

-Librarians Working Together

Access to information. . .

- **The Public Librarian:** *“Nothing is more frustrating than trying to help a child on a Sunday afternoon with a project due on Monday. We are closing at 5:00 pm and the only resources left are reference materials and subscription databases only available in-library.”*
- **The Teacher-Librarian:** *“I provide so much planning time coverage that it has become impossible for me to schedule library time for junior and intermediate grades. And in schools with part-time teacher-librarians, it has become a challenge even to schedule open book exchanges for students wanting to read.”*
- **Shared Goal:** We want our students to have access to information as well as recreational reading material 24/7.

Assignment criteria. . .

- **The Public Librarian:** *“A child comes to the library to do a project and that requires information, all on the same topic, in multiple formats. For example: a video, a print resource, a database resource, an internet resource and a media resource. Rarely does the child bring in a copy of the assignment, so staff members who are not specialists in children’s services are unaware of assignment expectations.”*
- **The Teacher-Librarian:** *“If teacher-librarians had the time to plan with classroom teachers, assignments could be tailored to use resources readily accessible in the library. Even better, classroom teachers could plan with other classroom teachers so that all teachers concerned would be on the same page.”*
- **Shared Goal:** Each student to be enabled to seek and find all the necessary materials to complete assignments and meet the curriculum expectations.



The “New” Curriculum. . .

- **The Public Librarian:** *“Much of the material available for assignments is still not age appropriate, and that which is age appropriate is prohibitively expensive, for example, \$65.00 for a book that is the best source for the Grade 7 Hazards and Natural Disasters unit!”*
- **The Teacher-Librarian:** *“While classroom teachers are in-serviced on all areas of the curriculum, often teacher-librarians are overlooked in the process and so are caught off guard when students or staff come looking for specific items. This can be particularly embarrassing when staff ask for items specifically mentioned in the curriculum, as they have been told they will find those items in their school library.”*
- **Shared Goal:** To provide students with age-appropriate ‘best resource’ tools to enable them to complete assignments accurately in a timely and comprehensive manner.