one perspective, we could be standing on the brink of disaster in education in South Carolina. From the opposite side, we could be standing on the brink of a major breakthrough in education in South Carolina. Which side are we library media specialists on? Which side are YOU on?

The drastic and seemingly unending budget cuts are forcing all of us to take a close hard look at how we plan and deliver basic day-to-day instruction and professional development. At the Department of Education, we have been given the mandate of using technology for our professional development offerings. No longer am I able to visit individual schools and districts for staff development sessions; these are now being conducted in an online environment. The meetings I facilitate for your district library supervisors must now be conducted in an online environment. A paradigm shift for everyone!

Library media specialists have traditionally been on the forefront of adoption and implementation when it comes to new and innovative ways of providing access to information as well as the prerequisite training. We now have the opportunity to step to the front again to show how using technology can move teaching and learning in South Carolina truly into the 21st Century. You have heard me and others talk about 21st Century teaching and learning for the last six years. Some library media specialists and classroom teachers embraced that concept immediately; others have clung to the tried and true way of teaching, often times to the detriment of their instruction and their students' learning. Times are changing and we all must change with them.

Education in South Carolina is in the midst of a crisis; there's no doubt about that. All library media specialists must accept the challenge of demonstrating to everyone the quality of instruction and learning that can be accomplished through what should be the central instructional area of the school—the school library. But, here's the caveat—Don't use all these neat technology bells and whistles just for technology's sake. Instead concentrate on teaching your students (and teachers!) how to be technology literate and not just technology savvy. Think about what you can do in your local school and district. The recent webinar hosted by SCASL is a good example of what can happen when many library media specialists collaborate on a project. The key is to think of the end use and the benefit to your students and teachers.

Are we up to this current challenge? My belief is that we are. Now we just have to prove it.

Martha Alewine
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DR. SAMANTHA HASTINGS RECEIVES AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR INFORMATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WATSON DAVIS AWARD

Columbia, SC – Dr. Samantha Hastings, Director of the USC School of Library and Information Science, received the Watson Davis Award from the American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T). The award was presented on October 28, 2008 at the ASIS&T annual meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

The Watson Davis Award, commemorating the founder of the Society, was established in 1975. The purpose of this award is to recognize a member of the Society who has shown continuous dedicated service through active participation in and support of ASIS&T programs, chapters, special interest groups, committees, and publications.

Two of Dr. Hastings' former students stated in her nomination letter that, "only a handful of people could contribute in a lifetime what she has contributed to the ASIS&T membership during the last 19



MOVING OUT, MOVING IN, AND MOVING ON! BY: LYNN B. SCOTT

Let's face it; my school building is *old, somewhat old, somewhat new* and *new*! I say *old* because the original school was built in the late 1960's. I say *somewhat old* because around 1970 the building added space and moved the library into a larger room. I say *somewhat new* because a new and larger library was built in 1988. The old shelving was moved to the new space, and we added more shelving of a different style and color. I say *new* because we remodeled our existing library this summer and we have a brand new look in the same space!

I write this for those of you who have similar needs, and who may benefit from some ideas that might help you plan for and carry out a successful remodel.

May 2007: My new principal embraces the belief that anything worth doing is worth doing right! She suggested we put on hold the plan to replace carpet in the media center, and instead we would dream bigger and work toward remodeling.

June 2007-March 2008: My assistant and I visited several other libraries to gather ideas and worked with the district construction team to come up with a plan.

April 2008: Our district financial officer identified an amount of money available for the remodel. This amount would not let us enlarge but was enough to improve the existing space by adding some exciting features; a raised tray ceiling, improved lighting, an ample corner window to the hallway, new shelving, new computer tables, new circulation desk, new doorway to connect us to a conference room, new office and workroom arrangement, and more efficient shelving in our software room. In addition, we have colors that are softer and design simplicity which is conducive to student learning.

May (early) 2008: Running out of time, we picked up the pace and began to share our ideas with several fixture companies. Each gave us plans and prices for fixtures, and we finally chose one with a tried and true product and who could best make our deadlines for the beginning of school.

My principal and I met with a carpet salesman, gathered paint colors and plastic laminate samples. I fretted over this a lot because a decorator I am not! Also, bids were taken from construction companies. The company who won the bid did an excellent job with time management and provided courteous and efficient service. Many late afternoons were spent completing inventory in an effort to finish before boxing up materials. As I look back, I probably should have put inventory off until the new school year.

May (late) 2008: We adopted the slogan "PACK for Dads." Since PACT testing was fresh in everyone's minds we thought it would be a catchy way to solicit dads as volunteers to help box up books. Left over from our annual spring carnival were three gift certificates for golf, dinner out and a free gift basket. Our P.T.O. allowed us to award these to each family providing the most participation. Sadly we only had two participating families! I don't know how we did it, but in spite of this setback we were able to box up all of the books before school was out. And to add to our problems our air conditioning went out for three weeks during this time!

The day before construction began the district sent a work crew of eight men including several high school football players. I was turning circles keeping up with all of them, because I was determined to keep some semblance of order as I looked ahead to unpacking everything in August!

It is amazing how many items other than books are in libraries! We filled the borrowed Physical Education room 2/3 full with all of our "stuff" and trashed many "pack rat" items!

August 5, 2008: The shelving arrived and was assembled today. Missing items include our circulation desk, our computer tables, and our 45 chairs. The circulation desk was stained with a darker stain so it was returned to the factory and will be replaced. The computer tables were not on the truck, and we are wondering where they are. The 45 chairs...well, they were never ordered because we ran out of money. Somewhere we will find some extra money; I'm sure of it. Maybe we can beg the Parent Teacher Organization or maybe the Foundation.

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21ST CENTURY BOOK CLUBS

BY: BRENDA BRANSON

Books vs. Computers! We often hear from parents that their kids like to spend more time on the computers than reading books! No big surprise, there! Also of concern, is that today's children are becoming social hermits because they are constantly engrossed with their iPod or computer!

Fortunately, today's students are very active, very vocal, and still love books. They are very involved with social networking and this is one way we can reach them and offer opportunities to share reading experiences. Although, sometimes labeled "struggling reader" because of problems with classroom assignments and opting against settling down with a bound and printed book, these students are not necessarily "struggling readers." Bronym Williams, in The International Reading Association's Online Journal, states that "we often categorize students as 'struggling readers' because of their performance in classroom reading tasks, not recognizing that they may spend much of their time out of the classroom reading such texts as video game magazines or Pokémon and Yu-Gi-Oh cards." They just express themselves in different ways and we've got to go there, too. So, like it or not, the computers are here to stay! The bright side: technology does offer so many engaging techniques to help us bring children and books together.

Here's your chance to jump in ... start your own 21st Century Book Club. Trying anything from creating digital scrapbook book reviews, participating in live chats, setting up Second Life book clubs, creating a book forum or just offering a simple online book club via blogging will increase motivation and inspire readers at any grade level. Online books clubs are great alternatives to physical book clubs for children who would love to participate in a reading club with their friends yet have scheduling conflicts or transportation issues. There are many online clubs already established or you can start your own, just for your school. Start by looking into some of these popular online book clubs. Get a feel for how they work and how you can incorporate it into your school library media program. Then, create your own with a blog or wiki or just promote and participate in one of these.

Character Scrapbook

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/scrapbook/>

Share What You're Reading

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/swyar/>

Book Nuts

<http://www.booknutsreadingclub.com/>

Build-a-bear Workshop Book Club

<http://www.buildabear.com/play/bookclub/Spotlight.aspx>

Book Backchat

<http://english.unitecnology.ac.nz/bookchat/>

Book Raps - from Australia

<http://rite.ed.qut.edu.au/>

Book discussions for students based on scheduled books.

Epals Book Club

http://www.epals.com/projects/book_club/

Join the epals book club and share discussions about books, authors, and share stories and poetry.

KidsRead

<http://www.kidsreads.com/>

A place for children to share the books they enjoy reading. The [Reading Club](#) page provides a nice overview of ways students can create their own book clubs, site features new books, books made into movies, and soon to come, podcasts.

Reader's Café

<http://english.unitecnology.ac.nz/readerscafe/still.php>

Lists popular books for young adults and provides an opportunity to enter your own book ideas.

Spaghetti Clubhouse

<http://www.spaghetlibookclub.org/>

A place to post and read messages about books.

If you don't find anything in this list, try Joyce Valenza's wiki at

<http://bookleads.wikispaces.com/reading+suggestion+portals>

for tons of great ideas to promote reading with the 21st Century Reader.

Brenda Branson

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SCASL REGIONAL NETWORK NEWS

FRANKIE O'NEAL, DIRECTOR

Region 1A.

Anderson District 5.

Frank Baker, media literacy consultant, will teach lessons on propaganda to 8th grade students as part of a collaborative lesson being taught by the media specialist and the eighth grade ELA teachers at Southwood Middle School. **Linda Couch** is the library media specialist.

Region 1B.

Spartanburg 2. Chesnee Elementary teacher **Heather Seay** and library media specialist **Kenna Cox** received a \$10,000 Best Buy TeachTM Award to assist Chesnee Elementary in its technological focus. The school was one of two in the state and one of fifty across the nation to win the \$10,000-level award. Districts of winning schools were then eligible to compete for a \$100,000 national Best Buy TeachTM Award, and Spartanburg District Two was one of only eight districts in the United States selected for the \$100,000 prize. The district's award-winning proposal was crafted to integrate physical fitness, English, math, and science at the elementary schools, Chesnee Middle, Boiling Springs Intermediate, and Boiling Springs Junior High. Boiling Springs *Elementary library media specialist, **Pat Jennings**, the literacy coach, and the PE teacher received an EIA grant for playaways and pedometers. The grant was titled "Walking Our Way to Better Test Scores" incorporating literacy and exercise. *Boiling Springs High Ninth Grade Campus, media specialist **Sally Hursey**, held a Summer Reading Celebration in October for 265 students who completed the summer reading. **Spartanburg 3.** **Pamela Elliott** retired in May from Cannons Elementary. **Vashti Summerfield** is the new media specialist there. **Melody Pesta** media specialist at the Middle School of Pacolet. **Spartanburg 4.** **Tina Harrell** is at Woodruff Middle school and **Colleen Hitchcock** is at Woodruff High. **Beth Godfrey** retired last year. **Spartanburg 5.** During Teen Read Week, **Karen Hill** and **Meghan Johnson** of James F. Byrnes High School hosted performances by drama students, who read from Books with Bite. **Greenville County.** **Debbie Wolf**, Bryson Elementary, received a year-long site license grant from Sylvan Dell E-books. **Miriam Chamberlain**, Lakeview Middle, received a \$1,000 check from the Pleasantburg Rotary Club to buy books of interest to boys. The boys are enjoying new books from Artemis Fowl to Nascar. **Linda Johnson** is the new media specialist at Brook Glen Elementary. Bryson Middle School's Rollin' Readers visited Golden Strip Child Development Center. **Judy Lemmons** started this program last year with a very small reading

recovery group at Bryson Middle. These are students who are taking a special reading class that focuses on phonics and comprehension. Students in the class are far below their grade level, so reading picture books enables them to practice their skills and, at the same time, give to small children by providing them with story time. Bryson readers read Halloween stories to the children. It is a great ego booster to the readers as these little children look up to the "big kids" from the middle school. **Patty Bynum**, J.L. Mann Academy, and **Paula Shaw**, Hillcrest Middle, received Picturing America grants for their schools. This National Endowment for the Humanities grant includes 40 high-quality laminated reproductions of scenes from American history as well as a teacher resource book. Visit www.picturingamerica.neh.gov for more information.

Region 4A.

Lexington 1. Three new media specialists are **Valerie Byrd Fort** at New Providence Elementary School, **Shaney Mahaffey** at Fort Pond Elementary School, and **Carmen Mangus** at Pelion Middle School. **Lexington 2.** The Airport High School media specialist collaborated with six teachers and the team was awarded a \$2500 Food Lion Charitable Foundation grant to fund a literacy initiative. The monies will be used to purchase books that support the South Carolina Reading Initiative book club model. **Lexington 4.** **Emily Taylor** is the new media specialist at Swansea High School. **Sue Busbee** is at Sandhills Middle School. **Kriss Kirkindoll** is covering both Sandhills Elementary and Sandhills Intermediate schools. **Fairfield.** **Joe Myers** presented an in-service on media center data collection at the monthly media specialist meeting. He will be assisting the other media specialists with collecting and presenting the data. **Chrishonda Gaither** is the new Community Services Librarian at the Fairfield County Library. She will be meeting with the Fairfield Media Specialists on a monthly basis. Planning is underway for the annual Fairfield County Read-In which is organized by the Fairfield Public Library and Friends of the Library.

Region 5A.

Aiken County. **Ann Adcock** is now a library media specialist at North Augusta High School. **Joanna Brailer** is at Clearwater Elementary School. **Linda Smith** is at Jackson Middle School.

Region 7. Chesterfield.

LaSandra S. Grimsley is the new media specialist at Pageland Elementary. **Florence District 1.** **Sarah Quin** is the new media specialist at Wilson High

Continued on page 9

Regional News continued from page 8.

School. Several schools collaborated with Florence Public Library to host author **Diane de Groat** during September. Those schools include Royall Elementary (**Susan Jenkins**), Dewey Carter Elementary (**Cynthia Collins**), Carver Elementary (**Debbie Heimbrook**), Savannah Grove Elementary (**Mary Cook**), Delmae Elementary (**Amy Rhodes**), and North Vista Elementary (**Gayle Brown**.) **Florence District 3.** New media specialists are **Meghan McCabe** at Ronald E. McNair Middle School and **Gerald Duvall** at Main Street Elementary School. **Dillon School District 3. Darlington. Thelma Cotton** is the new media specialist at Pate Elementary. **Marion 1. Chad Crews**, Educational Entertainer, presented “Authors of Mystery and Horror” in October. Teachers and students alike were thrilled with his performance. The students eagerly listened to every word. The program is designed to promote interest in the literary works and lives of several famous authors such as Edgar Allen Poe, Bram Stoker, Mary Shelley, Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini.

Region 9B.

Berkeley County. New media specialists are **Amy Savage** at Berkeley Middle School; **Melanie Lee** at Cane Bay High, **Suzette Johnson** at Cross High; and **Donna Roberts** at Sedgefield Middle. **Gwen Dojan** is the new media assistant at Westview Primary School. Students at Sangaree Intermediate School are voting at VoteForBooks.com. The results for favorite picture book, chapter book, and series will be shared on the morning news show. This is a national campaign through Scholastic. During the month of September, the students were invited to write the name of a book they read on a red paper apple and attach it to the large “Johnny Appleseed Tree” on the media center wall. Teachers used green apples and, by the end of the month, the tree was covered with 290 apples.

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

The Letters About Literature program, sponsored by the South Carolina Center for the Book and the Library of Congress, in partnership with Target Stores, is a national reading and writing promotion contest. To enter, readers write personal letters to an author, living or dead, from any genre, explaining how that author's work changed the students' way of thinking about the world or themselves. Winners at state and national levels will be announced in the spring with the national award totaling \$10,500. For details and an entry form, go to <http://www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/letters/> or contact Dr. Curtis R. Rogers at Crogers@statelibrary.sc.gov.

“LMS 411” BY: MELANIE JACKSON

This may seem like an obvious question, but when a class comes to the media center and the teacher stays with them, who is the adult in charge? I don't want to offend any teacher, but if their class is disruptive, who should be the one to restore order?

We have all been through this one! Ideally, all adults present should be attentive to the students – both their needs and their actions; however, it does not always work out that simply. The class is in a room over which you have custodial care, so you definitely have a say in the behavior of the students. You should also have your “Rules” posted and go over them with the students and the teachers during your annual orientations, so everyone is on the same page at the beginning of the year. As far as who is the primary “adult” in charge, it can hinge on why the class is there and to what extent are you involved. Is the class there for a lesson you will lead? Are you working in tandem with the teacher to teach a lesson? Are they there for a story or to check out books? Or are they there to use the room for any activity that is not library related? The basic rule is usually to let the situation govern everyone's actions.

I have found that communication is key – for the students and the faculty. During a media center orientation (the teachers must stay during this time), when I go over behavior expectations, I make it clear that the teacher and I will be working as a team any time we are all together. If I need to call a class down, I will reference the teacher in the sentence, for example: “Kevin, I do not think that Mrs. Brown wants to see you running in the library anymore than I do.” This kind of response lets a student know he/she needs to respect the wishes of both adults present and defers to the classroom teacher in a way that respects her authority while bringing a behavior you find unacceptable to his/her attention. With some teachers this question of “who is in charge” can be a minor issue that can erupt into a major one if left to fester. It may be something you can bring up at a grade level meeting or a faculty meeting to help your teachers understand and respect your space and authority within the confines of the media center. You may often find that the teachers have the same exact question and are sometimes just as uncomfortable as you are in the event of an incident. Open and frequent communication and teamwork are not only essential, but will make your job and life a whole lot easier!

Melanie Jackson, Media Specialist
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“WANNA WORK TOGETHER? SHARE, LEARN, AND INSPIRE THROUGH CREATIVE COMMONS”

BY CATHY NELSON

With today 's literacy moving toward a more digital presence, we are seeing an abundance of quality (and not so quality) photos, videos, stories, songs, drawings, and other creative resources available in excess online. More and more citizens are posting their creative content online for the world to view, and this also includes students and teachers.

Placing digital content online allows creative people to share, learn, and inspire. Many create original material daily, including musicians, writers, and, yes, even teachers and students. And increasingly we are seeing a need to license and look for licensing of content we share. Sometimes a full copyright is too restrictive, particularly when we only wish to share or use digital content. What about when you want anyone and everyone to use your work without hassling you for permission. After all, you're the copyright holder of your original work. There are many who welcome that sharing, reusing, and building upon their work. That is why wikis are so prevalent today. Think about Wikipedia or even Joyce Valenza's readily shared wiki "Web 2.0 Meets Information Fluency" where she invites users to add to the collective wisdom of this topic in her shared virtual handout. Who owns the copyright for the work contributed to create entries there? What is the answer? It's called Creative Commons Licensing.

Creative Commons provides free copyright licensing and tells users exactly what the holder is willing to share, and even what a user must do to use the content without worry of infringement.

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Mark your calendars for the SCASL Thirty-Fourth Annual Conference! March 11 - 13, 2009 at the Carolina First Center in Greenville, South Carolina! Our theme this year is **SCASL 2.0: Experience the Journey @ Your Library**. Come to this "one stop shop" conference with sessions covering storytelling, technology integration, leadership, literacy, and more! Watch your mailbox for the **Call to Conference**, coming soon! Questions about conference? Contact Gabrielle Barnes (gbarnes@capconsc.com), SCASL Executive Director or Amanda LeBlanc (aleblanc@greenville.k12.sc.us), Conference Chair.

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Moving Out, Moving In and Moving On! continued from page 6.

Before the day was out we discovered our computer tables had been delivered to school two days earlier. How disappointing to find that because one of our computer classrooms was also expecting tables, we must now wait for more to come our way. Too much work to undo the mistake. Painfully, replacements won't arrive for six weeks!

August 6, 2008: Today I moved the new shelving around and tried out several configurations because it was moving day again! This time the district sent only three helpers but our custodial staff pitched in also.

August 8, 2008: I found out today that our computer tables will be moved to the media center next week, just prior to our first teacher inservice day.

Wow, we made it, and the space is just beautiful (even if we don't have new chairs)! You won't believe it! Our air conditioning is out once again!

Several suggestions:

We packed light and not only labeled our boxes with call number ranges, but also numbered each box in each section of the library. For example, we numbered Fiction books F #1, F #2, etc. which really paid off on moving day. It only took our helpers a quick glance to determine placement of the box.

Consult your district purchasing specialist because you need an expert who is familiar with the state bid list, knows which items need to be bid out, and knows best how to address many other technicalities.

Talk to your favorite book jobbers and ask if they can spare boxes. My favorite book seller knew just how many boxes I would need, the best size of the boxes, and they shipped them to us at their cost! They were used boxes but were in great shape. Since we saved money and obtained our own boxes, our district gave us plenty of packing tape free of charge.

Invite district administrators and the school board to come by and see your space before, during and after. Public relations go a long way.

You know the excitement that begins deep in the pit of your stomach about this time of year? I'm really feeling it now!

This school building is still *old, somewhat old, somewhat new* and *new* and the history that lives within the walls is priceless. When I see the expressions on the faces of our students on the first day of school, I know I won't wish to trade this media center for a million dollars!

Lynn B. Scott
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VITAL STATISTICS, CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations

Renee Murray, media specialist for St. Stephen Elementary was select the 2008 Teacher of the Year for her school.

Christy Berry was chosen as Latta High School Teacher of the Year and the Dillon County School District Three's Teacher of the Year.

Vital Statistics

Congratulations to **Sherer Reid**, Mitchell Road Elementary, Greenville, who gave birth to a daughter **Mary Caroline** in September.