

- ***The Impact of the Replacement of Teacher-Librarians with Library Technicians on School Library Programs and Services: A Provincial Study***

Ray Doiron, Faculty of Education, University of Prince Edward Island

Ray Doiron conducted this study at the request of the Nova Scotia teachers' federation. He discovered a significant decline in Nova Scotia's school libraries with regard to staffing, services, collections, and instructional programs. Non-teachers, and sometimes volunteers, were performing instructional tasks. Basically, at all levels of the school system there was evidence of serious misunderstanding of school librarianship and information literacy instruction. In other words, keeping school libraries open while getting rid of teacher-librarians does not support student learning and achievement.

- **Information Literacy Education for Pre-Service Teachers: Does it Make a Difference?**

Jennifer L. Branch, Department of Elementary Education, Faculty of Education, University of Alberta

Jennifer Branch concluded from this study that the education of preservice teachers does make a difference to their understanding of information literacy and their ability to integrate ICT into their teaching. It's important to note that this preservice education involved immersing these preservice teachers in a resource-based learning environment, information literacy, and the research process. This has implications for the education of preservice teachers.

- ***An Essential Connection: How Quality School Library Media Programs Improve Student Achievement in North Carolina***

Dr. Robert Burgin, president, RB Software & Consulting, Cary, North Carolina

This study of North Carolina's public school libraries corroborated the findings of previous studies, such as those done by Lance. Although the information provided by this study isn't new, it's important to have the earlier results confirmed in yet one more jurisdiction. Each study confirming these results makes it a bit more difficult for policy makers to argue that the studies have been limited to apply to their particular jurisdiction.

CONCLUSION

Although personal stories can be powerful, it's also important to know the research being done in school librarianship. Attending these sessions gave me the opportunity to improve my knowledge and understanding of this research so I can share it with my colleagues and with school and district administrators. ■

How School Libraries Support Reading Development

A Suggested Reference List

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Note: For on-going professional reading on literacy and school libraries, read Literacy Links written by Marlene Asselin and featured in every issue of Teacher-Librarian: The Journal for School Library Professionals.

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