



A G E N D A

Council on Library and Network Development

January 11, 2008, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street, Room 041

Madison, WI 53703

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| 1. | Call to Order | Kathy Pletcher, Chair | |
| 2. | Roll Call/Determination of Quorum | Roslyn Wise | |
| 3. | Welcome to the Department of Public Instruction | Rick Grobschmidt | |
| 4. | Adoption of Agenda | All | Action |
| 5. | Approval of Minutes for November 9, 2007 meeting | All | Action |
| 6. | Discussion with State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster (10:15 a.m.) | Elizabeth Burmaster | Information, discussion |
| 7. | Library Legislation Update (11:15 a.m.)
a) state
b) federal | Rick Grobschmidt | Information, discussion |
| 8. | Tour of library team areas and Board of Commissioners of Public Lands offices in GEF 3 building (11:30 a.m.) | Rick Grobschmidt, Mike Cross, Steve Sanders | Information, discussion |
| | Lunch break (noon) | | |
| 9. | Report on Internet accessibility and connectivity in Wisconsin public libraries (12:45 p.m.) | Bob Bocher | Information, discussion |
| 10. | Report of the Chair (1:15 p.m.)
a) Correspondence
b) Visioning conference planning discussion
c) Other | Kathy Pletcher | Information, action |
| 11. | Resource sharing subcommittee update (2 p.m.) | John Nichols | Information, discussion |
| 12. | Suggestions for Future Agenda Items | Kathy Pletcher/All | Information, |

- | | | | |
|-----|--|--------------------|--|
| 13. | Future Meeting Locations and Dates:
(2:30 p.m.) | Kathy Pletcher/All | discussion, action
Information,
discussion |
| | a) March 14, 2008 – Hartford Public Library
b) May, 2008 – to be determined – hold in
conjunction with Visioning Summit (?)
c) July 11, 2008 – Monona Grove High School
(TBC)
d) September 12, 2008 – Rhinelander Public
Library (TBC) | | |
| 14. | Review follow up items | Kathy Pletcher/All | |
| 15. | Announcements | All | |
| 16. | Adjournment (3 p.m.) | Kathy Pletcher | Action |

COUNCIL ON LIBRARY AND NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2008

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street, Room 041

Madison, WI 53707

Members Present:

- Michael Bahr, Germantown
- Mary Bayorgeon, Appleton
- Donald Bulley, South Milwaukee
- Miriam Erickson, Fish Creek
- Catherine Hansen, Shorewood
- Bob Koechley, Fitchburg
- Douglas Lay, Mosinee
- Kathy Pletcher, Green Bay
- Calvin Potter, Sheboygan Falls
- Susan Reynolds, Cable
- Lisa Solverson, Viroqua
- Kris Adams Wendt, Rhinelander
- Kristi Williams, Cottage Grove

Members Absent:

- Barbara Arnold, Madison
- Francis Cherney, Milladore
- Lisa Jewell, Rice Lake
- Sandra Melcher, Milwaukee
- John Nichols, Oshkosh
- Linda Stelter, Eau Claire

DPI Staff: Bob Bocher
 Kate Bugher
 Elizabeth Burmaster
 Mike Cross
 John DeBacher
 Sally Drew
 Rick Grobschmidt
 Terrie Howe
 Kay Ihlenfeldt
 Steve Sanders
 Roslyn Wise
 Al Zimmerman

Presenters and Guests: Tom German, Deputy Secretary, Board of Commissioners of Public Lands

1. CALL TO ORDER

Kathy Pletcher called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Instead of a roll call, Kathy Pletcher asked for introductions around the table. A quorum was present.

3. WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Rick Grobschmidt welcomed the group to the Department of Public Instruction headquarters.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Kristi Williams moved to adopt the agenda; Miriam Erickson seconded the motion. The motion passed and the agenda for today's meeting was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 9, 2007, MEETING

Kristi Williams moved to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2007, meeting. Catherine Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed with no additional discussion.

6. DISCUSSION WITH STATE SUPERINTENDENT ELIZABETH BURMASTER

State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster spoke to the group. In her remarks she thanked the members of COLAND for their willingness to serve. She talked about libraries initiatives in the recently-passed biennial budget, specifically mentioning increases to public library system funding, full funding for the library service contracts, funding for BadgerLink, and funding for the Newline for the Blind. She also highlighted increases in distributions from the Common School Fund, and new language in the budget that allows the Department of Administration to use federal E-Rate funds to help subsidize library and school bandwidth to help with the problems of insufficient bandwidth for libraries and schools that are part of BadgerNet.

Superintendent Burmaster also talked about her concerns about the decline over the last five years in the number of school library media specialists; she specifically mentioned the DPI-study articulating the positive correlation between quality school library media programs and student achievement. She mentioned the need to convince local decision-makers of the benefits of these programs. The state superintendent also expressed her support for the COLAND's planned strategic visioning summit on the future of libraries. (This portion of the state superintendent's remarks was recorded by WisconsinEye and can be viewed at http://www.wisconsineye.com/wisEye_programming/ARCHIVES-agencies.html#burmaster111.)

Superintendent Burmaster also engaged the group in a discussion on a variety of topics such as the drop in the number of school library media specialists, rural schools, No Child Left Behind, and the economic importance of libraries. Most of the discussion centered around the school library media specialist cuts; she thanked DPI's Kate Bugher for her vigilance in following up on reports from concerned community members regarding cuts by school districts in professional library media specialist (LMS) staffing and, in response to a question about what she would do to improve the situation, the state superintendent noted that the state standards, while requiring schools to employ certified LMSs, do not specify a particular FTE (full time equivalent) requirement for these positions, making it difficult to enforce the standards. She commented on DPI's reluctance to ask the legislature for changes at this time. She noted that DPI will continue to monitor the situation and to follow up when possible violations of the state standards are reported. Superintendent Burmaster commented that DPI staff spends significant time with No Child Left Behind and that on a national level, through her work with the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO); she is working to make that law more reasonable and workable, so that people are no longer focused on just standardized testing. When that happens, school districts might begin to understand the importance of closing the achievement gap, and the role that a strong library media program plays in that endeavor. There was continued discussion about getting the message out through public

relations efforts and op-ed newspaper columns, particularly in rural areas. The state superintendent then talked about having a legislature that understands the challenges faced by rural school districts and that she is encouraged that there is now a categorical aid program for rural schools – this is a victory. The discussion then turned to the No Child Left Behind Act and the possibility of federal programs moving toward individual testing (instead of group testing). The state superintendent commented that Congress does seem to be hearing the message that individual growth needs to be measured; many members of Congress thought it already did measure individual children’s progress from 3rd grade to 5th grade. There is no consistent definition for what an “individual growth model” would be and a federally-mandated individual accountability system might be no different than we have now. CCSSO’s tactic is to try to get the federal government to back off and not be so prescriptive on what process is used; have the federal government be more accountable for the outcome (and not the process). Let states develop accountability systems that take into account multiple measures. The “one size fits all” system is one of the main problems with NCLB. She continued with comments that changes in the law are more likely next year. She hopes a bi-partisan task force, such as the American Diploma Project (ADP), will provide national standards (Wisconsin is a part of the ADP). The discussion returned to the LMS standards and ways to force school districts to keep these positions (for example, requiring all purchases made with Common School Fund monies be approved by a certified LMS). Kate Bugher noted that school districts have been finding ways to get around the requirement for certified library media specialists; she also addressed a question about whether or not there are enough certified LMS to fill the need. Kate commented that the situation is different in various parts of the state. There was further discussion about meeting the needs of certified teachers who want to become library media specialists and making it easier for people to become library media specialists. The discussion then turned to getting the message out about the importance of libraries in general (primarily public libraries) to communities, especially in communities where libraries are competing with other municipal services for funds. Rick Grobschmidt mentioned the library economic impact study and the Wisconsin Library Association’s (WLA) Campaign for Wisconsin Libraries. Superintendent Burmaster commented that library advocacy efforts in Wisconsin are well-coordinated. The discussion continued about how to include libraries in economic development discussions, how to show libraries as partners, not competitors. The state superintendent suggested including workforce development people in the visioning summit; she also suggested collaborations with the UW System and someone else suggested technical colleges as well. The discussion turned to property taxes and value judgments people are making to not pay for libraries because, even though they like having a library, they don’t see libraries as essential when compared to other city services.

The message is not getting out that libraries add only a few dollars a year to property tax amounts in relation to the benefits they provide; the trustees should be doing more to communicate on the part of libraries. Superintendent Burmaster concluded with comments about being optimistic in spite of the rough economic times, and expressed her excitement with plans for the visioning summit. Following her departure discussion continued among COLAND members about having a good public relations package for libraries, especially for small communities. Sally Drew suggested having the WLA foundation come back to COLAND for a presentation about their public relations activities. Kris Adams Wendt brought up the activities of the Wisconsin Way group and suggested COLAND members could send them comments about the importance of libraries. Kathy Pletcher said she would talk to Lisa Strand from WLA about a presentation for a future COLAND meeting.

7. LIBRARY LEGISLATION UPDATE

Mike Cross began the library legislation update; he distributed a handout describing the status of state legislation currently being considered. He briefly highlighted several items listed on the handout. Senate Bill 1 will now be voted on by the State Senate; Senate Bill 214 has been signed into law by the governor; and there has been no progress on Assembly Bill 420. Sally Drew then mentioned the state superintendent's biennial report to COLAND; she would like to put it on the March agenda.

Mike continued with a report on federal legislation. The Federal budget bill passed Congress and was signed by the President. There were unexpected cuts to the LSTA budget; DPI had planned for flat funding at worst (had expected a small increase) because both the House and the Senate had passed increases, and the President had proposed a small increase. The entire state grant program was cut by 1.75%, which is not huge but will require Wisconsin will need to reduce a couple of their grant awards and will look for some internal savings in LSTA funded programs. DPI had received some partial funding from the IMLS in December so some grant awards were sent out in December. Steve Sanders reported that the EETT program (Enhancing Education Through Technology) also saw a 1.75% decrease in the federal budget. Kris Adams Wendt announced that WLA Legislative Day will be January 22; there is still time to register.

8. TOUR OF LIBRARY TEAM AREAS AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC LANDS (BCPL) OFFICES IN GEF 3 BUILDING

Rick Grobschmidt led a tour of the offices of the BCPL and met with staff (the agency that oversees the Common School Fund) and the library team areas of the GEF 3 building. During the tour COLAND members received copies of the BCPL 2005-2007 Biennial Report.

9. REPORT ON INTERNET ACCESSIBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY IN WISCONSIN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Bob Bocher continued the discussion about Internet connectivity in Wisconsin public libraries that was started at the last COLAND meeting. He distributed copies of a handout summarizing the recently completed American Library Association Public Library Connectivity Study (the same handout was also distributed at the last meeting). He reviewed the information from the handout. Virtually all libraries in Wisconsin have broadband Internet access, but the quality of the access is not as good in some areas of the state. The same holds true around the U.S. During periods of high use, speed decreases dramatically. ALA approached the Gates Foundation about funding a project to study the issue. The study looked at six states – some states are better connected than others. States that have regional library systems tend to have better connectivity. The study showed the need for higher bandwidth is growing rapidly and there is a need for training and support to help librarians understand broadband. A meeting was held in December of representatives from ten regional consortia (including representatives from Wisconsin) to explore the factors in how library consortia have been dealing with the issue of broadband connectivity. Responses show a need to prioritize and set aside money to resolve issues (this is being done in Wisconsin), and a need to work with state governments on community options. Wisconsin has a strong regional library consortia and a state-level system (WiscNet), but technical expertise is needed to take care of the networks. Some regional networks have hired technical experts to do this.

A discussion followed about the situation in Wisconsin. Bob talked about the federal E-rate program, which provides big discounts to libraries but it is a difficult program to access. Through the TEACH Wisconsin program, DPI has been able to assist schools and libraries in Wisconsin in the E-rate application process. About 75% of Wisconsin's schools and libraries get their Internet access through WiscNet. The state superintendent and members of her Cabinet recently met with Oskar Anderson from the Department of Administration's Division of Enterprise Technology and stressed that over half of Wisconsin's libraries are still having bandwidth problems. In November DPI sent to DOA a list of 230 libraries having bandwidth issues. The discussion continued about options for libraries to resolve issues; for example, some libraries are subscribing to separate

telecommunications circuits to serve people with laptops and PCs. Discussion also included comments about the importance of connectivity for libraries in small communities because frequently they are the only entities providing high speed internet access for residents and businesses. There was also discussion about communications companies' reluctance to install fiber-optic cable in sparsely populated areas and businesses not wanting to build in areas because of the lack of fiber-optic infrastructure. Bob is cautiously optimistic that the problems can be resolved. At the end of the discussion, Cal Potter moved that COLAND send a letter to Oskar Anderson at DOA regarding the need to address bandwidth issue in public libraries in the state; Kris Adams Wendt seconded the motion; the motion passed.

10. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

- a) Correspondence -- Rick Grobschmidt asked for clarification on recipients of thank you letters voted on at the last meeting. Kris Wendt, who had made the motion, indicated that the letters should go to all members of the legislature. Rick suggested a list and a map of state library aid recipients be included with each letter. The letters will go out before Library Legislative Day on January 22. There are also congratulatory letters to new legislative leaders that need to go out.
- b) Visioning conference planning – Kathy Pletcher reported on the December 14 planning meetings. At this meeting, the list of nominees was reviewed and a list of invitees was developed. Kathy reviewed for COLAND the criteria for selecting invitees. Particular discussion revolved around youth representation at the summit. Kathy then discussed the responsibilities of those who accept the invitation to attend, which include answering the questions on the COLAND website, reading preparatory materials, and attending the full summit. Facilitator for the summit will be George Watson from UW-Madison; speakers will be Jamie LaRue, who is a national speaker on library issues, and David Ward, who will talk about the economic impact study. Superintendent Burmaster will give a welcome at the beginning of the summit. Cal Potter suggested that someone from the administration (Barbara Lawton perhaps) should also be invited to the summit. Invitations will go out next week, with follow up invitations to go out in February. There was discussion about publicity for the summit, possibly in the form of a press release that COLAND members can share with local media. Responses to the questions on the website are being read by members of the executive planning committee. Miriam Erickson reiterated the need to have key action issues come out of the summit.

11. RESOURCE SHARING SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

John Nichols was not at the meeting. Kathy Pletcher received an email from him indicating he would not be attending the meeting but that he expected to have recommendations to share at the March meeting.

12. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Follow up with Wisconsin Way – Kris Adams Wendt suggested Jim Wood from Wood Communications and will ask him.
- b) How can libraries do public relations work in anticipation of a building project – Kathy Pletcher will contact Lisa Strand from WLA and ask her about doing a presentation.
- c) Biennial report on Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Study – Sally Drew is working on the report; a public hearing will need to be held in conjunction with this discussion.
- d) Delivery Services update – Sally Drew said she can report on what the Delivery Services Advisory Committee is doing; they are working on a Best Practices document which could be shared.

13. FUTURE MEETING LOCATIONS AND DATES

- a) March 14, 2008 – Hartford Public Library. Public hearing will need to be held in conjunction with this meeting; meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. Cal Potter suggested representatives from library organizations be specifically invited to present testimony.
- b) May 2008 – tentatively planned for sometime during the summit. A long discussion took place about the best time to do this. One suggestion is to meet at the end of the second day.
- c) July 11, 2008 – Monona Grove High School – Kristi Williams volunteered to make the contacts.
- d) September 12, 2008 – Rhinelander – Tentative – Kris Adams Wendt is not available on September 12; September 19 would be a better date. COLAND members are supposed to email Roslyn Wise with their availability on September 19. If a quorum is not available on September 19, the September 12 date will remain and another location will be found.

14. REVIEW FOLLOW UP ITEMS

Actions items from the meeting are:

Rick Grobschmidt listed items for follow up: Letter to Oskar Anderson addressing broadband issues; pending letters to legislature thanking them for their support of library issues two letters; pending letters to new legislative leaders Russ Decker and Mark Miller. Also, Rick will follow up with state superintendent on op-ed piece on school library media staffing. Kris Adams Wendt will follow up with state superintendent on having Kate attend the next Rural Advisory Committee meeting. Lisa Solverson then moved to have a letter to legislators in reserve just in case it's needed. Kristi Williams seconded the motion and then suggested adding a note to the thank you letter (mentioned earlier) about protecting the CSF. As part of this discussion, Rick mentioned that federal funds for law enforcement training in Wisconsin were reduced and that in the past, proceeds from fines and forfeitures have go toward law enforcement training; this could impact the CSF because communities will be looking for additional funds for this training. The letter motion passed. Cal Potter remarked that this legislation is being introduced by Rep. LeMahieu on behalf of the county clerk in Sheboygan County but he doesn't know if the county clerk actually supports the legislation. There was some discussion; Cal said he would follow up with her and let Kathy know.

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Michael Bahr moved to adjourn; Don Bulley seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Bahr". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael Bahr, Secretary