Growing Schools: Librarians as Professional Developers

When librarians work as professional developers, they can build relationships and develop deeper capacity within individual teachers, who can then share that increased expertise with their students. Professional development offers a nimble, scalable, and more efficient way to bring library instruction to every student.

School administrators are recognizing that school librarians are ideal to lead professional development because they service the entire school network, from the students and faculty to families and the community. As a national downturn in educational funding is diminishing districts’ ability to optimally staff libraries, investing energy in professional development is a sound strategy to bring information literacy skills to every student—especially in buildings with part-time librarians, or districts with only a single librarian of record.

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