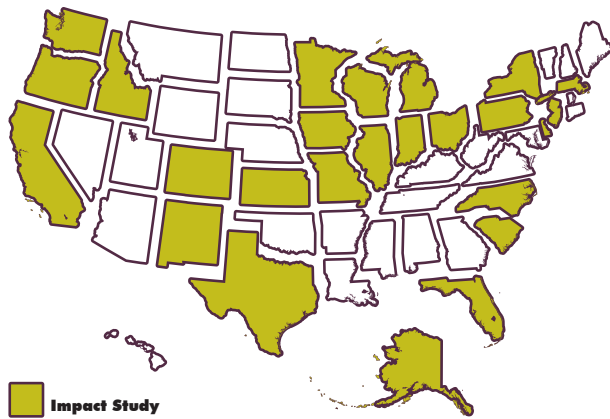


**An effective school library program has a certified school librarian at the helm, provides personalized learning environments, and offers equitable access to resources to ensure a well-rounded education for every student.**

—AASL Position Statement, Definition of an Effective School Library Program



## RESEARCH – WHAT IT SHOWS

More than **60** state-level school library impact studies in **25** states conclude that **quality school library services result in higher student achievement:**

- ✓ Higher graduation rates
- ✓ Higher proficiency in reading, math, science, history, and writing
- ✓ Higher performance on standardized tests among economically challenged students
- ✓ Lower percentage of students scoring “unsatisfactory” in reading
- ✓ Improved writing skills and research abilities
- ✓ Improved ability to find, evaluate, use, and integrate diverse information resources

**Is your library Future Ready?**

Take the 21st Century  
**School Library**  
Self-Assessment



<http://bit.ly/SDSLFutureReady>



South Dakota's  
**Future Ready**  
School Libraries

 **south dakota**  
**STATE LIBRARY**  
Leadership. Innovation. Excellence.

# SOUTH DAKOTA'S REALITY CHECK

## Reality for all PK-12 students in SD

- ✓ **20%** of school systems do not provide a library facility, therefore...
- ✓ **7,000** students do not have access to a school library

## Reality for systems that *have* school libraries

- ✓ **28%** of SD systems have a certified librarian on staff
- ✓ **25%** of school library staff are certified school librarians

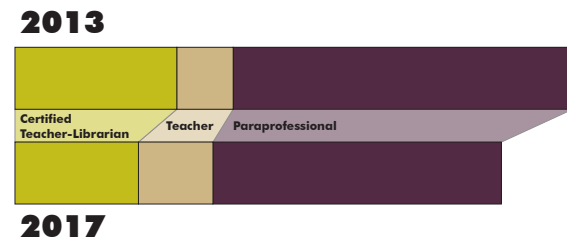
Fewer librarians to teach and assist students



Decrease in new materials expenditures per student



Overall decrease in staffing; increase in teacher ratio



Teacher: certified teacher not endorsed in library media.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Content and Access

- Develop curriculum and programming that supports personalized learning environments.
- Ensure equitable access in both print and digital formats.
- Invest strategically in digital resources that complement the SDSL eResources/databases.
- Promote and support digital citizenship and student privacy.

## RECOMMENDATIONS (cont'd)

### Space

- Implement flexible spaces in the library to promote inquiry, collaboration, and community.
- Ensure accessibility in terms of hours of operation, layout, and atmosphere.

### Staffing

- Include in school staff, a certified teacher-librarian and an appropriate level of support staff in every school.
- Promote librarians as leaders beyond the library in strategic planning.
- Include librarians as facilitators of professional learning and teaching.

### Governance and Infrastructure

- Address systemic issues that inhibit the development of high-quality school library programs.
- Leverage funding to strengthen school libraries.
- Implement flexible scheduling for school libraries.

### Assessment and Accountability

- Analyze the library program through usage data and program statistics.
- Communicate with stakeholders with regard to library support of school and district goals.
- Use the SDSL 21st Century School Library Self-Assessment as part of the formal evaluation process.
- Encourage librarians to apply for or work toward the 21st Century School Library Award.
- Include library goals in School Improvement Plan.