1) 'Power Up' Scholarships Available

Power Up: A Leadership Conference for Youth Services Managers and Staff, brings together youth services librarians and staff from public libraries, schools, after-school programs, museums, and other community partners. Sponsored by The Information School at UW-Madison, this conference takes place virtually only on February 14-15, 2025.

WVLS is offering scholarships to cover registration for its member public libraries who have worked in youth services for at least two years. Scholarship recipients are required to attend the full conference, with sessions from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on each day.

The application must be completed by 6 p.m. on Monday, November 4.

2) Delivery Tracking Starts Next Week

From October 26-November 21, WVLS libraries/branches should track incoming and outcoming bins and bags for a week. For example, a library that receives delivery on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday is considered "one week." More information, and a spreadsheet to track the bins, will be shared in next week's Monday Mentions.

3) New Digital Byte

In the latest Digital Byte, Kristie talks about Readers' Advisory. What is it, why should libraries offer it, and what tools are available in developing the skills. Watch it here.

4) Patron Survey

The Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC) is conducting a patron survey and needs help spreading the word. A link to the survey is on the top of the homepage of Wisconsin's Digital Library.

The survey is open through Friday, November 1. Please encourage patrons to respond by sharing the survey link to library websites and social media accounts.

5) Early Literacy Mini-Grants Available

The 2025 Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy (CLEL) Mini-Grant Application offers four $500 grants annually to CLEL members, who can join for free regardless of state of residency. The funds support early literacy programming and library-related materials, excluding collection purchases, and must align with CLEL's mission to enhance children's literacy. Projects must be completed by September 26, 2025, with recipients presenting their outcomes at the Fall 2025 CLEL Conference. Applications are due by Friday, November 15. Join CLEL here.

6) Direct Link to BadgerLink Resources

Now it's even easier to help library users gain quick access to the BadgerLink resources they need by using the direct links in the BadgerLink Resource URLs Google Sheet.

Check out the new tab for public library resources, found along the bottom of the Google sheet. This tab only lists the best resources for public library patrons. There are also newly added tabs by grade level, so libraries can share the most applicable BadgerLink resources for younger library users based on their age and research needs.

Questions can be directed here.

7) Upcoming Webinars

- Building a Quality Framework for Learning and Development - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23
- Sustaining Ecosystems for Climate Learning and Action - 2 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 24
- Share Knowledge, Ideas, Learning and Library Solutions - 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29

8) Reminder

Data Dashboard Dissection # 2:
The new, statewide data dashboard pilot of public library data as reported in the Annual Report to DPI continues to run through December 31. The dashboard is available on the WPLC website.

WVLS recognizes that time to explore this dashboard could be limited for its member libraries. From now until December, WVLS staff will break down exploring sections in bite-sized pieces for library directors and staff called "Data Dashboard Dissections." WVLS member librarians who complete each task by the deadline indicated are eligible for a prize. Librarians who complete all four tasks by the deadlines will be eligible to receive a $25 Amazon gift card.

Check out the second "Data Dashboard Dissection" focusing on library budgets and staffing. This task, including submitting responses via a Google form, should be completed by Tuesday, October 29.