Joint Statement

School Library and Technology Services for Schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts School Library Association

Massachusetts Computer Using Educators

A Common Vision

MassCUE and MSLA encourage cooperation, promote resource sharing, and support one another in working towards equitable and effective school library and technology programs that provide children with a wide array of materials and services necessary for them to develop to their fullest potential as lifelong learners. To this end, school districts must provide library and technology programs with adequate funding, licensed professionals and support staff necessary to be successful.

Our Common Goals:
- Developing life long learners with 21st century information and technology skills
- Encouraging children to develop to their fullest potential
- Teaching students, teachers and administrators to use technology for learning, critical thinking, creativity and productivity
- Fostering of digital, media and information literacy
- Developing capable, ethical users of technology and information.
- Curriculum planning & development for staff
- Supporting standards based units of study
- Team teaching

An effective school technology program with technology certified staffing provides:
- A coordinated plan for deploying, supporting and maintaining technology resources
- Integration of technology into the total school program
- Implementation of national and state technology standards
- Staff and student training in use of technology for learning and productivity
- Modeling of effective uses of technology
- Instruction in safe and ethical use of technology
- Management of school data and information systems
- Maintenance and support of technology infrastructure
- Assessment of technology skills

An effective school library program with school library certified staffing provides:
- Implementation of national and state information literacy and school library program standards
- Access to books, periodicals, informational technologies, interlibrary loan and community networking which support the curriculum frameworks.
- Administration of the school library including resource review, budget and ordering, maintenance of online collections, circulation, federated searching, research pathfinders and library web pages.
- Guidance and instruction to students and staff in selecting and using appropriate resources both online and in print that are current and reliable
- Instruction in effective information search techniques, navigation of the vast bank of online search results, evaluation and synthesis of online and print documents including indexed databases, bibliographies and primary source materials that are appropriate to students' developmental levels
- Cross-referencing of online results to nonfiction library and reference information resources.
- Free access to statewide databases, for member school districts, providing high quality reviewed and edited informational resources
- Instruction on appropriate citation and bibliographic techniques to avoid plagiarism and infringement of copyright laws.
- Assessment of research and information literacy skills

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