



COLLABORATION IN THE LEARNING COMMONS

Collaboration in a Library Learning Commons is a purposeful, ongoing partnership that cultivates a community of learners. It brings together the expertise of teacher-librarians and classroom educators to:

- co-design learning,
- co-teach lessons, and
- co-assess student learning

in ways that advance shared school goals.



COLLABORATION IS THE SINGLE PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOUR OF TEACHER-LIBRARIANS THAT MOST AFFECTS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (HAYCOCK 2007).

COLLABORATIONS ARE "A VITAL PART OF PROGRESSIVE, FUTURE-ORIENTED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS" (CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 2014)

WHY COLLABORATE?

- Cultivate and empower a community of learners, strengthening school-wide capacity for inquiry and knowledge building.
- Support effective instructional design, producing richer, more engaging learning experiences grounded in authentic inquiry.
- Ensure intentional development of cross-curricular literacies, including research fluency and digital citizenship.
- Advance shared school learning goals by leveraging professional expertise across roles.

TEACHER-LIBRARIANS

Teacher-Librarians:

- are instructional partners, co-planning and co-teaching to support deep learning.
- are literacy and learning specialists.
- are Leaders in cultivating inquiry, supporting learning designs that integrate creativity, exploration, and knowledge-building processes.
- are facilitators of equitable access, ensuring all learners benefit from high quality inquiry and literacy experiences.

FUELING SUCCESS: TEACHER-LIBRARIANS ARE ESSENTIAL INSTRUCTIONAL PARTNERS



EMBEDDED TIME

- Supports early development of Core Competencies.
- Promotes equity by ensuring all students experience inquiry-based learning.
- Builds foundational skills.
- Prevents later gaps that require intervention or remediation.

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING

- Enables responsive instruction, allowing Teacher-Librarians to meet learner needs in real time.
- Expands the Teacher-Librarian's ability to support all learners and educators across the school.
- Strengthens a culture of collaboration by ensuring protected, predictable opportunities for co-planning.



IMPACT ON STUDENTS

Collaboration with a Teacher-Librarian:

- Empowers learners through authentic inquiry and participatory learning.
- Deepens understanding through co-designed learning experiences.
- Increases reading engagement and achievement.
- Improves literacy and research skills.
- Integrates cross-curricular learning.
- Improves student academic achievement.



SCHOOL LIBRARIANS DEVELOP SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS WHEN THEY SHARE TIMELY COLLABORATION IDEAS AT THE POINT OF NEED... (KYMES & GILLEAN 2014).

WHEN SCHOOLS HAVE HIGH-QUALITY LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND LIBRARIANS WHO SHARE THEIR EXPERTISE WITH THE ENTIRE SCHOOL COMMUNITY, STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GETS A BOOST (LANCE & KACHEL 2018).

TO ACHIEVE THESE OUTCOMES, TEACHER-LIBRARIANS NEED SUFFICIENT, CONSISTENT COLLABORATION TIME THAT IS PROTECTED WITHIN THE SCHOOL SCHEDULE.

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