The Weekly Update

Back to School Edition!

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year!

Who else wants to make this the best year EVER in the library?! **Everyone raises their hands**
Well then, you are in luck because this week's newsletter is packed full of ideas, inspiration, and insight for you and your library. If it's all too much to digest right now, bookmark it and come back whenever you have time.
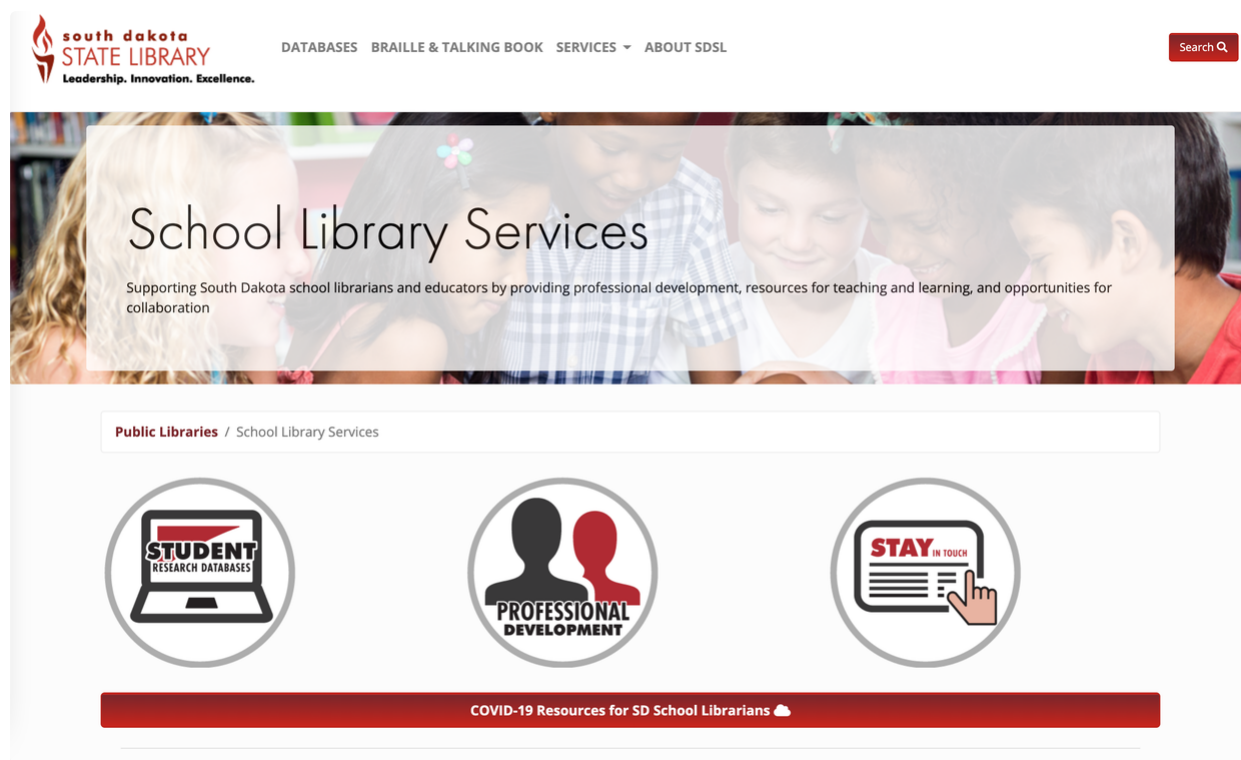
"The most important asset of any library goes home at night — the library staff."

- Timothy Healy

Stay Connected to SDSL School Library Services

If you only have time to do one thing right now, bookmark the School Library Services page on the SDSL website! This is your go-to resource for everything school library related!

Help me help you!

If you haven't already done so, please take a few moments to fill out this survey that will help me understand how I can best support you this year. It is open until the end of next Friday 9/3. And, everyone who completes the survey will be entered into a drawing for FREE books for your library!

Help me help you! School Library Survey

My name is Scottie Bruch, and I am the new SDSL School Library Technology Coordinator.
My job is to provide support and services that are valuable and relevant to YOU and to give
you resources that are easy to use. So, I need to hear from you! What are your needs?
How can I best support you? What resources are most valuable to you?

Please complete the survey below to help me help you. Your answers will remain private and
only be used to inform SDSL of your needs, interest level in visits, and ideas for further
support. Skip any questions that are not applicable. This survey will close Friday, September
3, at 5pm CT.

And BONUS... everyone who completes the survey will be entered in a drawing for FREE
BOOKS for your library!

If you have any questions about the survey or about the role of the School Library
Technology Coordinator, please contact me at scottie.bruch@sdsand.us.

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Google Forms

Help me help you! School Li...   forms.gle

Check out these Back to School Hacks

This video is a little dated (2018), but there are some great ideas. It would be a great watch over your lunch break!

8 Back to School Hacks for Teachers and Leaders

Join these 3 Facebook Groups

Follett Destiny Users

Finding this group was a GAME CHANGER for me last year!

Library Bulletin Boards & Displays

This group shares so many fun ideas!

Teaching with Neons

Not specific to library, but this group shares great teaching tools!

Be Visible & Vocal

The Don't Shush Me blog has plenty of great posts for librarians, but I find this one particularly helpful for the beginning of the year.

Along with being vocal and visible, here are some other things to think about as you start the year:

BACK TO SCHOOL
CHECKLIST

✓ ✓

Introduce yourself to new staff in person and by email. Think about your good ol' elevator speech. What do you do in a few sentences or less? Why should people care?

Reach out to staff in a staff meeting and/or by email. Communicate what you do and what you can do for them. Share library resources, programming, Makerspace info., schedule changes, & updates.

Touch base with your administrator(s).

Make your Back-to-School newsletter with vital resources like SDSL K-12 free databases, the School Library Standards, new books, and resources for school-specific programming/initiatives.

Update your virtual library/website and any curation lists.

Update your management/OPAC system.

Schedule orientation for new students or new-to-the-school classes.

Organize a yearly outline with celebrations, programs, curricular events, author visits, book fairs, testing, etc.

Create and share any booking/check-out calendars for media carts, labs, library times, etc.

Research and create bulletin boards.

Make a back-to-school book display with new books, books about beginnings, adventure, courage, self-esteem, etc.

Update any signage.

Print and post the School Library Standards.

Post your award badge IF you're a recent awardee of the 21st Century Library Award.

Display the School Library Data Digest poster. Newest edition coming to you in September!

Post your library mission statement in your physical library and on your virtual library.

Subscribe to the School Library Listserv for deadlines, current events, and email communication for SD school library staff.

Bookmark the SDSL School Libraries page on the SDSL site.

Bookmark the SDSL K-12 databases page.

Create a welcoming, safe, inclusive library as best you can!

Know the SDSL Databases

Kim Bonen, SDSL Digital Resources Coordinator, hosted 3 super informational database webinars last week. If you weren't able to attend in person, you can watch them on SDSL's YouTube channel. Contact kim.bonen@state.sd.us with any questions.
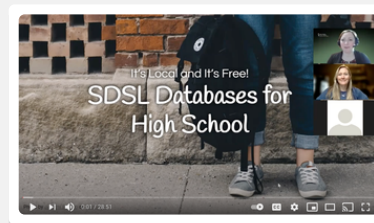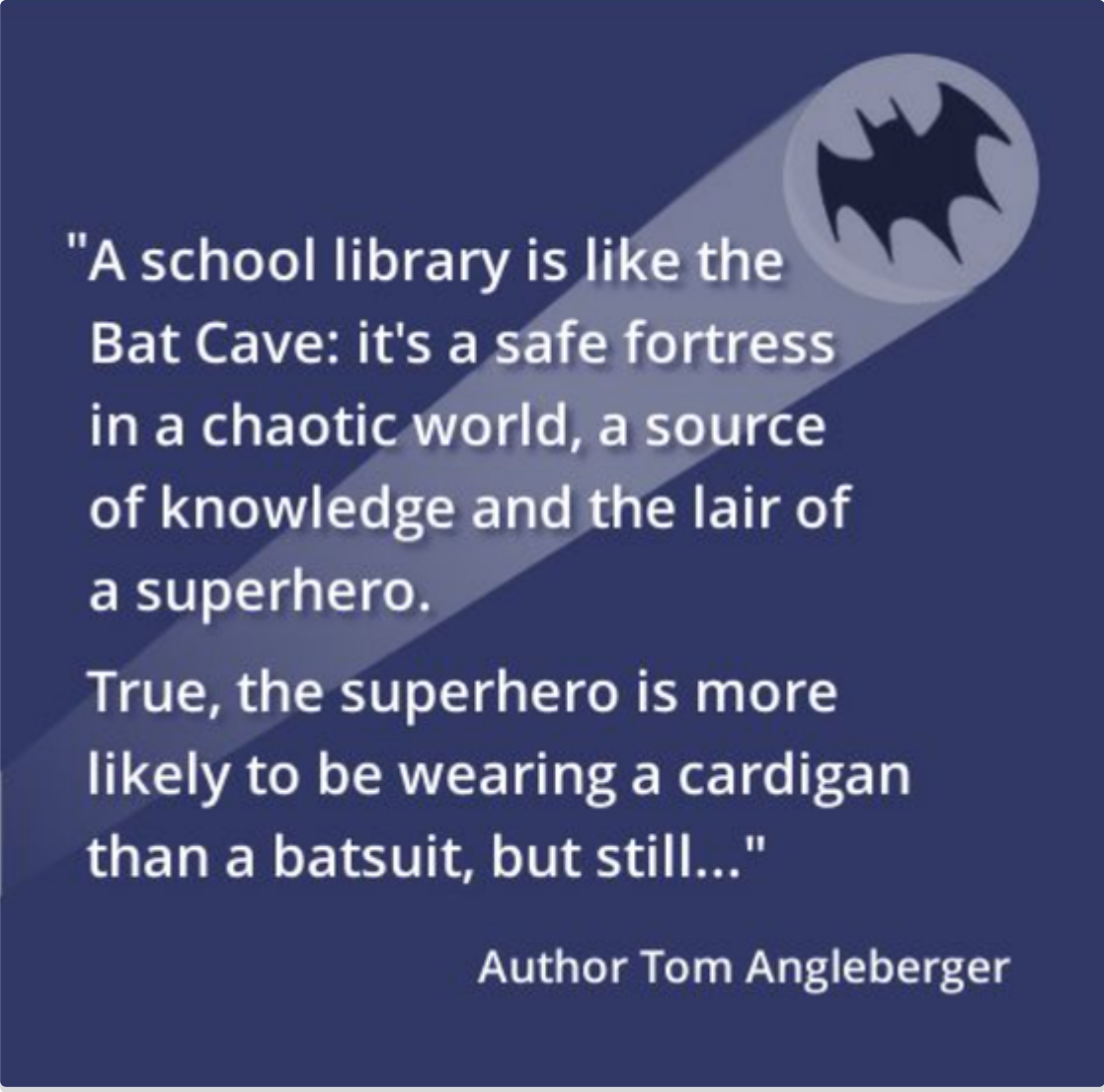
Databases for Elementary

Databases for Middle School

Databases for High School

To access the complete listing of SDSL Databases, click [HERE](#). You can then look at lists specifically curated for elementary, middle, and high school. After clicking on a grade level, you can also access a handy PDF guide (listed as help guide) that briefly details each database. This is a great resource to give to teachers and students if you don't have time to show all of the databases to all of your classes!

"A school library is like the Bat Cave: it's a safe fortress in a chaotic world, a source of knowledge and the lair of a superhero.

True, the superhero is more likely to be wearing a cardigan than a batsuit, but still..."

Author Tom Angleberger

Spot a Trend!

If you are a middle school or high school librarian, and you suddenly find a specific title flying off the shelf for no apparent reason, it may be going viral on TikTok! If you have a TikTok account, you can search for BookToks to see what is trending. If not, there is always YouTube. Here is a compilation of

TIKTOK: Young Adult Book Recommendations 2021

And lastly, continue to be a safe and welcoming space for all of your students!

From Demco

Activities to Support Social-Emotional Learning in the Library

From SDSL

Books and Resources for Social-Emotional Learning

From USD

The Inclusive Library: Serving Diverse User Populations

...from SDSL School Library Services

The Weekly Update is a correspondence from the South Dakota State Library focusing on current topics in school libraries, best practices, resources, professional development, and more.

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