

School Libraries in Oregon

The mission of Oregon school libraries aligns closely with that of the American Association of School Librarians:
Ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information.
The school librarian empowers students to be critical thinkers, enthusiastic readers, skillful researchers, and ethical users of information.

LSTA funds many **great projects** that help Oregon students and educators!



Oregon School Library Information System

K-12 information literacy website
Learn to research. Research to learn.
www.oslis.org



&



Statewide access to **subscription databases** that support research and Common Core
<http://1.usa.gov/lmbOVx>



Answerland

Online reference service
Chat, text, or email a librarian 24/7
www.answerland.org



OBOB

Statewide voluntary reading motivation and comprehension program for 3rd -12th graders
<http://www.oregonbattleofthebooks.org/>

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Licensed school librarians are teachers first, and they align instruction to state and national library standards.

What might a school librarian do in a typical day?

- ✓ Teach students how to apply critical thinking skills to the research process, using technology as appropriate
- ✓ Collaborate with a classroom teacher to develop a unit that targets student learning outcomes for both educators (teach information literacy skills in context)
- ✓ Make professional decisions about the collection (support instruction & student interests, increase access through cataloging best practices, etc.)
- ✓ Serve on a school or district technology, digital learning, or reading improvement committee
- ✓ Organize an event to promote and celebrate reading, writing, or learning
- ✓ Entice a reluctant reader with a just-right book

While the instruction that happens in school libraries supports both students and educators, aligns with curricula and the Common Core State Standards, and develops 21st-century skills in students, the number of licensed librarians in Oregon schools has steadily declined over the last three decades. **In 1980-81, there were 818 FTE librarians for 1,284 schools. In 2015-16, there were 164 FTE librarians for 1,242 schools.**

