



Editor's Message

Sandra Hughes
Grand Erie District School Board

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Teacher-librarians make a difference to children's learning. This issue of *The Teaching Librarian* explores that difference. Don Hamilton makes us think about how we make a difference and challenges us to examine the commitment and effort involved in making a difference. W. John Laughlin, Director of Education for the Thames Valley District School Board, describes how teacher-librarians are making a difference in the Thames Valley District School Board with more in the Professional Notes section. Angela Di Prima explores making a difference through use of her coding initiative. Diane Bédard looks at how you let people know you are making a difference. A teacher looks at us and a parent profiles Jean Harris, a teacher-librarian who has made a difference to her school. What OSLA has been doing to make a difference for teacher-librarians is explored in several articles. Even our quiz for this issue and our professional reading recommendations support our theme of *Making a Difference*.

It is my hope that this issue of *The Teaching Librarian* will make a difference to you, that it will make you reflect on teacher-librarians, what they have been doing, what they can do, and how they can make a difference with the people in their learning community. ■ ■ ■

What Kind of a Person Makes a Difference? Test Yourself!

by Marlene Turkington
Thames Valley District School Board

Sometimes we think that we can do nothing about our circumstances; that we are only one voice and cannot change anything. We want other people and other associations to help us, to stand up and be our advocate. The contest in this issue is to show that everyone can make a difference. We may not all be the leaders or have our words published – but everyone can do something to make a difference.

Photocopy these questions, answer them, total your score. If your total is 100 points or more, you are making a difference! Send in your answers, with your name and address, and you will be put in a draw to win a fabulous prize. The winners' names and their ideas for making a difference will be in the next issue.

1. I have an OSLA membership. ____ (5 points)
2. I belong to a national teacher-librarians' association. ____ (5 points)
3. I always attend my local teacher-librarians' association meetings. ____ (10 points)
4. I attended this year's Super Conference. ____ (10 points)
5. I have read an article from a professional journal in the past three months. ____ (5 points)
6. I have been involved in my own professional development in teacher-librarianship by reading a professional book, attending an OSLA Institute, taking an AQ course, or participating in a workshop or training related to school libraries. (5 points for each type of activity you have done)
7. I work with teachers in collaboratively planned units to implement curriculum. ____ (15 points)
8. I have a copy of *Information Studies, K-12* and use it to find expectations that can integrate with curricula. ____ (15 points)