

# The School Library Monthly Update



## LEARN. LEAD. GROW.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

Professional growth is key to keeping your school library vibrant, relevant, and impactful, and the South Dakota State Library is here to help you grow. From live webinars and on-demand courses to workshops, book studies, and retreats, we have Continuing Education opportunities designed specifically for school librarians. On the next two pages, you'll find a snapshot of what's available this year, so you can plan ahead, build your skills, and connect with other library professionals across the state.

**See more on page 2.**

**EVERY MONTH, WE WILL HIGHLIGHT  
A SATL AWARD RECIPIENT! SEE P.4!**

## TO-DO

- ✓ [Share a story!](#) Scottie is seeking heartwarming school library stories for upcoming episodes of [The School Library Pulse](#) mini-cast.
- ✓ Clean out your inbox so you can continue getting emails from SDSL School Library Services during the school year!



HELP!

**Check your inbox for a Back-to-School email from Scottie. We are working hard on updating our School Library Directory and would love to get as many replies as we can!**



# 2025–26 CE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

## On-Demand Courses

[Textual Literacy In-Action: The Engaged Reader](#) 

[Library Learn-Its Video Series](#) 

[Information Literacy](#)

[Civic & Ethical Literacy](#)

[The Joy of Reading Book Study](#)

[The Artful Read-Aloud Book Study](#)

[School Achievement Through Libraries \(SATL\) Award Program](#)



## By the Month

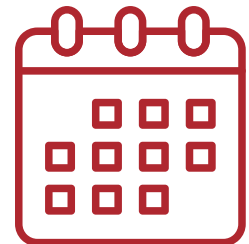
[Every Month: School Library Collect + Connect Meet-Ups](#)

[November: “Disrupting Thinking” Book Study](#)

**March–May: School Library Survey Courses I, II, and III**

**June–August: ExCITE! 2026**

**July: School Librarian Leadership Retreat**



## Other Learning Opportunities

**Past Episodes of [The School Library Scoop](#) (discontinued series)**

[The School Library Pulse](#)

[School Library PDF Guides](#)

[NDLA/SDLA/MPLA Tri-Conference](#)

- 1 continuing education credit for school librarians is offered through both VCSU and NDSU.
  - VCSU’s class number is 35270. Class title is 2025 NDLA, SDLA, MPLA Tri-Conference.
  - NDSU’s class title is 2025 NDLA/SDLA/MPLA Tri-Conference.

**CHECK OUT SDSL'S NEW CE CATALOG FOR  
ALL CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES!**





# Howard Elementary School Library



Librarian: Sarah Feldhaus



At Howard Elementary School, librarian Sarah Feldhaus has created a library that feels like the heart of the school. Students walk in to a warm, welcoming space where they can explore, laugh, and settle in with a good book. The atmosphere invites curiosity and makes the library a place students want to return to again and again. Guided by a mission to be the hub of learning, discovery, and exploration for the entire school community, Sarah connects students not only to great reads but also to the skills they need to be confident, independent learners. Even with space and budget challenges, her creativity and dedication keep both the physical and virtual library vibrant, accessible, and essential for students, teachers, and families.

## Mission in Action

The Howard Elementary School Library serves as the hub of learning, discovery, and exploration - providing resources, inspiration, and guidance for lifelong learning. The mission reaches beyond the school walls, ensuring all who seek knowledge feel welcome.

## Extending Access

Through the library's Symbaloo homepage, Sarah keeps resources within easy reach, anytime and anywhere. She also connects students to the public library's digital collections, making sure there's always another great book waiting.

## Building Independent Learners

Sarah equips students with strong search and research skills that help them confidently find and evaluate information in any library or digital space.

## A Place Students Love

Flexible seating, a relaxed environment, and a librarian who knows her readers create a space that feels both comfortable and inspiring. It's a perfect setting for reading, learning, and connecting.