

COLAND Minutes

Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND) May Meeting

Friday, May 10, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join in person: Tomahawk Middle School | 1048 East Kings Road | Tomahawk, WI 54487

Join by Skype: <https://meet.lync.com/widpiprd/alison.hiam/FTFP07JL>

Members Present:

Terrence Berres, Franklin
Joan Robb, Green Bay
Becki George, Rice Lake
Jacqueline Liesch, Kenosha (Virtual)
Bryan McCormick, Janesville
Dennis Myers, Germantown
James O'Hagan, Racine
Martha Van Pelt, Madison
Kristi Williams, Cottage Grove
Jaime Healy-Plotkin, Madison
Miriam Erickson, Fish Creek
Doug Lay, Suamico (Virtual)
Svetha Hetzler, Sun Prairie (Virtual)
M. T. Boyle, Burlington (Virtual)

Members Absent:

Nick Dimassis, Beloit
Jess Ripp, Milwaukee
Kathy Pletcher, Denmark

DPI Staff:

Martha Berninger
John DeBacher
Alison Hiam
Kurt Kiefer
Ben Miller
Monica Treptow
Annette Smith
Shannon Schultz

Guests:

John Thompson, Director IFLS Library System
Paula Keily, Director, Milwaukee Public Library
Josh Klingbeil, IT Director, Wisconsin Valley Library System

Kris Adams Wendt, Public Library Consultant, Wisconsin Valley Library System
Deb Villieux, Tomahawk School Board member
Theresa Burzynski, Tomahawk School District, Director of Curriculum,
Instruction and Assessment
Peg Billing, Tomahawk School District, Library Media Specialist
Rebecca Peterson, Director, Manitowoc-Calumet Library System (virtual)
Carolyn Stafford Taylor, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Mike Thompson, Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Council on Library and Network Development (COLAND)

Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 10, 2019

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tomahawk Middle School, Tomahawk, WI

1. **Call to Order (9:00 a.m.)**

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Bryan McCormick at 9:13 am.

Roll Call/Determination of Quorum

Quorum of fourteen members present.

Motion by Myers to accept the meeting agenda as printed. Second by, Erickson. Motion carried.

Minutes of the March 8, 2019 meeting were approved. Motion by Van Pelt, second by Myers. Motion carried.

2. **Welcome to Tomahawk Middle School**

Director of Curriculum, Theresa Burzynski, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, welcomed COLAND to Tomahawk and asked COLAND members to share a fond memory of the

northwoods area. She shared information about the area highlighting economic and demographic information and about the school district.

3. **Report of the Chair**

Officer Update, Biennial Report Update, Rolling Calendar Update
Bryan McCormick updated COLAND members on the following.

K. Williams presented the Nomination Committee update.

Nomination committee has recommended the following for 2019-2020:

Martha Van Pelt - chair

Miriam Erickson - vice chair

James O'Hagan - secretary

They have accepted the nomination for 1 year

Motion to accept the slate of officers.

Discussion about the timing of the action. It was decided the new officers are elected at the May meeting and assume leadership at the September meeting.

Motion to accept the nomination committee recommendation by Myers, second by Williams. Motion carried.

Rolling calendar proposal.

T. Berres has prepared a draft of a timeline of activities for the COLAND bi-ennium. Not an action item; just a supplement to guide future agendas. McCormick thanked Berres for his work to prepare the information.

Biennial report update. Progress on the preparation of the report is unknown at this time. Kathy Pletcher and Becki George will work with Shannon Schultz to prepare a draft for the July meeting. DPI staff needs to check on the goal that addresses prison libraries in the state. McCormick discussed items to be included in the Bi-ennial COLAND report including PLSR, school library licensing, Common School Fund, etc.

4. **PLSR Update** [Public Library System Standards s. 43.07(1)]

Listening Session Report

Kurt Kiefer reported on the status of the PLSR final report. He commented on attendance the locations and the intent of the listening sessions that were held at the direction of the State Superintendent. John DeBacher reported on the details of the face-to-face and virtual listening sessions.

Recommendation #1: Develop Standards, Best Practices and Accountability Structures for Public Library Systems While positive comments were received on recommendation 1, there is some question about just how overarching the standards should be institutionalized. Some participants expressed that the standards should not be enforced with financial penalties, since some systems struggle with funding. Other listening session participants asked whether the standards will be guidelines/best practices, or whether they will have consequences if not met. DeBacher added, however, that Chapter 43 specifically lists reduction of funding as a consequence. He also noted that the SRLAAW 2013 system study included recommended standards for systems and that, while some adhere to them closely, others do not appear to.

On recommendation 2, Enhance Collaboration by Creating Incentives and Removing Barriers - the consensus seemed to be that collaboration is already occurring and more will happen over time. There were few concerns regarding this recommendation.

On recommendation 3, Reduce the Number of Public Library Systems Listening session participants urged that mergers or other territory changes should happen organically. Concerns expressed may be more about apprehension and misunderstanding. DeBacher noted that the recommendation clearly states that consolidations will be voluntary. Further actions should look to removing barriers and offering guidance for those who are considering actions on this recommendation. Discussion about obtaining information from systems where some form of consolidation is happening now - Arrowhead, Lakeshore joining South Central, including learning challenges from ones that recently occurred or were explored but dropped. J. Robb commented on the experiences of the UW system and in particular their library services automation consolidation over the years and that, while it took time, it has been a good move overall.

On recommendation #4, Analyzing the Current Funding Formula. This was an area of a lot of discussion during the steering committee's processes. Much discussion about addressing the inequities that were identified. DeBacher noted that the DPI cannot change the formula unilaterally, since it is specific in statute. In the meantime, some inequity may be addressed through grants or support for services, as well as a consultant study and consideration of formula options to identify needs and best use of additional funding.

Recommendation #5: Initiate Delivery Service Pilot Projects. This area of the final report had the most data available to inform their work on the recommendation. The recommendation for the pilot project will be a good measure to demonstrate effectiveness and move toward more comprehensive changes.

Recommendation # 6: Create an Effective, Well-Managed, State-Scale Discovery Layer There was a general understanding of the benefits of this recommendation. However, there are varied levels of understanding about the concept and how it will be implemented. Some participants expressed distaste for sharing their region's materials with the opposite end of the state. DeBacher explained that already the ILS systems and WISCAT/ILL attempt to balance load and pull resources to balance the load and minimize transit when possible. Concerns were expressed about the efficiency of sharing collections over a statewide system.

Recommendation #7: Implement a Learning Management System for Professional Development . The platform used for the public schools is a model and a platform that can be built upon to address this recommendation. This recommendation will also need to include functions to make it possible to identify specialized expertise for consulting to libraries from the most capable experts throughout the state and to provide a platform to address general questions and triage them to appropriate experts or services.

Kiefer commented that recommendations #4 and #7 had high support across the state and should be acted upon first. Myers commented on the concerns he heard at his listening session.

Next steps include identifying the priorities and timeline for moving forward on the PLSR recommendations; moving from recommendations to operationalizing the recommendations. A question from a guest, Kris Adams Wendt, about when and how Governor Evers will be informed on the work of the PLSR Committee. Healy-Plotkin asked about what needs to be done to move the PLSR report forward? Kiefer responded and asked for COLAND members input on preparation of a drafted timeline for implementation of the recommendations, using feedback from the listening sessions and considering what is known about other necessary actions.

Motion by Healy-Plotkin/ second by Myers, that DPI staff create a draft of an implementation plan to be presented at the next COLAND meeting (July 2019). Amendment - by VanPelt, DPI should also identify sources of funding for the draft of an implementation plan.

Discussion of what will be necessary to complete such a draft. Kiefer asked about other items, in addition to funding and establishing priorities. Erickson asked what the role of DPI will be moving forward? Collaborative stakeholders will need to work with DPI staff to progress monitor the project. Healy-Plotkin suggested something like a marketing plan be prepared to help librarians and other stakeholders understand how each recommendation will affect libraries. Kiefer reiterated the need for assistance on implementation tasks. Myers suggested that 4 and 7 could be a starting focus for the implementation plan draft. DeBacher noted comments from a listening session that stated implementation cannot be the sole responsibility of the library community and DPI staff. He also noted that Chapter 43 specifically states that the Division has the authority to set standards for public library systems, promote sharing of resources, and determine effective networks for public library service. Erickson raised the idea of the need for a project manager.

PLSR chair, John Thompson, commented that having a project manager for the implementation of each recommendation was a part of the steering committee's work group discussions. In order to move forward, an oversight group or project manager role will be important to actually implement the recommendations included in the final report. It would be helpful for COLAND to create thoughtful timelines that will ensure implement the actionable items in the final report. Thompson reiterated the goals of the PLSR project and thanked COLAND for their support during the process. Williams and Healy-Plotkin commented that Thompson had shared examples of collaborations that have already happened and encouraged Kiefer and DPI staff to use these and other anecdotes in preparation of

additional materials to support the next phases of the PLSR project. Myers asked Kiefer if there is value in having a consultant assist with implementation? Kiefer acknowledged that Myers' suggestion will be considered. George asked if Thompson and Kiely could solicit examples of collaborations that are happening, to enhance the work being asked of DPI staff.

Chair, Bryan McCormick, called for a vote on the motion. Motion by Healy-Plotkin/ second by Myers, that DPI staff create a draft of an implementation plan to be presented at the next COLAND meeting (July 2019). Amendment by VanPelt, second by Myers, DPI should also identify sources of funding for the draft of an implementation plan.

Unanimous approval of both the amendment and the amended motion.

5. **Meeting with Carolyn Stafford Taylor, State Superintendent of Public Instruction**

COLAND welcomed State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Carolyn Stafford Taylor to the meeting. Accompanied by Mike Thompson, Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction. COLAND members introduced themselves and their background. Kiefer introduced Stafford Taylor, expanding on her background prior to becoming State Superintendent. She has been very interested in the work of the PLSR committee thus far and moving forward.

Stafford Taylor expressed her appreciation for the work of COLAND and the work that has been done on the Public Library System Redesign.

COLAND members asked questions of the State Superintendent. Myers asked about funding possibilities for implementation of the PLSR recommendations. State Superintendent is aware of the issue, but no decisions have been reached. Stafford Taylor asked about three specific areas of the PLSR recommendations:

1. Recommendations that received high support and are priorities- #7 - Learning Management System and #4 - Funding Formulas,
2. Recommendations for the next tier of recommendations - #1 - Develop Standards and Best Practices , #2 - Opportunities for Collaboration , #5 - Delivery Service. Members commented on the intricacies of the delivery system and the benefits of resource sharing. Resource sharing is something Wisconsin libraries have traditionally done very well. O'Hagen commented on the benefits and value of the Wisconsin Public Library System, comparing it to other state's system and pointing out the discrepancies in the funding formulas.

Van Pelt spoke about a technology collaboration project that specifically addresses the need for a regional data sharing center in the Madison area, similar to what has been established by the CVTC. Kiefer noted that this work falls easily into recommendation #2.

3. Recommendations that will need additional work prior to implementation.

The voluntary merger recommendation #3 caused the most concern, as expressed in listening sessions across the state. Kiefer pointed out the higher goal is high quality, equitable library systems throughout the state. Regarding recommendation #6, Robb noted that listening session discussion pointed to the need to develop materials that will help library professionals identify the benefits of recommendations for individual libraries.

Kiefer addressed the potential benefits of the discovery layer, enhancing state residents' access to resources.

Williams asked Chair McCormick to invite PLSR Steering Committee chairs, Kiely and Thompson to articulate findings that most surprised them during their work on the PLSR project. Kiely offered her observations about the similarities of the challenges facing libraries in rural and urban areas. She appreciated the opportunity for the listening sessions to gather additional feedback, beyond the surveys and discussions that have taken place during the entire PLSR process. This was a very thoughtful, purposeful study to improve the quality of public libraries in the state. A benefit is that we can see there are a variety of ways for public libraries to do their work. The candor and honesty people brought to the conversations were incredibly valuable. Thompson offered that the biggest surprises for him were the concerns about potential system changes. The 10 member steering committee, that represented the entire state, shared common concerns. The commitment to seeing the process through from beginning to its conclusion has strengthened libraries, produced professional growth and identified opportunities for collaboration moving forward

Stafford Taylor asked for concerns moving forward. Myers noted getting unanimous support will never happen. Informing stakeholders about what is envisioned and why, and gathering stories to elaborate on the importance is a necessary next step of implementing the final recommendations of the PLSR report. A request for an increase in state funding for library systems is included in the bi-ennial budget. Legislative support seems strong at this point. DeBacher noted that unless there has been a statutory change to the current funding formula, funding inequities will be exacerbated and will continue. Statutory language can be drafted to make those changes and address recommendation #4. COLAND members discussed what needs to happen to bring this to fruition. Funding and changes to state statutes are necessary to move forward.

Stafford Taylor concluded by thanking COLAND members for their continuing work on behalf of statewide libraries.

Erickson asked what she sees as her biggest challenge. Stafford Taylor commented that she sees it as, garnering adequate public support for schools and libraries.

[Advise the State Superintendent s. 43.07(3)]

Lunch - Next Steps @ 12:21

6. **DPI Updates** [Biennial Reports s. 43.07(4), (5), (7)]

DPI Update - May, 2019

Kiefer referred COLAND members to the report included with the meeting materials.

Myers asked for a DPI staffing update. DeBacher noted the addition of Cindy Fesmier. O'Hagen commented on the School Library Work Group meeting held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. The meetings are extremely valuable for school librarians throughout the state. He noted and complimented the excellent work Monica Treptow is doing with the group. Treptow shared information about the effectiveness of the Common School Fund infographic, prepared by the SLWG. Kiefer noted that the infographic has been shared with superintendent, business managers and principal groups throughout the state. Kiefer also complimented Treptow on her work, on behalf of school libraries in the state. Myers commented on the valuable work of school libraries. Berninger thanked M.T. Boyle for her work on the LAWDS project.

Legislative Update [Biennial Library Service Budget s. 43.07(6)]

7. **Agenda Building**

Future Locations

- July (7/12/19) - Platteville
- September (9/13/19) – Wisconsin Rapids
- November (11/8/19) Kenosha Public Schools (Liesch)
- January, 2020 - virtual meeting
- March, 2020 - Milton Public Library
- May, 2020 - Mineral Point

Future Topics

- Report on state prison libraries

- Draft of PLSR implementation plan
- Berres raised the question of developing a plan to address that statutory duties of COLAND; suggested for September
- Bi-ennial report - for July

Announcements

Williams asked for any updates on LD & L, the legislative group os WLA. Chris Adams Wendt reported on the work of the state Joint Finance Committee. Adams encouraged COLAND members message Joint Finance Committee members in ways that address common library concerns in a consistent manner.

8. Tour of Tomahawk School Library

Peg Billing conducted a tour of the Tomahawk school libraries.

9. Adjournment (2:12p.m.)

Motion to adjourn by Williams, second by VanPelt. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becki George

Secretary

43.07 Council on library and network development. The state superintendent and the division shall seek the advice of and consult with the council on library and network development in performing their duties in regard to library service. The state superintendent or the administrator of the division shall attend every meeting of the council. The council may initiate consultations with the department and the division. The council shall:

- (1) Make recommendations to the division in regard to the development of standards for the certification of public librarians and standards for public library systems under s. 43.09.
- (2) Advise the state superintendent in regard to the general policies and activities of the state's program for library development, interlibrary cooperation and network development.
- (3) Advise the state superintendent in regard to the general policies and activities of the state's program for the development of school library media programs and facilities and the coordination of these programs with other library services.
- (4) Hold a biennial meeting for the purpose of discussing the report submitted by the state superintendent under s. 43.03 (3) (d). Notice of the meeting shall be sent to public libraries, public library systems, school libraries and other types of libraries and related agencies. After the meeting, the council shall make recommendations to the state superintendent regarding the report and any other matter the council deems appropriate.
- (5) On or before July 1 of every odd-numbered year, transmit to the state superintendent a descriptive and statistical report on the condition and progress of library services in the state and recommendations on how library services in the state may be improved. The state superintendent shall include the report as an addendum to the department's biennial report under s. 15.04 (1) (d).
- (6) Review that portion of the budget of the department relating to library service. Recommendations of the council in regard to the budget shall accompany the department's budget request to the governor.
- (7) Receive complaints, suggestions and inquiries regarding the programs and policies of the department relating to library and network development, inquire into such complaints, suggestions and inquiries, and advise the state superintendent and the division on any action to be taken.

History: 1979 c. 347; 1983 a. 524; 1985 a. 177; 1995 a. 27; 1997 a. 27.

