

# **LIBRARY/RESEARCH SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY CURRICULUM VALLIVUE SCHOOL DISTRICT #139**

## **District Mission Statement**

To prepare each individual for success now and in the future through the most positive, effective and economical education.

## **District Philosophy**

Education is a life-long process and the cornerstone of our future. Learning is facilitated through the efforts of family, community and schools. The strength of our nation lies in our acceptance of responsibility, our positive values and our diversity.

## **District Library/Media Center Mission Statement**

The mission of Vallivue School District's K-12 Library/Media Center program is to develop independent, lifelong learners and to promote the enjoyment of reading.

## **District Library/Media Center Philosophy**

### **The Librarians/Media Generalists**

The role of the school librarian has changed over the years. In the past, the librarians assisted students in selecting and checking out books and conducting research. Today, the library is also called the *media center* and the certified librarian is also called a *media specialist* (media generalist in Idaho) to reflect both the print and non-print resources and the impact of technology on teaching and learning.

Currently, Vallivue School District only has two certified librarians/media specialists who have a secondary education teaching certificate. They are located at our middle school and high school. Their role is that of master teacher, information specialist, instructional partner, and program administrator. They collaborate with classroom teachers in assisting groups of students to complete research and other projects. However, some of their most successful library instruction is done informally, one-on-one, when students come to the library in search of information on a particular topic or assignment.

Our elementary and intermediate libraries are staffed by classified aides. The main focus of these libraries is getting books into students' hands and presenting an opportunity for them to enjoy the beauty and power of the written word, speech, and media in obtaining information for learning and pleasure. This includes obtaining the skills that will enable the students to choose the appropriate resource needed to access the information desired.

The responsibility for achieving the objectives of the school library media curriculum resides in the collaborative efforts of the school librarians, classroom teachers, students, support staff, administrators, and parents.

## The Curriculum

The library curriculum is an integral part of the district/school curriculum in guiding our students in developing skills to locate and use information in solving problems, expanding ideas, and becoming informed citizens. It is correlated to the national literacy standards and indicators.

Through an integrated effort, the computer classes, English/language arts classes, library, and other classes school-wide provide the students with the skills required to become life-long learners.

Computer Lab	OPAC (electronic card catalog) skills Online database search skills, Internet search skills Internet safety
Classroom	Citing sources Plagiarism District Curriculum
Library	Care of books Parts of books Library location skills
School-wide	Information literacy

All graduates of Vallivue Schools should be able to identify, locate, and use resources; acquire, evaluate, organize, synthesize, interpret, and communicate information; and use technology to access and process information.

## The Library/Media Center

The library/media center is the heart of the school. It is a place where students can read, learn, and investigate, and where teachers can find the additional resources they need to stimulate learning in the classroom. The learning environment promotes inquiry, stimulates intellectual curiosity, encourages pleasure reading, and develops diverse interests for the enjoyment of life-long learning.

The library is an extension of the classroom. Teaching literacy information skills is the joint responsibility of the building librarian/media specialist and the classroom teacher. Information and technology skills are most meaningful when taught within a subject area, within an inter-disciplinary unit, or as part of an activity that addresses an authentic, real-life need or problem. Thoughtful planning and cooperation among all teachers and media specialists are essential.

The primary purpose of the school library program and this curriculum is to empower students to be effective users of ideas and information in all formats in a constantly changing learning environment. Students need the opportunity to grow as independent, efficient, responsible, and creative users of information. A student's curiosity and motivation must be nurtured to realize success. In a time of constant and rapid change, educators are faced with the challenge of preparing students for the experiences they will encounter as they progress throughout the twenty-first century.