

The Rhode Island Educational Media Association (RIEMA) has written this model curriculum to support school library media specialists as they implement standards-based curriculum derived from both our *Rhode Island Frameworks for Library and Information Literacy* adopted by the Rhode Island Board of Regents in June, 2000 and the *National Information Literacy Standards* developed by the American Association of School Librarians in 1999. Since the documents complement each other, we have synthesized the two together into one working document. (See Appendix)

In this model curriculum, you will find:

- ◆ The *standard* being addressed
- ◆ *Performance indicators* that state in general terms how students will demonstrate competency
- ◆ *Benchmarks* that describe specific levels of achievement for basic, proficient and exemplary demonstrations of understanding
- ◆ Examples of *standards in action* that show how these standards could be addressed in the school library setting.

This document is designed to serve as a generic model that any district can use as is or as a springboard to develop a more personalized and detailed library media curriculum.

We have divided the document into three academic levels: K-4, 5-8 and 9-12 so the practitioner can quickly find applicable curriculum guidelines and the growth in learning and application as students mature. A number of rubrics and worksheets that can be used as is or adapted to fit individual practices are posted on the RIEMA web site (www.RIEMA.org/curriculum.html) At the RIEMA web site, you will also find this document available in PDF format for download and distribution.

MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the library media program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. We must strive to :

- ◆ **Provide intellectual and physical access to materials in all formats**
- ◆ **Provide instruction to foster competence and stimulate interest in reading, viewing and using information and ideas**
- ◆ **Work with other educators to design learning strategies to meet the needs of individual students**

Information Power: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs, 1988

To adequately prepare students for the world of tomorrow, we must understand that education goes beyond the acquisition of a body of factual knowledge; instead the ability to locate, access, use and evaluate a complex array of information sources. Students must be able to organize and synthesize vast amounts of data and information and use this to create new and original products. Students must be able to communicate the results of their findings in a variety of formats. Since knowledge and information constantly change, we must equip students with lifetime skills and strategies to manage and process information. As education moves beyond the textbook and the classroom, performance and inquiry-based learning become increasingly important as a means of equipping students with skills and strategies to succeed.

The school library media center also provides programs and materials that promote a love of reading, improve listening skills, and encourage the appreciation of literature. As students meet the Rhode Island state standards of reading twenty-five or more books each year, the library media center must supply a variety of recreational reading resources and initiatives that encourage students to read.

These are the challenges of the twenty-first century, They can be met if the school library media center is a fundamental part of the educational process providing access to a collection of skillfully selected, well-organized resources in all formats while school library media specialists collaborate with classroom teachers to design and implement inquiry-based units based on comprehensive standards.

Joan Crothers
Chairperson

Wickford Middle School
North Kingstown, RI

Contributors to K-4 Curriculum

Lisa Dougherty

Lonsdale Elementary School
Lincoln, RI

Kelly Inman

Horgan Elementary School
West Warwick, RI

Gloria Schmidt

Elmhurst School
Portsmouth, RI

Contributors to 5-8 Curriculum

Lisa Casey

Jamestown School
Jamestown, RI

Sally Curtis

Burrillville Middle School
Burrillville, RI

Constance Zack Malinowski

Archie R. Cole Middle School
East Greenwich, RI

Contributors to 9-12 Curriculum

Diane DeThomas

Burrillville High School
Burrillville, RI

Donna Good

Narragansett High School
Narragansett, RI

Elizabeth H. Sinwell

Chariho High School
Wood River Junction, RI