

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE NEW ENGLAND
EDUCATIONAL MEDIA
ASSOCIATION



NEEMA VIEWS

VOLUME XXIII NUMBER I

FALL 2007

DATES OF INTEREST:

2008

January 11-14
ALA Midwinter
Philadelphia, PA
www.ala.org

April 3
NEEMA Hall of Fame
April 4
NEEMA Leadership
Boston, MA
www.neema.org

April 28
RIEMA Annual
Warwick, RI
www.ri.neu/RIEMA

May 13-14
NHEMA Annual
Nashua, NH
www.neema.net

June 26- July 2
ALA Annual Conference
Anaheim, CA
Affiliate assembly Fri., 6/27 and
Sunday 6/29)
www.ala.org

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AASL Standards for the 21st Century Learner

Well, this really is front page news! AASL has released the "Standards for the 21st-Century Learner" which offer vision for teaching and learning to both guide and beckon our profession as education leaders. They will both shape the library program and serve as a tool for library media specialists to use to shape the learning of students in the school.

Common Beliefs

The learning standards begin by defining nine foundational common beliefs:

- Reading is a window to the world.
- Inquiry provides a framework for learning.
- Ethical behavior in the use of information must be taught.
- Technology skills are crucial for future employment needs.
- Equitable access is a key component for education.
- The definition of information literacy has become more complex as resources and technologies have changed.
- The continuing expansion of information demands that all individuals acquire the

thinking skills that will enable them to learn on their own.

- Learning has a social context.
- School libraries are essential to the development of learning skills.

The Standards

The Standards describe how learners use skills, resources, and tools to

1. inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge;
2. draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge;
3. share knowledge and participate ethically and productively as members of our democratic society;
4. pursue personal and aesthetic growth.

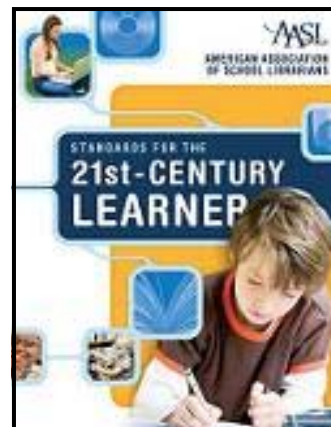
Downloading and Ordering

◆ You can [download the Learning Standards](#) as an eight-page full-color pamphlet (PDF, 4 mb).

◆ You can also [purchase the Standards brochures](#) in a packet of 12 from the [ALA](#)

[Online Store](#). Prices are \$13.50 for members and \$14.95 for non-members.

Complementing the release of the standards, is the announcement of the program for the annual NEEMA Leadership Conference, slated for Friday April 4th at the John J. Moakley Federal Courthouse in Boston. The annual NEEMA Leadership Conference provides a great opportunity to consider what's on the horizon and to network with colleagues from throughout the region. We are delighted to have **Dr. Henry Jenkins**, world-renowned expert on new media literacies and the participatory culture that our students are part of, as our keynoter.



New England Educational Media
Association and Massachusetts
School Library Association

Friday April 4th

Save the date!

NEEMA 2008



Featuring Dr. Henry Jenkins
Director, Comparative Media
Studies Program and Professor
of Literature, MIT

With Christopher Harris and
Carol Gordon

*Where Soulja Boy
Meets Herman
Melville: What Remix
Culture Can Tell Us
About the New Media
Literacies*

JOIN US IN BOSTON!
JOHN J. MOAKLEY FEDERAL
COURTHOUSE



The Seaport Hotel will provide a special conference rate for attendees on Thurs. 4/3 and Fri. 4/4 For further information on related costs the conference, lodging, and the preconference dinner please visit www.neema.org after December 1st, 2007

Preliminary Schedule and Agenda

- 8:00 – 8:45** **Registration and breakfast**
- 8:50 – 9:00** **Introductions and Leadership Overview**
- 9:00 – 10:30** **Keynote by Dr. Henry Jenkins:** Soulja Boy, a teenager, was able to get a major record contract and form a national following by his clever manipulations of MySpace, blogs, and YouTube, encouraging his fans to do their own performances to his music. Herman Melville wrote the great American novel by drawing on many powerful aspects of the culture around him -- mixing and mashing up elements from Homer, Milton, The Bible, and Shakespeare, not to mention countless reference works on whaling culture. By juxtaposing these two figures, Dr. Jenkins will suggest the ways that culture has always grown by building on the reservoir of previous works, a tendency which has simply accelerated as a consequence of new digital technologies and emerging systems of grassroots media distribution. This new remix culture is very much part of the lives of American college and high school students, but it has not yet had much impact on what we do in the classrooms. Dr. Jenkins will make the case that schools should make their peace with remix culture, seeing it as a force which might revitalize how we teach some very traditional school content and tapping it as the focus of our efforts to talk to young people about their ethical choices as media makers and participants in online communities. He will share materials being developed by MIT's Project NML, a MacArthur funded initiative to help develop resources for teaching the social skills and cultural competencies which young people need to become full participants in contemporary society.
- 10:30—11:00** **Break and Book Signing w/ Dr. Jenkins**
- 11:00 – 12:00** **Keynote Response Panel—**What do students want? What do they like/dislike about their schools and school and public libraries? Most teens report they want to be more self-directed and self-sufficient in using the resources available to them in the 21st Century library. Our responders will include students and educators.
- 12:00-1:00** **Lunch**
- 1:00—2:00** **Gaming as a New Literacy: Christopher Harris** performed open heart surgery recently -- right after playing in the Super Bowl, taking the checkered flag in Indy, assaulting a heavily fortified machine gun placement, and tailoring another 20 suits of clothes (but before leading the Celts to victory in the race to colonize a new world). The question is whether or not he learned anything while "wasting" those many hours in front of his computer. What does literacy mean when interactions and experiences are virtual? And where do libraries fit on this evolving game board?
- 2:00 – 3:00** **Working Break and Jigsaw Activity** with attendees participating and proposing solutions to questions raised and pathways to the future. **Facilitated by: Carol Gordon**
- 3:00 – 3:30** **Wrap-up and evaluation**

Our Presenters: **Henry Jenkins** is the Co-Director of the MIT Comparative Media Studies Program and Professor of Humanities. He is the author and/or editor of 12 books on various aspects of media and popular culture, including: *Convergence Culture: Where Old and New Media Collide*; and *Bloggers and Gamers: Exploring Participatory Culture*. Jenkins writes regularly about media and cultural change at his blog, henryjenkins.org. Jenkins also leads a research group called [New Media Literacies](http://www.projectnml.org), <http://www.projectnml.org>. The New Media Literacies project (NML) is working to integrate new media materials into compelling activities for K-12 students for use in or out of school. Their White Paper for the MacArthur Foundation, *Confronting the Challenges of Participatory Culture: Media Education for the 21st Century* is also available for download at the NML site. **Christopher Harris** is the Coordinator of the School Library System of Genesee Valley BOCES serving the school libraries of 22 rural districts in western NY. In addition to blogging at Infomancy [<http://schoolof.info/infomancy>], he blogs and writes for *School Library Journal*. Drawing on his experience as a classroom teacher and an instructional technology coordinator (as well as many years of being a gamer geek), Christopher is always on the lookout for new tools and strategies for using computers to enrich understanding and learning. **Carol Gordon** has a long history of working in school libraries, both in the U.S. and overseas. She is presently an Associate Professor at Rutgers University where she is co-director of CISSL (Center for International Studies in School Librarianship).



NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL MEDIA ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME AWARD, 2008

It is our birthday!!! On May 1918 at Simmons College, the first formal meeting of the *New England School Library Association* was held. To celebrate our 90 years of service to the library profession, a special award has been established.

At the March 2007 Annual Meeting, a motion was made to create a Hall of Fame Award to recognize the many members of NEEMA - librarians, library media specialists, teacher-librarians, supervisors, officers, committee chairs of AASL, ALA and NEEMA, vendors and administrators - who have through their hard work and dedication have given so much of their time and heart to the library media profession as an active member of NEEMA.

This award will recognize those living and deceased who have made a significant contribution to the library media profession over the last 90 years as a member of NEEMA. We are asking the Boards of each state as well as NEEMA to make this Hall of Fame Award an agenda item. Take out your old NEEMA VIEWS and review the names of those members from your state who have made a lasting contribution to the history of NEEMA. Nominations may be made by individuals or submitted by a state board.

All nominations need to be submitted to Harriet Lapointe, P.O. Box 287, Bristol, RI 02809 by February 2008. The Committee - Harriet Lapointe, Chair, Carolyn Markuson, Doug Maitland, Audrey Friend, and Rolf Erikson will review the nominees in February 2008. The Hall of Fame awards will be given out at the **Annual Meeting on April 4, 2008**. *A special program booklet will be designed to include the names of all the Presidents who have served over the 90 years. In addition, the recipients of the Hall of Fame Award will be listed in this special program booklet.* During the dinner at Anthony's Pier IV, the evening before the Annual Conference, recipients of the award will gather to share a special birthday cake to celebrate our 90th birthday and to be recognized for their contributions.



NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL MEDIA ASSOCIATION 2008 HALL OF FAME AWARD

Criteria: a member of NEEMA who has made a significant contribution to NEEMA and the region through their actions as an advocate for the library media profession on the regional and national level.

Nominee's Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Living Deceased State Affiliation: _____

Note: Recipients of the award will be invited to the Awards ceremony on April 3rd/4th, 2008.

Contributions to NEEMA through their actions on the regional or national level:
(Please lists dates and actions (Served as AASL president, a notable presenter at regional and national conferences, a dynamic spokesperson for the library media profession, a scholar in the field of school librarianship, a national figure on library issues,) that would merit this person being selected for this special award.

Nominated by: _____

State Affiliation: _____

Please make copies of this form and nominate as many people as are deserving of this award.

ONLY one nomination per page.

All nominations should be mailed no later than February 8, 2008, to:

Harriet Lapointe, Chair
Hall of Fame Committee
P.O. Box 287
Bristol, RI 02809
lapointeh@bw.k12.ri.us or harrietlapointe@yahoo.com



Membership Invoice: Sept 1st, 2007-Aug 31st, 2008
NEEMA is a regional organization dedicated to serving the needs of school library media professionals in the six New England state

Celebrating our 90th birthday  in 2008!

Name: _____
Home Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
School: _____
School Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
E-mail: _____

Here's What We Need to Know About YOU:

School Affiliation: *please check the appropriate box:*

- Elementary
- Middle/Junior High
- Senior High
- Private School
- College/University
- Vocational/Adult
- Supervisor
- Administration
- Commercial Representative

Membership Type:
(please circle)

Renewing Member

New Member

Membership Benefits:

- Network with the six New England State Library/Media Associations
- Annual Conference (with reduced rates for NEEMA members)
- Leadership opportunities
- A link with AASL Regional Directors, who are members of the AASL Board of Directors—the place where decisions are made!
- A liaison with our accreditors, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges
- A subscription to our quarterly newsletter: *NEEMA VIEWS*
- Representation to the Association for Educational Communications and Technology
- Informative website: www.neema.org
- An advocate for all school library media specialists in New England
- Additional representation to the AASL Affiliate Assembly
- Professional development opportunities

Dues:

- Annual membership: **\$30**
- State organization member*: **\$20**
- Student and retiree: **\$15**
- Total Enclosed: _____

**If you are a member of your state organization, we are offering a reduced rate to join NEEMA.*

*Please make checks payable to NEEMA.
Please remit this application and fees to:*

Merlyn Miller
NEEMA Membership Chair
Burr and Burton Academy
57 Seminary Avenue
Manchester, VT 05254

News of Note

Irene Kwidzinski, outgoing Region 1 Director of AASL, will continue to be involved at the national level as she was voted **Chair-Elect of the Affiliate Assembly**. So, she will be at the Affiliate Assembly for the next 2 years and welcomes any suggestions on how to make that experience the best it can be. Irene thanks the Region 1 delegates for their support and encouragement, especially CASL President, **Janet Roche**, who enthusiastically gathered the necessary signatures for the nomination petition.

The NEEMA Board is considering a new view for **“VIEWS”** They

have examined a blog-like publication that is in beta testing and is more like a participatory newspaper. In this way, while there is an editorial process, all members of NEEMA can contribute to the content. And we would have a product that can be put into an RSS feed when there is a “call to arms” We hope to develop a “publication plan” shortly although the Board agreed that there would still be a need for an annual paper issue.

Carol Gordon will spearhead an Ad Hoc Committee to help school librarians become strategic about their program web page and especially positioning and placement of their page. This committee will create suggestions

for school library web pages. Carol notes that the trend for our web pages should be knowledge construction centered. Does your web page pass muster??

Another Ad Hoc Committee comprised of **Sylvia Norton (ME)**, **Kathy Lowe (MA)** and **Jenifer Smolnik** will look into how we can better position ourselves and our programs as relates to the Partnership for 21st Century Skills <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org> The states of Maine, Massachusetts and Connecticut have joined the partnership and this group will consider how we can help to encourage membership for New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont

Greenberg AASL Distinguished Administrator Recipient AND School Library Journal/Greenwood Publishing Administrator of the Year

Nate Greenberg, Superintendent of the Londonderry (NH) School District, was named recipient of both the AASL Distinguished Administrator Award and the School Library Journal/Greenwood Publishing Administrator of the Year. Greenberg’s nomination by the school library media specialists of his district was enthusiastically backed with a letter of support on behalf of NEEMA, by Past-Presidents **Jenifer Smolnik** and **Carolyn Markuson**, who observed:

“He has been a major advocate for school library media programs and the central role of school library media professionals in developing effective programs that, in turn, lead to consistent student achievement. He expects the same advocacy and appreciation from building and program administrators. As a result, the Assistant Superintendent, Principals, Associate and Assistant Principals, Program and Service Directors, value and support strong school libraries and include school library media specialists in all aspects of school improvement efforts. School libraries in Londonderry are the centerpiece of learning, a situation that we in the professional aspire to, but rarely achieve. Due to his leadership and vision, the libraries have become truly central to learning in the district.”



AASL Director's Report from ALA Annual, Washington , D.C.

Irene Kwidzinski, (outgoing) AASL Director

The AASL board began its first meeting with a four-hour strategic planning workshop to explore how the organization can enhance its value to prospective members in order to significantly increase membership.

There were several issues to discuss. For instance, almost 70% of AASL members are 45-64 years old, 46.8% of the pre-Vision Summit respondents were non-members of AASL, and more than 50% of the AASL e-Academy participants were also non-members. There was even a discussion on LM_Net on the value of ALA/AASL membership. These were definite challenges.

The board came up with many questions and ideas. How can we address that "elusive member value?" How can we provide valuable information that anticipates our members' needs? Each of us has more demands on our time. How can AASL be recognized as the authority in our field when the Internet is increasingly becoming the preferred source of information? Some of the possibilities discussed were short-term volunteering; member-only portal; direct communication at the time of need; constant, consistent gathering of data; legislation; webinars and podcasts; and a website that is easier to navigate. But if we build it, will they come? More discussion on these strategies is needed and the new Board will act on this issue.

AASL Long-Range Goals

AASL's long-range goal continues to be making the profession viable in the future. All of their efforts fall under three main categories: advocacy, professionalism and alliances.

The goal of **advocacy** is being accomplished by the following:

1. Last winter AASL conducted the first of its annual surveys to collect longitudinal data on school library media programs. The purpose of the survey is to collect relevant national data on

hours, staff, collections, technology, usage and expenditures that members can use in advocacy messages. Nearly 5,000 survey responses were received. Initial baseline results will be presented at the national conference in Reno.

2. Senator **Jack Reed** (D-RI) and **Thad Cochran** (R-MS) held a press conference on June 26th to introduce the Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries (SKILLS) Act. Check out the details at http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aasliissues/SKILLS_Act.cfm and ask your legislators to support it.

ALA highlights school library funding problems nationwide at <http://www.ala.org/ala/news/libraryfunding/schoollibraryfunding.htm>. Perhaps you have a story to add.

The goal of **professionalism** is being addressed in several ways:

The official launch of the learning standards will occur at the national conference in Reno. Check out the second draft of the learning standards to get a good idea of what to expect http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/learningstandards/AASL_Learning-Standards-DRAFT2.pdf.

The 2008 fall forum will focus on assessment of the new learning standards. There is also a recommendation to offer the institute twice in one year in different locations to accommodate more attendees. The Association has restructured committees in order to make AASL a more efficient, productive professional organization that welcomes member involvement. Check out committee and task force descriptions, responsibilities and an online volunteer form at <http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aboutaasl/aaslgovernance/aaslcommittees/committees.cfm>.

Congratulations go to **Susan Ballard** who will be the chair of the Standards and Guidelines Implementation Task Force.

The Board will assess the AASL blog established by **Alice Yucht** and volunteers. They want to create an official guiding document for its continuing development and evaluation. Participate in the blog by going to <http://blogs.ala.org/aasl.php>. It's a great way to keep in touch and discuss issues.

The 2007-2008 Emerging Leader Program enables new librarians to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Check it out at http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/index.php/Main_Page.

The goal of **alliances** is being addressed by the following:

Co-sponsoring an ALA '08 program with REFORMA and the Children's and Young Adult Services Committee on "The Bilingual Mind: How Children Acquire and Use Language."

A joint project between AASL and YALSA "Gurus & Greenhorns: Mentoring the Next Generation of School and Youth Services Librarians." Contact Jennifer Habley jhabley@ala.org for more information.

Continued participation in the Partnership for 21st Century Skills <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/index.php>.

A concept paper on strengthening 21st century skills-and K-12 results-with technology will come out in the fall. A collaborative project with the International Reading Association and others "Making Every Moment Count: Maximizing Quality Instructional Time." Check it out at http://www.reading.org/downloads/resources/MEMC_070620.pdf.

This is my last report as your director. **Marilyn Joyce** (ME) will be your new director and **Ann Perham** (MA) will be your new director-elect to the AASL board. Along with your state delegates to the Affiliate Assembly, they will be your voice at the national level. It has been a privilege to represent this region on the AASL board. I have had a wonderful learning experience. Thank you for the opportunity.



Views of the States

Members of MSLA were very busy throughout the spring and summer legislatively, preparing to promote their House Bill 564, now before the Education Committee. H564 asks to clarify for school districts the ability to designate Chapter 70 funds toward school library certified staffing and resources by inserting the words “school libraries” into the Ed Reform Ch70 law in Massachusetts. A group including myself, **Donna Guerin**, Past President, **Maureen Ambrosino**, representing the Central Region Library System, and a parent gave testimony before the committee at the MA State House that was favorably received. The Committee also had received over 100 additional pieces of testimony as a result of our listserv requests to contact legislators. We continue to request our members and others contact representatives as we try to get this important piece of legislation through the Committee (It is important to note that MSLA is not asking for money for school libraries, but is instead asking to clarify language so that libraries are listed in the law so that administrators realize that school libraries are something you should fund).

This past June at least 8 members attended the ALA conference

in DC. We were present on Capitol Hill when **Senator Jack Reed** announced the Strengthening Kids’ Interest in Learning and Libraries Act. The SKILLS Act reauthorizes and strengthens the Improving Literacy through School Libraries program of the No Child Left Behind Act. This legislation will help ensure that more schools have highly qualified librarians and the resources they need to help students harness new technologies to find information. In addition it asks that a school librarian be present in all schools by the year 2010. After the press conference we visited our Senators’ offices to ask their support. MSLA also continues to request members contact their reps in support of the SKILLS Act.

MSLA has approved a formal Joint Statement with MassCUE, the Massachusetts Computer Using Educators, called *School Library and Technology Services for Schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*. This documents the similarities and differences in our vision and goals and delineates the roles we play in our schools. It will be formally released at our annual conference in November.

Kathy Lowe and I visited with aides in the office of **Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria**, our Governor’s new Special Advisor on Education, to offer our assistance with the Governor’s transition

teams working to implement the new initiatives of the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. On Sept 25th Kathy and I returned to participate with P21’s **Charles Fadel** to help review and identify the particular P21 skills that Massachusetts will integrate into curricula and Frameworks. We were disappointed to learn we were not included in the Governor’s Readiness Project but continue to try to remain visible. We are also hoping to have representation on the new committee being formed that will revise the state’s English Language Arts Frameworks. (Note: AASL pays money to be a partner in 21st Century Skills).

Our annual conference, *School Libraries in a 2.0 World*, was held at the Sturbridge Host Hotel November 11-12. Speakers included **Charles Fadel** of Cisco Systems and the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, **Meredith Farkus**, author of the Information Wants to Be Free blog, **Allison Zmuda** who was a very motivating speaker at the AASL conference in Providence last year, **Brian Kenney**, editor of School Library Journal, and **Sarah Kelly Johns**, President of AASL. **Chris Harris** was our Monday keynote speaker.

Submitted by **Sandy Kelly**

NHEMA has considered web conferencing software to enable board members who are not able to travel to the meetings to still participate. Members endorsed the web-conferencing software idea.

Dot Grazier is the new liaison specialist to the NH Council of Teacher’s of English and other similar organizations dedicated to literacy and reading. This is a new position. It was suggested that in this role Dot might investigate joint workshops, conferences, and or speakers.

New Hampshire has been focusing on their spring conference as the school librarians and public librarians have decided to part ways. The 2008 New Hampshire Educational Media Association conference will be held May 13-14 at the Radisson in Nashua –off Route 3-Exit 1- formerly the Sheraton

Tara. The theme of this year’s conference is Collaborate for Literacy @ Your Library. While the theme has been chosen, the specifics are still being worked out. will be released upon agreement. Since this year our conference has a collaboration theme, LMS’s are encouraged to attend with reading specialists and teachers in an attempt to make the conference more meaningful and effective on all levels.

The NH conference does fall on the same days this year as the Vermont conference, an unfortunate coincidence, and we hope this does not cause vendor conflicts or other problems. We will attempt to collaborate with the Vermont Conference Committee to make sure both conferences go as smoothly and positively as possible.

Submitted by **Alexis Baker**



More Views of the States



Our first joint conference with CECA, Connecticut's statewide computer educators' organization, was held on Tuesday, October 23 at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford. This was the first New England regional conference for computer using educators.

The conference, *Preparing Students for the Conceptual Age: A Regional Conference For 21st Century Learners*, featured Keynote speakers Forensic

Scientist **Dr. Henry Lee** and author and educator **Will Richardson**. Presentations by **Kathy Schrock**, **Robin Brenner**, webmaster of No Flying No Tights Graphic Novel web site, and **Gary Price**, librarian and the Director of Online Information Resources at Ask.com were also on the agenda.

There was a pre-conference the day before targeted especially to administrators, teachers and Information Technology professionals.

CEMA has changed its' name to CASL—Connecticut Association of School Librarians. Due to the joint conference this October with CECA, the change will be phased in over time, with the first step already taken to change our ListServ to CASL-L (with a new host) and a new web site <http://ctcasl.com>. The process will be finalized in time for the annual conference in 2008

Submitted by Christopher Barlow

With Vermont officially changing its name from VEMA to VSLA last May, we have a new website at <http://VSLA.info> and we are currently running a Logo contest.

VSLA's president for 2007-2008 is **Jean Fournier**, Librarian at St. Johnsbury Academy in St. Johnsbury, Vermont and she has set three goals for the VSLA board this year:

- To keep an active liaison with the Dept of Ed and the Dept of Libraries for addressing professional development and licensing procedures for school librarians
- Expansion of creative use of technology including asking for more offerings of technology

programming at the state conference level

- Self promotion of VSLA to increase membership and involvement

The VSLA Fall Conference was held on Thursday, October 18 in St. Johnsbury, VT at St. Johnsbury Academy from 9:30am – 3:45pm. The conference theme was "The Power of Story in a Technological Age" and **Laura Simms** (storyteller, writer, activist) was the keynote speaker.

This is the third year for the Green Mountain Book Award sponsored by VSLA, VLA and the Vermont DOL. The GMBA is a reader's choice award for students in grades 9-12 designed to introduce to high school students some

excellent books for their pleasure reading. The master list for 2007-2008 includes:

Akbar - *Come Back to Afghanistan*
Almond - *Candyfreak*
Dessen - *The Truth about Forever*
Foer - *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*
Gaiman - *Anansi Boys*
Green - *Looking for Alaska*
Oppel - *Airborn*
Otsuka - *When the Emperor was Divine*
Rosoff - *How I Live Now*
Simmons - *Finding Lubchenko*
Vaughan - *Runaways*, vol. 1
Walls - *Glass Castle*
Whitcomb - *A Certain Slant of Light*
Yang - *American Born Chinese*
Zusak - *I am the Messenger*

Submitted by Merlyn Miller



The Annual Dinner was held on October 4 and featured presentation of the Linda Aldrich Leadership Award and entertainment by local storyteller **Marc Joel Levitt**. The Annual Conference is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2008 and we are looking forward to hosting **Sara Kelly Johns**, AASL President, at the conference. Professional Development offerings started, September 29, with a podcasting workshop with **Clint Kennedy**. Clint presented at our

2007 conference and many members wanted a more hands-on follow-up session. Workshops on our new Statewide Curriculum and its implications for library media specialists are being planned. OLIS (Office of Library and Information Services – a state of RI dept) presents many PD options also. Because of the work of the Karla Henry Commission on Libraries and librarians, throughout the state bills presented in both Houses to allow for the **funding of statewide**

databases through OLIS were amended (RIGL 29-6-9) so that funding would be provided through state and federal funding. Resource-sharing was defined as was the Library of Rhode Island Network (LORI). While a successful trial was held in the spring no funding was attached to the bill this year.

Submitted by Sarah Morenon



In place of a Fall conference, we held a workshop, Nov 10 at Hermon High School with the theme "Collaborating to Meet Standards: Teacher/Librarian partnerships K-12. The workshop featured **Toni Buzzeo**, MA, MLIS, Maine writer .

Maine DOE produced the pamphlet entitled "Universal Literacy Elements for Deeper and More Powerful Content Learning". The document was edited by MASL librarians and

includes the phrase "Coordinate efforts with school library media specialists." Here is link to the document online: <http://www.literacyforme.org/LitResources.html>

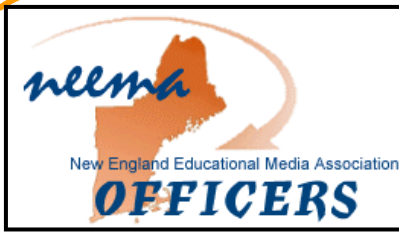
Regionalization of school districts is progressing – schools have turned in who they want to partner with, DOE is processing requests. We are working to maintain SLMS in new regions.

Maine has 3 NBPT certified SLMS, with two more going for National Board Certification this year.

Maine's High School Teachers all get MacBooks, including SLMS. MASL is talking about workshops in multiple locations for the High School SLMS focused on the MLTI project.

Maine has become an official P21 state, but progress is slow.

Submitted by Nancy Grant



Susan Ballard, President
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