

# **Policy No: A-18**

## **Subject: AASL Communities\***

**Number of pages:** 2

**Effective Date:** June 27, 2015

**Revision Date(s):**

**Review Date(s):**

**Review Responsibility:** AASL Bylaws and Organization Committee, AASL Board of Directors

### **Policy Statement:**

AASL communities provide an avenue for the exchange of information and ideas related to the school library profession.

### **Focus:**

AASL Members

### **Purpose:**

To ensure the acceptable use of communication across all AASL communities.

### **Supportive Documentation:**

Definitions:

1. AASL Communities: any in-person or online gathering of members for the exchange of information (e.g. ALA Connect, AASL Member Forum, AASL social media)
2. Commercial activity: an activity or material that involves the buying and selling of goods, products, or services.

### **Procedure:**

1. AASL communities enable members to pose questions, share resources, discuss current issues and trends in the profession, and support one another.
2. Participants are regulated by the *ALA Online Code of Conduct* and the *ALA Statement of Appropriate Conduct*.
3. Acceptable exchanges include but are not limited to:
  - a. Commercial recommendations as a response to a professional inquiry are permitted (e.g., a request for a book recommendation for a lesson, or new vendor recommendation for a particular service)
  - b. School library job openings
  - c. School library-related professional development opportunities
    - i. All AASL or AASL Chapters sponsored events

- ii. Other events must meet the following criteria:
  1. Event is provided by a credible organization
  2. Event does not conflict with any AASL, AASL Chapters, or affiliated events
  3. Event is free
4. Unacceptable exchanges include but are not limited to:
  - a. Unsolicited commercial recommendations (e.g., posting a recently published book or solicitation to subscribe to a publication or service)
  - b. Commercial materials which are distributed or displayed outside a presenter's session and/or the exhibit hall.
5. The following steps will be taken by AASL Headquarters when a violation has occurred:
  - a. The individual who posted a commercial posting will be notified that such postings are not permitted. If the AASL member continues to ignore AASL policy, the individual will be removed from the AASL Member Forum.
  - b. Commercial materials placed in session rooms or open areas of conference will be removed.
  - c. Individuals soliciting AASL attendees outside of the conference exhibit hall will be asked to leave the conference.

\*This revised policy incorporates the positions and procedures of Policy No: A-14: *Publication of Educational Events* as of March 2023.