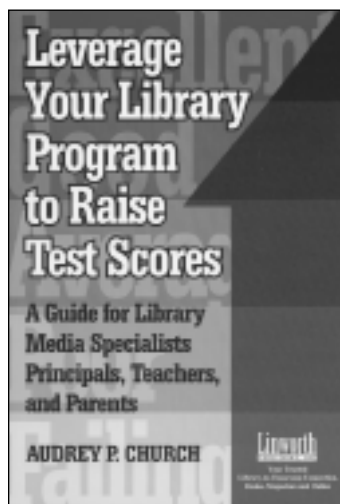


by Brenda Dillon

topic in education and know that good school libraries have a powerful, positive impact on test scores. But how to convince parents, teachers, and principals (and superintendents, directors, and trustees) that supporting school libraries is a wise investment of limited educational funding? Teacher-librarians will find



Leverage Your Library Program to Raise Test Scores: A Guide for Library Media Specialists, Principals, Teachers, and Parents a useful addition to their advocacy toolkits.

Chapter one reviews what the research says about the impact of school libraries on student learning and achievement. Chapter two is written for administrators, chapters three and four for teachers, and chapter five for parents. Chapter six covers what teacher-librarians need to do with regard to collaboration, information literacy, information technology, reading, program administration, and leadership. Chapter seven reviews and elaborates on the benefits to students of a good school library.

The four appendices provide additional information about the research, sample collaborative planning forms, sample pathfinders, and sample brochures for principals. The combination of an

index and a detailed table of contents makes it easy for the reader to find specific information. The references and further reading provide a good starting point for anyone interested in learning more about the impact of school libraries.

There are several good books available on this topic and Church makes reference to many of them in this book. *Leverage Your Library Program to Raise Test Scores* is a good starting point for anyone interested in the impact of school libraries on student achievement and learning, and specifically on standardized test scores.

This book belongs in every school's professional collection – and everyone, including the principal, all teachers, and the chair of the School Council, should be encouraged to read it. If possible, teacher-librarians should also have copies on their own bookshelves for use in their advocacy programs. Local teacher-librarians' associations and subject councils should consider providing copies of this book to school district trustees, directors, and superintendents if funds permit.



Read any good professional literature recently? Why not share your experience by writing a review for this page? Send your opinion to Brenda Dillon <brenann@sympatico.ca>.

The more people who read this book – besides teacher-librarians – the better.

Look Again! Appealing Bulletin Board Ideas for Secondary Students

Judy Serritella
Linworth, 2002,
1-58683-053-8
Paper, 8 1/2" x 11",
145 pages
\$55.10

Look Again! Appealing Bulletin Board Ideas for Secondary Students is a collection of bulletin board ideas designed for secondary students, although many of the ideas can be adapted for use at the elementary level.

The bulletin board suggestions in *Look Again!* are relatively simple and practical. These ideas are divided into eleven categories: Beginnings, Endings and Special Events; Seasons and Holidays, Cultural Diversity; The Bookstore; Author, Author; Dewey Rules; Research Rules; Technology; Interactive Ideas; Strictly Teens; and Catchy Captions.

True, some of the topics (such as Black History Month) have a very American focus, but Serritella's suggestions can be adapted or used as the springboard to even more ideas. Serritella also includes a section on designing bulletin boards, a collection of library quotations, a calendar of events, stencils, and diagrams of sample bulletin boards. In short, she packs a lot into 145 pages!

Of the several bulletin board/dis-



play titles I've reviewed, I think *Look Again!* is the most suitable for secondary students. Library bulletin boards are a wonderful advocacy and teaching tool and this is a useful collection of ideas. *Look Again!* is one of those titles you want to be able to browse occasionally, so it's recommended for district collections.

Student Projects: An Introduction to Research and Communication Skills

Hugh Robertson. 3rd ed.
Piperhill, 2002,
0-9693068-8-1
Paper, 8 1/2" x 11",
122 pages, Bibliographical
references \$14.95

Student Projects is the third edition of a book originally published in 1994 as *The Project Book*. In *Student Projects*, Robertson covers research reports, writing about literature, research essays, comparative essays, style, and public speaking. Students are introduced to documentation using APA, Chicago/Turabian, and MLA styles.

Robertson addresses both the use of ICT and more traditional methods for both conducting research and preparing projects and suggests a variety of approaches to such things as taking notes (e.g., index cards,