

Staying Together: Role of Libraries while schools open

- What is the plan for your district/individual schools?
- Have you touched base with your school counterparts? Do you know how their space and duties have been affected?
 - [School Libraries Getting Repurposed in Reopening Plans](#), SLJ 7/20/20
- Anne Hamland attended the August 3rd “Reopening Schools and Re-engaging Young Learners: Instruction within the Context of Physical Distancing” with 4K and early childhood teachers and community partners.
 - Attendees were waiting for guidance from school and district leadership on everything. **The largest discussion was many had no idea how to set up their classrooms safely.**
 - Those in attendance **hadn’t even touched base with other teachers in their buildings let alone district.**
 - So, from this snapshot of attendees, **there was no discussion of wifi/internet access.** Total discussion was on classroom settings.
- **Public Library Take-aways from above:**
 - Wifi/internet connection apparent need
 - Limitation of visitors/time limits on visits is an issue for indoor library service
 - How can libraries provide service to students safely?
 - How can libraries communicate effectively with schools/teachers/librarians/students/parents?
 - Weather, comfortable seating, tables, picnic blankets/mats, and shade for wifi boosted to the outdoors is an expense.
 - What organizations can libraries partner with to overcome outdoor service issues?
 - Purchase/borrow/provide tents and spaced seating for wifi use

- Purchase/borrow/provide heat lamps for fall/winter outdoor seating
- Facilitate alternative locations for wifi access? Coordinate efforts of volunteers to staff, sanitize, and pay for space?