

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas
January 20 – 24, 2012**

Topic: Creating Curriculum Kits

Background: YALSA’s current continuing education portfolio includes synchronous and asynchronous learning options, all moderated by a member expert. With current economic conditions, many of these training options are beyond the budget reach of many state libraries and large library systems, leaving these organizations to create their own training material for serving young adults. YALSA has fully developed two e-courses that address two topics state consultants state needing help with: technology and adolescent behavior. Building off the content of these e-courses, YALSA can create two in-depth training manuals that can be marketed to state libraries and large library systems. This manuals would both increase the caliber of training being offered at the state level and would provide an additional revenue stream for YALSA. In December the YALSA Board, via its space in ALA Connect, discussed the proposal and voted to adopt it on Dec. 30, 2011. Including the item as a part of this meeting simply ensures it will be entered into the official record of the association.

Action Required: Consent

Proposal:

In summer 2011, YALSA surveyed state youth consultants on their training needs. In the survey, state consultants stated that they were interested in teen-focused training manuals; 59% indicated interest in a digital literacy/teens and technology manual, and 27% were interested in an adolescent development/behavior manual. These training manuals would provide state consultants with information, activities, resources and readings that they could use and adapt in trainings with librarians in their state.

Currently, YALSA has online courses that address teens and technology and adolescent behavior/development. Using these courses as building blocks, YALSA can develop training manuals in these areas. YALSA can work with member experts who developed these courses to create the training manuals. In addition, YALSA may reach out to other experts in the field to assist in developing these curriculum kits. Similar to Every Child Ready to Read 2, YALSA will host a free webinar that will explain how to use the curriculum kit for trainings. The webinar will be recorded and will be made available on demand, so no matter when someone purchases a curriculum kit, training on how to use it will be available to them.

The manual would be designed to be evergreen, but YALSA would provide regularly updated supplements. These supplements would incorporate new developments in the field. The complete manual would be revised and reissued on a set-schedule approximately every 3-5 years.

Rationale:

- Currently there is a lack of training manuals on library services to young adults. As a leader in the field, YALSA is a natural fit for producing these manuals.
- The manuals would be offered at a lower price point that YALSA's face to face institutes and so will be more affordable to state library agencies
- The manuals represent a potential new revenue stream for YALSA
- One issue that repeatedly arose in the survey was a lack of resources in time, money and staff. For many of these state consultants, YALSA's CE options such as our day long face to face institutes are beyond their budget reach.
- Many of the librarians that state youth consultants work with are youth services librarians and library generalists, and have no specialized training in working with teens. These manuals would help to fill that training gap.

Proposed Action:

Approve creation of two training manuals focusing on teens and technology and adolescent behavior.

Additional Resources:

Results from state youth consultant survey - <http://svy.mk/qR25yq>