YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Anaheim
June 22 – 26, 2012

Topic: Environmental Scan: Common Core Standards

Background: Over 40 states have adopted Common Core Standards developed for English and Math. This initiative is an effort to standardize what basic skills students in the US should master in school and was a state-led effort and is not something that came out of the federal government. These standards attempt to define the knowledge and skills all students should have within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses or in workforce training programs. The board may want to explore how YALSA can support its members whose libraries are a vital student resource.

Action Required: Discussion

What is this issue about?
Libraries have always provided some sort of support to K-12 school curriculums.
- School libraries primarily through collection development, instruction and curriculum planning with faculty
- Public libraries primarily through homework help
The Common Core is simply a new curriculum that is being implemented at a national level.

What do members need?
- Is there a significant need? At this time we only have anecdotal evidence from a handful of members that they’re looking to YALSA to provide support in this area.

Possible Courses of Action
- Survey members to determine their need, then based on survey results develop a strategy for supporting members in this area
- Recruit a couple of members to create a page on YALSA’s wiki that is focused on libraries and curriculum support, seed it with some basic information then encourage members to contribute. Use this as a barometer to test members’ interest and engagement on the topic
- Ask the Interdivisional Committee on School/Public Library Cooperation to explore the issue
- Create a YALSA taskforce to explore the issue and/or implement some of the activities mentioned above
- Do a combination of the above
- Do nothing at this time
- Other?
Additional Resources

- AASL position statement on the Common Core:
  [http://www.ala.org/aasl/aaslissues/positionstatements/collegecareerstandards](http://www.ala.org/aasl/aaslissues/positionstatements/collegecareerstandards)
- AASL standards and how they align with the Common Core:
  [http://www.ala.org/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/commoncorecrosswalk](http://www.ala.org/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/commoncorecrosswalk)
- All Aboard! Implementing the Common Core Offers School Librarians an Opportunity to Take the Lead [http://bit.ly/KgMxP0](http://bit.ly/KgMxP0) (SLJ)