



# AASL Standards Framework for School Libraries

## SHARED FOUNDATIONS AND KEY COMMITMENTS

DOMAINS AND ALIGNMENTS	I. INQUIRE	II. INCLUDE	III. COLLABORATE	IV. CURATE	V. EXPLORE	VI. ENGAGE
<b>A. THINK</b>	<p><b>The school library enables curiosity and initiative by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embedding the inquiry process within grade bands and within disciplines.</li> <li>Using a systematic instructional-development and information-search process in working with other educators to improve integration of the process into curriculum.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library supports balanced perspectives through resources and learning opportunities by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing challenging and authentic opportunities that address the needs of the broad range of learners.</li> <li>Offering diverse learning experiences that allow for individual differences in learners.</li> <li>Providing a comprehensive variety of resources.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library facilitates opportunities to integrate collaborative and shared learning by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnering with other educators to scaffold learning and organize learner groups to broaden and deepen understanding.</li> <li>Leading inquiry-based learning opportunities that enhance the information, media, visual, and technical literacies of all members of the school community.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library provides problem-based learning experiences and environments by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using resources and technology to foster inquiry and scaffold mastery of skills necessary for learning to progress.</li> <li>Adopting a dynamic collection-development plan to ensure that adequate resources reflect current and in-depth knowledge.</li> <li>Focusing on the effective use of a wide range of resources to foster information skills appropriate to content areas.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library supports learners' personal curiosity by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing resources and strategies for inquiry-based processes.</li> <li>Fostering opportunities for learners to demonstrate personal curiosity and creation of knowledge through engaging with a wide variety of resources and technology.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library serves as a context in which the school librarian ensures that the school community is aware of the guidelines for safe, ethical, and legal use of information by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educating the school community on the ethical use of information and the intellectual property of others.</li> <li>Designing instruction and delivery of services that support equitable access to information in an efficient and ethical manner by all members of the school community.</li> <li>Embedding legal-, ethical-, and social-responsibility concepts into the inquiry and information-seeking processes.</li> </ol>
<b>B. CREATE</b>	<p><b>The school library enables generation of new knowledge by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing experiences with and access to resources, information, ideas, and technology for all learners in the school community.</li> <li>Supporting flexible scheduling to provide learner and educator access to staff and resources at the point of need.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library represents all members and their place in a global learning community by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing and maintaining a collection of reading and information materials in formats that support the diverse developmental, cultural, social, and linguistic needs of the range of learners and their communities.</li> <li>Organizing facilities to enhance the use of and ensure equitable access to information resources and services for all learners.</li> <li>Featuring learning opportunities that include diverse viewpoints.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library's policies ensure that school librarians are active participants in development, evaluation, and improvement of instructional and program resources with the school librarian by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consistently engaging with the school community to ensure that the school library resources, services, and standards align with the school's mission.</li> <li>Participating in district, building, and department or grade-level curriculum development and assessment on a regular basis.</li> <li>Including the school community in the development of school library policies and procedures</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library promotes selection of appropriate resources and tools for information use by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrating and documenting how resources and technology are used to address information needs.</li> <li>Providing opportunities for all members of the school community to develop information and technology skills needed to promote the transfer of information-related problem-solving strategies across all disciplines.</li> <li>Employing a dynamic collection policy that includes selection and retention criteria for all materials within the collection.</li> <li>Implementing an administratively approved and endorsed policy that clearly addresses procedures for handling material challenges.</li> <li>Designing and providing adequate, appropriate space for library resources, services, and activities.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library facilitates construction of new knowledge by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing technology as a tool or resource for learning.</li> <li>Ensuring that multiple learning activities can occur in both physical and virtual spaces.</li> <li>Establishing and maintaining a learning environment conducive to independent and collaborative exploration and problem-solving.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library supports ethical processes for information seeking and use by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing an environment in which all members of the school community can work together to develop, approve, and engage in clearly stated use policies to guide acceptable and ethical use of information, technology, and media.</li> <li>Promoting the responsible use of ideas, information, media, and technology through compliance with copyright and intellectual-property policies developed by the school librarian in collaboration with all members of the school community.</li> </ol>
<b>C. SHARE</b>	<p><b>The school library provides learners opportunities to maintain focus throughout the inquiry process by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating and maintaining a teaching and learning environment that is inviting, safe, adaptable, and conducive to learning.</li> <li>Enabling equitable physical and intellectual access by providing barrier-free, universally designed environments.</li> <li>Engaging with measurable learner outcomes and with data sources to improve resources, instruction, and services.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library facilitates opportunities to experience diverse ideas by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing solutions that address physical, social, cultural, linguistic, and intellectual barriers to equitable access to resources and services.</li> <li>Promoting the use of high-quality and high-interest literature in formats that reflect the diverse developmental, cultural, social, and linguistic needs of all learners and their communities.</li> <li>Constructing a learning environment that fosters the sharing of a wide range of viewpoints and ideas.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library provides opportunities for school librarians to connect and work with the learning community by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitating diverse social and intellectual learner networks.</li> <li>Designing and leading professional-development opportunities that reinforce the impact of the school library's resources, services, and programming on learners' academic learning and educators' effectiveness.</li> <li>Promoting and modeling the importance of information-use skills by publicizing to learners, staff, and the community available services and resources; serving on school and district-wide committees; and engaging in community and professional activities.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library facilitates the contribution and exchange of information within and among learning communities by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing an environment in which resources that support the school's curriculum and learning goals can be collaboratively selected and developed.</li> <li>Including and tracking collection materials in a system that uses standardized approaches to description and location.</li> <li>Establishing policies that promote effective acquisition, description, circulation, sharing, and access to resources within and beyond the school day.</li> <li>Maintaining procedures that ensure user confidentiality and promote unimpeded access to materials by staff members and learners.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library prepares learners to engage with a larger learning community by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modeling and promoting the use of personal and professional learning networks.</li> <li>Encouraging families and other members of the community to participate in school library activities.</li> <li>Building and advocating for strong relationships with stakeholders who recognize and support an effective school library.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library encourages participation in a diverse learning community to create and share information by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing both online and physical spaces for the sharing and dissemination of ideas and information.</li> <li>Providing a context in which the school librarian can model for learners, other educators, and administrators multiple strategies to locate, evaluate, and ethically use information for specific purposes.</li> </ol>
<b>D. GROW</b>	<p><b>The school library ensures an inquiry-based process for learners by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing and supporting a learning environment that builds critical-thinking and inquiry dispositions for all learners.</li> <li>Reinforcing the role of the school library, information, and technology resources in maximizing learning and institutional effectiveness.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library builds empathy and equity within the global learning community by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that all learning needs are met through access to information and ideas located in a diverse collection of sufficient size for the learner population and supported by reliable hardware and software.</li> <li>Enabling equitable access to learning opportunities, academic and social support, and other resources necessary for learners' success.</li> <li>Clearly and frequently articulating the school library's impact when communicating with administration, faculty, staff, learners, parents, and the community.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library supports active learner participation by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating and maintaining a learning environment that supports and stimulates discussion from all members of the school community.</li> <li>Demonstrating and reinforcing the idea that information is a shared resource.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library engages the learning community in exploring resources by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describing, organizing, and promoting the collection for maximum and effective uses for multiple learning applications.</li> <li>Maintaining a collection of sufficient breadth and currency to be pertinent to the school's program of studies.</li> <li>Supporting access through a schedule that allows use by learners and staff at time of need.</li> <li>Using local and external data to inform ongoing adjustments to the scope of the resource collection, and its audiences, formats, and applications.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library assists in the growth and development of learners by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leading other educators and learners to embrace a growth mindset through lifelong learning.</li> <li>Anticipating learners' needs and adapting the learning environment in accordance with evidence-based best practices.</li> <li>Embracing new skills, knowledge, and standards in the profession as they relate to teaching, learning, technology, and innovation.</li> </ol>	<p><b>The school library supports individual responsibility for information use by:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing an environment in which the school librarian can effectively develop, direct, and promote resources, services, policies, procedures, and programming aligned with current standards, ethical codes, and principles of the education and information professions.</li> <li>Providing an engaging learning environment that supports innovative and ethical use of information and information technologies.</li> </ol>