

**American Association of School Librarians
Affiliate Assembly I
Sunday, January 25, 2009
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
The Curtis Hotel, Room: Marco Polo**

Irene Kwidzinski called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. Members were requested to return completed surveys from Saturday's discussion group to Susan Ballard sometime today.

Irene Kwidzinski thanked our Colorado colleagues for the treats and goodies on our tables today. Jody Howard, president of the Colorado Association Librarians and Susan Gilbert, the Colorado Association of School Librarians president, welcomed everyone to Colorado.

Irene Kwidzinski thanked the breakfast sponsor, Linworth and asked them to come up and say a few words. Marlene Woo-Lun, President and Publisher of Linworth thanked everyone for all they do. Paula Jackson, Associate Publisher mentioned that Linworth is always willing to provide copies of LMC and other resources for state conferences. Just email Paula Jackson two weeks in advance to arrange this. Linworth offered members of the assembly the opportunity to select a book from the catalog and select a webinar to attend. Marlene Woo-Lun mentioned that she is proud of the webinar lineup for this spring.

Announcements:

Jay Bansbach spoke about the AASL National Conference. Registration has opened and the pre-conference workshops have been set. The complete list of workshops and additional conference information is available on the conference website:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009.cfm> . Author events - there will be a special event with James Patterson.

Some of the events to be featured are:

Celebrate Conference – First Timer's orientation

Exploratorium

Opening General Session with Danah Boyd

Exhibits opening reception

A storytelling extravaganza

Closing general session with Marco Torres

Closing Gala – Imaginon!

100+ Concurrent sessions

Tours – School tours, NASCAR Valley, Biltmore and more...

There will be conference articles in KQ. Full conference registration and preliminary program will be included in KQ for the first time. There will also be a mailing to 60,000 media specialists across US even if not members of AASL.

Jay Bansbach mentioned and thanked the following people for their work on the AASL National Conference. Ernie Cox and Lisa Hathcock are working on the concurrent sessions. Terri Kirk is our Exploratorium and pre-conference chair. Joyce Valenza and Robin Williams are the technology chairs. There will be more

technology than ever before. Ellen Rubin and Alison Follois are the author co-chairs. Sandra Andrews is the local arrangements person and is setting up the school tours and other tours in the schedule. Jay Bansbach offered a special thanks to Kelly Bishop and Brenda Dreier from the AASL office who are the “team on the ground,” working every day. See you in Charlotte.

Irene Kwidzinski thanked Jennifer Habley for putting together the packets with information for the affiliate assembly members. Irene went over the packet contents – a handout from Janice Ostrom about awards, information about an opportunity to get a PhD practically for free was given on a handout from Dr. Nancy Everhart, there was a handout on intellectual freedom and Irene Harwarth sent items electronically which were passed on to everyone by Irene.

Rosina Alaimo talked about volunteering for AASL and ALA committees. We want to be more of a visible presence in ALA. People are needed to volunteer to run for ALA Council and offices. There is still time to run. Petition candidates need to fill out the form and turn it in. You need 25 signatures of ALA members. The form is needed back from everyone today. Need more of a school library presence on ALA Council.

Hilda Weisberg requested time to speak about two things. 1. She is on the ALA committee on literacy and they are hosting a virtual library literacy summit in April. This will be the launching of large nationwide literacy dialogue and they will be looking at establishing communities of practice. 2. At Annual on Monday, July 13th, some of you may attend the AASL awards luncheon but if you are not planning on attending that, please consider a presentation at a Chicago public school program on literacy that involves parents and students. Participants will take back ideas they can use in schools. This is an opportunity for dialogue. Program will take 90 minutes to 2 hours. Start time is 1p.m. and they are saying the end time is 5p.m. but will probably be over early. Paul Whitsett, who oversees all the media centers in Chicago, has been spearheading this. It would be nice to have school librarians there.

Irene Kwidzinski took time to recognize the officers on the Executive Committee: Jay Bansbach, immediate past chair; Dr. Sandra Andrews, Chair-elect; and Deb Christensen, secretary. Past, past chair Carl Harvey is here as well.

AASL President-elect: Cassandra Barnett

Cassandra Barnett said she was here to put in a plea for volunteers. The President-elect has to appoint a lot of people to committees and she said she is looking for people who are willing to volunteer to be on committees and to be chairs. She asked that people who were interested to put their business card in the basket as a pledge that you will help AASL move forward. Cassandra Barnett reminded everyone that they have opportunities to think about where they are, where they want to go and how they will get there. She apologized for not being able to stay for the entire meeting. Interested parties can also go online and fill out a volunteer application form. Affiliate Assembly representatives should request that their members get involved as well.

AASL President: Ann Martin

Ann Martin stated that our work is important and we are the people who can get the answers to constituents in our state and members. She asked that we visit the website often and keep track of

updates because there are good things coming. Many documents we couldn't find have been organized into a database where we can find what we need. There will be more information via email or through Hot Links about these changes and additions. She was thrilled that at all committee meetings there were so many members working hard. Thank you for that. Ann Martin directed participant to prepare a one page summary of how libraries are going to serve them better and give that to their administrators. Ann discussed how the Consumer Product Safety Commission has determined that books are not exempt from a ruling regarding lead in books. Members were directed to call Commissioner Thomas Moore – 301-504-7902 about this issue. We want an exemption for libraries. When Feb. 10th comes we will have to show we are in compliance with the ruling. Legitimate studies show lead is not in books. Lawyer for recalls said only one recall in past history involved a book and it was for a book with a spiral binding. Ann asked that everyone make that call so our voices can be heard. This issue doesn't just affect school libraries but also public and university libraries and it extends to textbooks as well.

Ann Martin said she was very pleased to announce that the *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* are available at the ALA store and it can be purchased for the member price of \$35.10. Targeting the end of February/March 1st for the release of guidelines - Empowering Learners will be the title and it is the missing piece of document that will surround standards and guidelines. Ann Martin also wanted to give a plug for the president's program at ALA in Chicago. Laurie Halse Anderson, Jacqueline Woodson and Alan Lawrence Sitomer will show literacy leadership. Leadership is the president's theme. The authors are going to talk about how to use books to excite readers, improve competencies and build bridges to lifelong learning. Mark your calendar, the event will be on Saturday.

Next, Ann Martin stated that she would like to go through the concerns that went to the board and let everyone know the actions that went forward.

Concern 1: National Board Certification for library teachers. Submitted by the Massachusetts School Library Association. AASL was asked to form a task force to promote attainment of National Board Certification through increased publicity, online sources, and coordination and dissemination of information plus recognition for National Board Certified Teachers. Ann says AASL didn't do a good job of communicating what is already out there. Significant work that has already been done in regards to National Board Certification. There is a current presence on the website for National Boards. Letters get sent to all National Board Certified librarians who are AASL members. Recognition is given at conference with ribbons. Ann Martin stated that she hoped a group would form on ALA Connect, an interactive community, that will launch this spring. Candidates can participate along with certified people as well. National Board is revising the standards for the Library Media certificate. There has been a delay in looking at this but it will be started this year and AASL is part of this process. Each certification area has to have enough candidates in a field to make it financially viable and the statistics for librarians are good. We have more than the number needed to continue looking at it as a viable area. When National Boards went to make the original press release, the misperception of who librarians are was discussed and National Board said they could promote what we do. They had members of AASL write the press release and they released that with the names this year.

Concern 2: Task force to investigate ways to partnership with ASCD and other leadership organizations. Submitted by Region II. AASL recently launched the Learning 4 Life plan for implementing standards and

guidelines. Part of the plan is to reach administrators and different groups and this resource is available online and in book form. The plan has directives that directly target this concern. Ann Martin suggested letting the plan work its way through and then evaluate where we are again later.

Concern 3: The need to pursue collaboration between AASL and ISTE. Create a task force to research standards for common ground. Approach ISTE to create a bridge between standards. No formal plans to develop a crosswalk with standards since our standards are different. Our standards go beyond ISTE standards. Ours are learning standards and they have technology standards. The Executive Council feels that what is happening informally in the field will help with this issue. Doug Johnson is one of the people doing work in this area. Possibly the AASL communities will help with this issue as well.

Concern 4: Revolves around diversity. Appoint AASL task force to explore participation in groups listed in the ALA's directory of diversity organizations. Specifically asked to analyze the make up of the ALA directory, identify strategies for development of leaders and members between these groups and report findings. Ann stated that there is a task force that was created at end of last year which is called the diversity in the organization task force and they will be addressing all of these issues.

Concern 5: Request to establish a task force to develop a rapid response process for addressing program cuts, develop sample communication tools, develop a proactive procedure to support and sustainability after the crisis, leverage AASL leadership in 21st century partnership, collaboration with state superintendents and collect and disseminate on the affiliate assembly website information on individual affiliate's strategies for legislative advocacy. At the end of the annual conference in Anaheim, Ann Martin went to Deb Logan and said we cannot wait for an advocacy toolkit – we need it now. Most school budgets come about October first. Deb Logan said her group would do it. She and her committee worked all summer on the toolkits you will be trained on. AASL was the first division of ALA to come out with any kind of initiative advocacy issue. Other divisions in ALA are going to the AASL website to get our toolkits. That is how this concern is being addressed. Go to www.aasl.org, under professional tools, toolkits to find the resources.

Please contact Ann with any questions. Ann Martin thanked all for everything they do to support ALA and AASL.

Candidates running for office have been invited to speak to the assembly. Roberta Stevens came to speak to the group. She is running for ALA President. Her website www.robertastevens.com has information about her background, experience, and platform. Ms. Stevens also mentioned that the National Book Festival will continue under the new administration.

AASL President-elect candidates Dr. Nancy Everhart and Terri Kirk addressed the affiliates.

Kenton Oliver is running for ALA president and his email and web address was in an email sent out by Irene Kwidzinski.

There is a new sponsor for AASL – Verizon. Irene invited Judy Moog , a representative of Verizon, to speak to the assembly. Verizon is one of largest corporate foundations and they have been doing work with ALA

for close to 10 years. They are excited to be doing some additional work now. She wanted to promote the resource Thinkfinity.org.

Julie Walker, Executive Director of AASL, made a brief announcement that as part of the project of increasing awareness of Thinkfinity, the Thinkfinity and Verizon foundation will support a summit for Learning 4 Life trainers on July 9th in Chicago.

Irene Kwidzinski reminded the group that the candidates' forum was right after the assembly meeting in the same room.

There was a brief break and then Irene Kwidzinski informed everyone that there would be a presentation about advocacy. First Nancy Everhart and one of her students gave a quick plug about a doctoral program that is practically for free. This opportunity is available through Florida State University. Email Nancy Everhart for more information if interested in the program.

Irene announced that it was time for the advocacy issue. She stated that the group was lucky to have Stephanie Vance come to lead the first session. Stephanie has a book forthcoming in February called *Citizens in Action* and it is available for pre-order at exhibit booth 2004.

Advocacy Issue: Are we in danger of extinction? Check out Fund Our Future

How to talk to your Legislator by Stephanie Vance <http://www.advocacyguru.com>

Stephanie Vance gave her background information explaining how she got into the business of advocacy.

PowerPoint Slides

Why advocate?

But wait! I can't advocate!

The tools: Four strategies

The Actions: Five steps you can take today

NCSL.org is the National Council of State Legislators report on a website. There is a map of the US with colors showing budget deficit. It was pointed out that everyone is facing budget shortfalls. The decision of where the money is spent is going to people who are the best advocates. Stephanie stated that 10,000 bills are introduced in a typical session of congress but only 4% are passed. Our legislatures are designed not to pass but to fight and argue about legislation.

What factors affect legislators – money, being reelected, do you vote for them, number of cards and letters about an issue, staffers, publicity,

Potential Factors:

Personal relationships – Friends, staff, family

The message

Money? (not as influential as you might think) At website [opensecrets.org](http://www.opensecrets.org) you can see who has contributed to a person's campaign.

We have power of the constituency. Where our power lies.

Their own principles and passion.

Most important are the constituents. Representative democracy reflects and amplifies the POWER of the Grassroots---people who live, work or serve people in the congressman's district. We are a special interest and we have paid lobbyists working for us. In her opinion the lobbyists that are doing the right thing are doing a job that is beneficial.

But Wait! I can't advocate!

Definitions: Lobbying, advocacy and "education"

What's the rule of law in your state? If there are laws against communicating directly with officials then coalitions are the way to go. They can help.

What's the spirit in your community?

What should you always be able to do?

How Can We Do This? Four Great Strategies for Effective Advocacy

Know WHAT you want

Know WHO you're talking to

Know HOW to talk to them

Know how to FOLLOW-UP

Ask the legislators for something specific so they don't tune out. Example: Give libraries an exemption. If you don't ask for what you want then you will be disappointed when nothing gets done. Will you visit our library? Our school? Meet with some of our kids or parent groups? How many have a newsletter? Ask elected officials to write article for newsletter or sign their name to an article we wrote is good. Gives them a chance to have something public they can refer back to.

Know WHO – why are you relevant to them, we vote, are their constituent. Live, work, and serve people in their district. We need to identify elected officials where we live, work and serve (we serve regions).

Know HOW - What are they interested in? It's good to know. They have issues they love working on so you should connect to a legislator's favorite issues. We would like to do X but we don't have the money to do so. We can connect to anything because we are the pushers of information. Tips on messaging: Be relevant to them and tell their personal story. Relay stories of kids we help. How we help during school day and after school. How we use our own funds to help students. The personal story will get their attention.

Knowing how to follow up – If we are the person who follows up, the legislator knows we are serious.

Stephanie Vance wants everyone in the group to come up with a plan for meeting with our legislators

Five Resolutions for State Affiliate Leaders in Tough Times

I resolve...

To specify both short term "crisis" and long-term "relationship building" goals

- Short term
 - Organize and speak out on state budget cuts
 - Organize and speak out on Federal economic stimulus

- Identify new local sources of funding and support
- Long term
 - Ensure that relevant elected officials and their staff know of the value the library brings to the community
- AASL's "Crisis" and "Health" Toolkits
- Why?

Action Plan

- Outline up to 2 short term, critical challenges
- Outline up to 5 relationship building activities
 - Intro to new members
 - Site visit
 - Attend / host town hall meeting
 - Invite staff to library event
 - Article / CR statement

I resolve...

- To immediately identify at least 5 potential partners to work with
 - School libraries: Parents groups
 - Public libraries: Friends, Trustees, Chamber, other community organizations
 - Academic / technical libraries: Student groups, academic leaders
- Why?

Action Plan

- Brainstorm with staff, friends, existing coalitions on potential new partners
- Identify up to 5 new partners
- Create a one-pager or brochure that explains the specific short and long term goals and how they can help
- Cross-match coalition members with appropriate target audience members

I resolve...

- To focus on quality grassroots communications, not just quantity
- Why?
 - Recent reports show that fewer quality communications have a more powerful impact
 - What is "quality"?
 - Relevant to the recipient
 - Personalized – No matter how it is delivered
 - Fact-based and localized

Action Plan

- Identify up to 5 key decision makers for your crisis and long terms goals
- Develop a strategy for outreach to those that incorporates communication that is both *relevant* and *personalized*

I resolve...

- To train others in the process of grassroots advocacy so they can deliver the message
 - Not issues, or legislative process: Key is knowing how to communicate
- Why?

Action plan

- Create a page on your website offering resources on advocacy
- Connect patrons to www.ilovelibraries.org
- Schedule up to 3 webinars / conference calls in the next couple months
- Review list of upcoming events (such as PTA meetings) and ask to distribute flyer on funding situation and/or speak
- Identify 3 coalition member meetings that you can address

I resolve...

- To use every AASL and ALA resource available to implement these ideas
 - The AASL Crisis Tool Kit
 - [Office of Library Advocacy](#) (economic times packet)
 - Add It Up! ALA's new resource page to help advocates make the case (www.ala.org/additup)
 - [Leg Day](#)
 - www.ilovelibraries.org

Action Plan

- Review AASL resources
- Provide links through your website, where relevant
- Consider attending ALA Leg Day

Volunteers were asked to come up and make their case to legislator Vance.

Sign up for an advocacy tip sheet/newsletter - either give her our card or email her vance@advocacyguru.com to get on the newsletter mailing list.

Irene Kwizinski thanked Stephanie Vance for an entertaining and helpful session. Next session is with Deb Logan.

Leading Your State Advocacy: Saving School Libraries by Deb Logan

Deb Logan said good morning and welcomed everyone. Deb Levitov was also assisting with this presentation.

Deb Logan led an interactive activity where attendees were asked to stand or sit in response to questions about staffing and funding. The timing of this toolkit is critical. Even in states where school media specialists are mandated, that can be changed. Ohio used to require a certified person in every middle

school and high school and now it's optional. Want to encourage you to do things to continue for positions to be mandated.

There was a handout in the packets that summarized the PowerPoint slides shown.

Deb Logan – current chair of Advocacy for AASL jd3logan@bright.net, was chair of advocacy group in Ohio.

Deb Levitov – dlevitov@lps.org, was invited to help launch @ your library campaign in 2000. She chaired the @ your library committee which evolved into a task force. She chaired the advocacy committee and is a presenter for AASL's Advocacy Institute.

Deb Logan stated that she was going to take us on a little tour through history to see why the timing is critical. 2006 NSLMPY award went to Hilliard City School District in Ohio. This district used librarians as instructional leaders. Librarians were looked at as teacher leaders. This fall Hilliard Schools was facing a deficit. School librarian positions would have been cut had levy not passed. These were positions that were valued but the district had to make hard decisions. Deb gave other examples of places where cuts were happening. Position yourself so they know why your programs are important. The time is now.

Deb Levitov will talk about the Health and Wellness Toolkit. From the AASL Homepage, click on professional tools to find the toolkits. These are lifelines. Go to homepage for AASL, click on issues and advocacy and then the link for advocacy to find advocacy resources.

Resources found here:

Advocacy definitions

School Funding

PR & Marketing Ideas

Position Statement 2003

More...

AASL Professional toolkits

Resources found here:

AASL Intro to Advocacy

Talking points

Tips for success

Advocacy Action Plan Form

More...

Wants to introduce us to the Health and Wellness Toolkit and Advocacy Toolkit

Definition: Advocacy – On-going process of building partnerships so that others will act for and with you, turning passive support into educated action for the library media program.

It begins with a vision and a plan for the library media program that is then matched to the agenda and priorities of stakeholders.

Key idea: School librarians need to be cautious when advocating for their own programs and jobs. Need to advocate for students and programs.

Health and Wellness Toolkit:

Plan to build support – Steps 1-5, quick tips

1. Know your stakeholders
2. Alignment-match agendas
3. Program promotion – have research that shows what we do is valuable. Showing economic worth. We have value.
4. Evaluation and evidence – have a way to look back and say did I accomplish what I set out to do.
5. Share findings

Quick tips and helpful strategies to build support and understanding---Tips like: Form a Friends of the Library group, PTA, PTO, help parents with Web 2.0 resources, etc.

Resources:

Advocacy Basics

Strategic Advisory

Ready with research

Raising readers

21st century skills, information technologies and the economy

Evidence-based practice: improving practice and sharing the evidence – have to start showing how students are learning. Have to prove it. How do we build in assessments to show we are supporting student learning?

The elephant in the room – Do we have professionals that aren't aspiring to the kind of voice or model we want them to be. How can we change that? Need to bring people to a new level of professional performance

Steps to take:

Attend the AASL School Library Advocacy Institute

Maintain an ongoing plan, never let it lag

Become familiar with the resources

Focus on student learning

Don't wait for a crisis

Deb Logan – AASL Crisis Toolkit

We all need to get into the prevention kit now.

Go to Google type in AASL toolkits and get a great list of them.

AASL Crisis Toolkit

- Crisis planning
- State and national support: connecting to AASL and other assoc.

- Resources

Key ideas:

Business, not personal – Hilliard said the letters need to go to newspaper, not the school board. The board is making decisions they don't want to make. Reach out our hands to say we know you have a difficult decision to make. We don't want to back the administrators into a corner and make them defend these cuts.

Crisis Planning:

- Define the situation:
- Who
- Why
- When
- Triage
- Need this information for timelines, contacting people, etc.

Mission:

- Goals
- Mission, vision and objectives
- Timeline

Priorities

We know you have to make cuts this is what we want to have happen and why.

This next thing is critical. The school library needs and wants are not what's important. The messages cannot be about the library, they must be about the students. What the kids need, what they must have and what's in the best interest of the kids. Focus on the correct message for the media.

Communication Structure:

(More detail in the crisis kit)

Identifying the stakeholders:

- Interested parties
- Potential support
 - Local organizations
 - Union
 - PTA/PTO
 - Public Library
 - Higher Education

- Professional Library organizations
Individuals

Who cares?

Fund our Future Washington - there is a bill requiring school library media specialists in many of the schools. They are revamping the funding models for education in Washington State. The bill has not passed yet.

Ann Martin stated that Oregon started their Fund our Future campaign this summer. She was impressed when she went to their state conference.

Washington – fundourfuturewashington.org site will give history about how the program got started in Washington and there might be a link to fundourfutureoregon.org. Nancy Sullivan is the point of contact for Oregon. They created bookmarks with talking points. Petitions – goal was 10,000 signatures. If we went to the website we might be able to see how what they did could fit our state.

Ann Martin asked the Spokane moms how they got involved. She said go to a parent who might be an advocate and see if they know anyone who might help. Stakeholders are very important.

Washington State delegates stated that their first milestone was to get 4 million dollars out of the supplementary budget. Most important thing is to be present at meetings, show up. Make sure people are at important state committee meetings.

Deb Logan returned to the presentation.

Crafting the message:

- Mission and goals, etc
- Empirical Program data
- Qualitative data
- Research
 - Studies
 - Critical skill sets
 - District priorities

Stakeholder centered.

Current issue of KQ is evidence-based practice. The Toolkits will continue to be updated and changed.

Talking Points:

- The ask
- Reality based – they are facing cuts
- Thank you for past support

Clear, concise, supportive, positive

What students will gain and lose

Sharing the message:

- Web
- Speaker's bureau
- Letters
- Meetings
- Articles
- Visitors

Getting other people involved:

- Letters
- Recruiting
- Petitions
- Signs
- Attend meetings

Go back and ask people to be flaky – one snowflake is fragile but a bunch is an insurmountable force.

Resources

About Advocacy

The Research

21st Century Skills, Information technologies and the Economy

Raising readers

Advocacy in action: Examples of advocacy movements and tools

Additional Toolkits

ALA Advocacy University – try to put together training, recommended speakers on the issue, advocating in a tough economy toolkit which we will be linking to. Add it Up – Libraries make the Difference

You can send your administrators to the Add it Up site which has talking points based on research. They worked hard to craft the wording in a way that is stakeholder friendly. There are feedback buttons on everything so if it's missing anything let them know.

Budget cuts

You can do everything right and the axe may still fall. These are hard decisions. Build partnerships and say that as the situation improves we can add back. We know it's not personal, it's business.

Questions – are there any identical patterns such as what has been done in Spokane, what was successful and how can we take that to other states? Deb Logan says they are looking at it and adding it to the toolkits as they get the resources.

Would like us to take a minute to come up with a strategy for taking this back to our state and then we need to write some strategies on the post it notes and post on the wall. We can do a gallery walk at the

end of the Affiliate Assembly meeting. Groups worked together to come up with strategies and wrote them on Post-it-notes.

After everyone had time to strategize, Deb Logan stated she wanted to wrap up. She said groups could post suggestions at the end of the meeting so we can get out on time. She thanked everyone for their help with this and stated that there was a lot of great experience in the room.

Deb Levitov had message from President-elect Camilla Alire. Deb Levitov mentioned that in the advocacy institute on Friday their district bent over backwards when one parent came to speak up on one issue. Think of power we have if we have health and wellness in place. September 2007 KQ issue on advocacy is worth looking at again. Presidential initiative has the theme libraries the heart of all communities. Develop and train all front line library workers to speak to constituents, families, patrons, friends, on talking points so they can illustrate the value of libraries, libraries role in the development of literacy skills, information literacy research, economic development, lifelong learning and love of learning. Her initiative reaches across all types of libraries; she has most diverse workforce working on this. Expand audience for advocacy training and think about who carries the message - who answers phone, checks out the books, etc. Do they have the right message in mind? Survey will be sent out to Affiliate Assembly members. Two representatives from School libraries are on the committee. Deb Logan will post text from Post it notes on www.DebLogan.com by tonight.

Strategies and ideas from AASL Affiliate Assembly participants: (from Deb Logan's website)
January 2009 in Denver Colorado

Ideas for leading your state

- Newsletter articles.
- Member blasts from president.
- Work with own district- unified approach.
- Packets @ library meetings.
- Blast(s) to all pertinent listservs.
- Write articles for the state newsletter.
- Add link on the Website to AASL resources.
- Empower yourself: advocate for learning.
- "Connecting to Leaders" attendees return to systems and commit to share info.
- Share information in new member orientation
- Create state leg day.
- Work with school library systems- statewide approach,
- Share notes/minutes with other librarians.
- Keep statements short & punchy
- Back home communicate through state list serves.
- Share Stephanie's program.
- Create a simple bookmark listing talking points.
- Attend meetings to inform others about toolkits.

Suggestions for building support:

- Ask legislators how many school libraries in their state are being run by a certified- answer the question and talk about student skills.
- Position yourselves as necessary & vital to the district. Example: We took on the implementation of technology goals and objective. (i.e. curriculum) Consequently, the district sees us as doing two vitally important roles.
- Use online Web 2.0 tools (blogs, wikis, webinars, etc.) to teach LMS how to advocate and build local support.
- Collect and share students' stories
- Live from the library... Guest readers read over PA from the library.
 - Superintendents
 - School board members
 - Community leaders
- Put a face on your program. Have a visible and dynamic presence on the Web and publicize widely.
- Invite legislators to state school library board meetings.
- Send different stakeholders to Board of Education meetings each month to make a statement about the need for and impact of school libraries. (i.e. students, parents, principals, teachers, etc.)
- Weave advocacy themes and resources into library education classes.
- Collect evidence at the local level.
- @ your school, your district, etc.
- Leadership Day speakers: Senator, library systems, stated school board, state library, state university.
- Invite legislators to statewide meet 'n greets sponsored by CASL.
- Show up – not just librarians when there are money meetings that impact libraries. Be informed.
- Interview candidates for state superintendents; publish in our news and send as press release.
- Share what you and aides do.
- Ohio's EBP Module for prevention

Irene Kwidzinski thanked Deb Logan and Deb Levitov for sharing this timely information that members can bring back to their states. It is now time to caucus, a chance to work on concerns and commendations which we will focus on the most at ALA. Directors elect are the people who will guide us through the process. Irene asked Sandra Andrews to remind everyone of the information they need to know regarding the chair elect nomination process.

Sandra Andrews invited people to participate as a leader in affiliate assembly. This is a three year commitment (chair elect, chair and past chair). Nomination form is in back of AA handbook. You need your name or you can nominate someone on a form and get a minimum of 10 signatures. Sandra read the responsibilities of chair and chair elect from the Affiliate Assembly handbook. Sandra stated she would like to try and get these nominations in today but they can be accepted until February 1st. Sandra also invited everyone to attend the AASL National Conference in Charlotte.

Irene Kwidzinski instructed the regions to caucus and reminded everyone that the candidates' forum would be immediately after this meeting. Regions were encouraged to continue discussions on their region listservs. Irene thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

**American Association of School Librarians
Affiliate Assembly Attendance
Sunday, January 25, 2009
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
The Curtis Hotel, Room: Marco Polo**

Region I

Ann Perham	Massachusetts
Edna Comstock	Maine
Nancy Keane	NH
Susan Ballard	New England School Library Association, NESLA
Lucia Rafala	CT, CASL
David Bilmes	CASL
Gerri Fegan	Massachusetts and NESLA
Merlyn Miller	Vermont, New England School Library Association
Marilyn Joyce	Maine (MASL)
Valerie Diggs	Massachusetts – MSLA
Sandy Kelly	Massachusetts – MSLA
Kelley McDaniel	Maine – MASL
Kathy Lowe	Massachusetts

Region II

Sally Daniels	SLMS – New York
Carole Kupelian	SLMA – New York
Diana Virando	Maryland – MASL
Rosina Alaimo	SMLS – New York
Marilyn Kulkarni	DSLMA – Delaware
Jay Bansbach	Maryland – MASL
Sue Kowalski	Guest – NY
Nancy Latanision	PSLA
Geneva Reeder	PSLA
Doug Francis	PSLA
Ang Crockett Coxen	NJASL
Judith Everitt	NJASL
Pat Massey	NJASL
Hilda Weisburg	NJASL

Region III

Cara Cavin	Director-elect, WEMTA
Randee Hudson	ISLMA, delegate
Gail Janz	ISLMA, delegate
Leslie Forsman	Illinois, guest

Leslie Yoder	MEMO, delegate
Dawn Nelson	MEMO, delegate
Jill Youngblood	AIME, delegate
Carl Harvey	Indiana – AASL Board
Vicki Buelta	AIME, delegate
Karen Appleton	Iowa Association of School Librarians (IASL)
Marie Sabol	OELMA, delegate
Sarah Thornbery	OELMA, delegate
Lynn Gordon	MAME, delegate
Kathleen McBloom	MAME, delegate
Gayla Strack	Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL)
Marianne Fues	Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL)
Jo Ann Carr	Wisconsin Educ. Media & Tech. Association
Val Edwards	WEMTA, delegate
Karen Lemmons	MAME

Region IV

Kelly Brannock	NCSLMA
Deb Christensen	NCSLMA
Allison Roberts	TASL, Director-elect
Bruce Hester	TASL
Becky Jackman	TASL
Nancy Dickinson	TASL, Director, Region IV
Fred Tilsley	KSMA
Amanda LeBlanc	SCASL
Valerie Byrd Fort	SCASL
Melissa Gardner	KSMA
Johan Koren	Kentucky (guest)
Terri Britt	Virginia
Diane R. Chen	TN Guest, ALA Executive Board
Sandra Andrews	Chair-elect
Ann Martin	AASL President

Region V

Cecelia Solomon	FAME
Suzy Spiceland	AIMA
Judi Repman	GLA School Division
Deb Svec	Director-elect, Region V
Melissa Johnston	GLMA/FSU
Margie Thomas	Louisiana
Lou Greco	Florida
Nancy Everhart	Florida

Joanna Tamplin	Florida
Kathleen Murphy	Florida
Pamela Monroe	Florida

Region VI

Maribel Castro	Texas Association of School Librarians
Cindy Buchanan	Texas Association of School Librarians
Alison Almquist	New Mexico Library Association
Jackie Chetzron	Texas Association of School Librarians
Nancy Kubasek	Texas Association of School Librarians

Region VII

Susan L. Garvin	Director-elect, Phoenix, AZ
Lesley Farmer	California
Robbie Nickel	NV-NSCLS, Director VII
Ann Ewbank	AZ- Arizona Library Association
Sally Roof	Chair of Teacher Librarian Division of AZ Library Association
Grace Fujiyoshi	Co-president, Hawaii Association of School Librarians
Connie Williams	California School Library Association

Region VIII

Dave Sonnen	WLMA
Stephen Coker	WLMA
Linda Collins	WLMA
Lorraine Monprode	WLMA

Region IX

Lori Umstead	Nebraska Educational Media Association
Susan Gilbert	Colorado Association of School Librarians
JoAnn Perry	Colorado Association of School Librarians
Su Eckhardt	Colorado Association of School Librarians
Jen Cotton	Colorado Association of School Librarians
Barb Bahm	Kansas Association of School Librarians
Gail Formanack	Region IX, Director
Cindy Pfeiffer	Kansas Association of School Librarians
Linda Roberts	Kansas Association of School Librarians, Region IX, Director-elect
Jody K. Howard	Colorado Association of School Librarians
Colet Bartow	Montana Library Association, SLMD
Jodi Gehrig	District Director of Denver Public Schools