SCHOOL LIBRARIES

(BSEP Measure A, Resource 0860)

OVERVIEW for FY 2014-15

Purpose

Provide student access to quality school libraries, which shall be maintained by providing library staff to operate the District's K-12 school and other specialized libraries, and by allocating revenues for books, materials, services and equipment for the school libraries.

Budget Managers: Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services
Becca Todd, District Library Coordinator

Certificated Salaries

Budget: $566,135 Actual: $563,722 Variance: ($2,413)

- 3 Middle School Teacher Librarians 3.0 FTE
- 2 High School Teacher Librarians 2.0 FTE
- Continuation High School Librarian 0.6 FTE
- TSA Elementary Teacher L Budget: $514,008 Actual: $515,981 Variance: $1,973
    - 11 Elementary Library Media Technicians 9.5 FTE
    - 3 Middle School Library Media Technicians 1.86 FTE
    - Central Media Library Technician 0.8 FTE
    - High School Library Media/Textbook Technician 0.8 FTE

Employee Benefits

Budget: $392,020 Actual: $364,055 Variance (27,965)

Books and Supplies

Budget: $194,450 Actual: $170,257 Variance (24,193)

school committees, and a number are recognized leaders in the school library field, serving on regional and national boards and presenting at conferences. All are dedicated to serving our 9,500+ students and families with a hearty embrace of reading and learning across the disciplines, with a reasonable dose of technology to boot.

Visiting Authors and Illustrators

We were particularly lively in our hosting of authors and illustrators of many cultures and ethnicities. Kwame Alexander (via Skype), Mac Barnett and Jory John, Gennifer Choldenko, Angela Dominguez, Jacqueline Briggs Martin, Mitali Perkins, Andrea Davis Pinkney, Jean Reagan, Pam Muñoz Ryan, Kate Schatz and Miriam Klein Stahl, Liesl Shurtliff, Duncan Tonatiuh, and Rita Gaia Williams shared inspiring words of wisdom with our students, staff and in some instances whole family events.

Technology

The District Library Coordinator, in conjunction with the Director of Technology, continued to facilitate the Instructional Technology Department, also known as DigiTech. Supporting classroom teachers to integrate more technology with model lessons using Chromebooks, launching the Tech Teacher Leader team K-12, and coordinating the summer DigiTech Institute with the Instructional Technology TSAs as a culmination of the Strategic Impact Grant, brought increased awareness, engagement, frustration and discovery - and skills - into classrooms throughout the district. Internet capacity issues plagued most sites throughout the year, yet the intention to persevere in a balanced approach to the use of technology remains strong.

Every library has a small to medium bank of computers for student and staff use, and the library catalog is entirely online. At the elementary level, upper grade students are often introduced to their Typing Club accounts in the library, then supported in the classroom and during recess visits. Library-based initiatives such as Tuesday Twist and Thursday Shuffle provide opportunities to integrate small group sessions with new digital tools. The middle school libraries coordinate their Mouse Squad teams, fostering skills in digital media and technology. Students develop online research skills utilizing our districtwide subscription to World Book Online; the middle schools also have a subscription to Teen Health and Wellness; the high schools have additional subscriptions to ABC-Clio, Gale Virtual Reference, Opposing Viewpoints, and ProQuest. Each library webpage provides direct links to these useful resources and as well as other appropriate resources on the open web. Digital citizenship and cyber safety skills are addressed when guiding students to use online resources.

Community Collaboration

Our libraries host many events beyond the hundreds of student visits every week. We display student art and science projects; provide space for music classes and vision screening; host meetings for staff, PTA, ELAC, SGC; support the Rotary Club's third grade Dictionary Distribution; and actively collaborate with the Berkeley Public Library.