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

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

Is your library Future Ready?
Take the 21st Century School Library Self-Assessment

South Dakota’s Future Ready School Libraries

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$17.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$12.31</td>
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</table>

Overall decrease in staffing; increase in teacher ratio

**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.

### 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.