

CASL Board Minutes

April 19, 2008

Members Present: Molly Gibney, Missy Snyder, Nancy, Su Eckhart, Dave Sanger, Susan Gilbert, Sherry Crow, Nance Nassar, Joann Perry, and via Skype: Becky Russell, Laura Summers, Barb Kidder
Staff: Heidi Baker

I. Introductions

II. Additions to the Agenda

-none

III. Action Items

1. Minutes from January 5, 2008

Dave: **Motion to approve the January 5, 2008 minutes as written.**

Susan: second

Minutes approved

2. Vision Statement Task Force Report – Molly, Missy, & JoAnn

There was confusion about what a vision statement is. It would be more of a slogan for shirts and t-shirts.

CASL: Connecting all school librarians.

Or

CASL: Connecting, Advocacy, Supporting, Leadership

These words are pulled from our mission statement

Could make all “ing” endings:

Sherry made a motion that we adopt: Connecting, Advocating, Supporting, Leading

Susan: Seconded **All approved**

3. TIE Preconference:

Workshop is scheduled – Chris Harris will speak on the topic of Digital Reshift. This has been the topic of his blogging recently. He will be doing 2 breakout sessions in the afternoon “50 Sites in 50 Minutes.” He will also have dinner with the board on Sunday evening. This will need to be scheduled around CASL board member duties with the registration table. Joann needs volunteers for Monday morning workers, and Monday afternoon needs 4 people. We have shifts where volunteers are needed Monday evening and Tuesday morning. CASL registration should be easy.

There is a possibility of renting a condo in Avon. Because we are officially partnering with TIE – we should go through the regular conference registration for housing. It is also better to be inside the conference resort for evening activities.

Marketing: Registration is up to us – so Heidi has requested a table in the hallway. We currently have 12 registrants – 10 of those are also registered for TIE. Heidi will get a list of names to share with us at next meeting. We need to contact the librarian presenters to invite them to the pre-conference. Nancy & Su will look at the presenters to send them a personal invitation to our CASL workshop.

We need to talk it up in the district and get them excited. Heidi sent out registration and workshop flyers. Nance sent it out to Power Libraries. Nancy will do a big marketing post on the CASL blog.

ABC CLIO grant – no word yet. We hope no news is good news. Sherry will contact someone at ABC CLIO to see what the status is.

Su made inroads with a couple of vendor friends – possible funding if we don’t get the grant. This could help fund water bottle giveaways, and possibly dinner with Chris Harris.

From 1:30 – 3:30 – if Chris is doing 2 sessions, then can Laura & Jenna do two 1 hour sessions instead of 2 hours? Jenna needs to check with co-presenter. Laura said she will do two one-hour sessions. Kim Ackerman had volunteered to do a session, but we might need to use her. Kim is doing this session at TIE anyway. The topic is literacy & book groups.

Sherry: Fun thing to share about workshop: her presentation is about advocacy. She spoke with one of the Washington Moms - Lisa – and she called Sherry. She is a “ball of fire.” Sherry asked what lit the fire under her. She said she had a fabulous librarian at their school and she was meeting the needs of students on every level. She recognized it is based on the effectiveness of the library media specialist. There is an Oregon and Arizona group being formed. Could we possibly bring the moms to Colorado for a CAL pre-conference? Sherry thinks they would come. The fact that it is coming from parents makes the difference. The new AASL rep could work on this. Do we think a two hour session would be more effective?

Bring a parent *and* administrator day!

Dave: The Washington Moms is a very political piece. Perhaps Dave could co-present with them on this piece. Or – Jerry Braden. Do we have the funds? Unknown. We should look at our own state before we look elsewhere.

4. AASL Representative Position Description - Sherry Crow

Heidi said Betty Bankhead suggested some changes to the job description. Sherry said that her revised draft does not have that much that is different – but delineates more what she actually does. It takes time to understand the politics, the meeting schedules, etc. Therefore, she recommends a 3-year term. Nance commends Sherry for the great work she has done. We had to go through re-affiliation with AASL this year. We really exceeded the minimum to be an affiliate based on membership. Sherry is proud of our state for this. Sherry will be on the *SLMR* research board. Nance & Sherry are on the advocacy committee, Laura is on the editorial board for *Knowledge Quest*.

How much does CASL contribute towards the AASL representatives travel expenses? \$500 per conference. This might be a hardship for someone. This is only about a third of the cost. Does there need to be coordination between this position and the ALA counselor position? Sherry doesn't believe this is necessary.

Motion to approve the job description: Dave
Seconded by Missy **Motion carries.**

IV. Reports

Legislative Committee: Dave Sanger

Dave is now the chair of the state legislative committee. CASL can now have another member on the committee. The committee meets on the first Friday of the month at 10:00 am. It could be a phone conference. They meet in the board room at Denver Public Library. Nance will email Betty Bankhead to see if she'd be interested. We will also send a call out to see if anyone comes forward. Su will make a recommendation to Martin, but Martin will have to appoint that person.

Dave: Handouts on current bills. Clarification: “Postponed Indefinitely” basically means “dead.”

There are a number of school reform bills.

Karen Middleton: HB-1370. This is interesting because counselors are being cut in multiple schools. This bill emphasizes the importance of counselors. Grants will be available to schools that want to increase

counseling services. A thought is that we could have a similar – or tack on to this bill - funding for schools that include library support. Dave will be working on this during the summer.

SB-212: This institutionalizes what was presented by the P20 council. It was totally rewritten this week to make ACT be “the” test score. We would align standards and scores to success on ACT. Gen Hainer pulled out the language that relates to libraries. The new wording doesn’t specify “library” but we can see libraries all through this. A suggestion would be to put research as one of the key skills. Who shall attend – “other special service providers” – we librarians need to be part of this group. We will need to lobby the commissioner to be included.

Could CASL send a letter and recommend specific people from the school library community to serve on this committee? Dave said we should wait to see if this bill passes, and we could put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

Susan’s district is going to 100% standards based – report cards, pedagogy, etc. No more grade levels – might be levels 1-8 or 1-10. Commissioner Dwight Jones came to talk to her district and said he is very supportive of this. They have had a lot of professional development about what it looks like for various content areas –but there is nothing about librarians. They only refer to accessing databases. (Adams 50) Jeffco has done this –“curriculum alignment project.” Perhaps Rick Hamans could write an article for *Colorado Libraries*. There is only 1 counselor for every 544 students in Colorado. This is how counselors were “sold” to be called out in this bill. We need to publicize this about librarians – our ratio is worse.

Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids – CAP-K.

Jenna: Glenwood Springs District - alignment is going on. Glenwood is losing a certified librarian in one of their high schools, only one MS will have a certified librarian next year, and the elementary schools have only part-time librarians. Jenna is on the 21st century learning committee – otherwise, librarians were not included.

Nancy met with Dr. Ken Turner. He challenged us to do some research in Colorado about the impact of ET-IL and 21st century skills – not library specific. Nancy will post a link to the research that we did on our district on the IB program. This was the sample that Dr. Turner referred to as the type of research that should be done.

HB-1386 sponsored by Rep. Mike Merrified. This bill would establish a school leadership program. This would be training/re-training for principals in public schools. We need to be involved in that training.

Awards Committee: Molly Gibney

There are a few new awards this year. We kept the requirement that the school librarian award must be endorsed. Thanks to board for input on this, and thanks to Molly that she gave us advance warning on this. Nominations are due June 1. Several people last year were deserving of an award that didn’t make it – but should be re-nominated. Has the library design award ever gone to a school? Response -once a few years ago. One of the new awards is for library collaboration – among different types of libraries. Are there any tips for successfully nominating someone for an award? It is important that school librarians “act” as professionals in committee work and we need to put forward a more positive and confident image. Do we want to nominate anyone from CASL for any awards? Last year we each nominated at least one thing. Barb Linnenbrink has been incredible in setting up her new school and working with interns. Glenda Hawkinson has been a strong advocate and school librarian in her district. Judy Barnett would be a good person for career achievement. Everyone should think of someone – and all board members should discuss. Gay Lynn James in District 12 would be a great candidate, too.

Nance moves that we should nominate Judy Barnett for career achievement.

Nancy seconds. **Motion carries.**

We should be careful not to conflict with each other on nominating. Names of those nominated are not recognized. Nancy would like to recommend that all those who are nominated at least have their names published in the awards program. Su would like Cherry Creek High School be nominated for Colorado Library of the Year. Joann will take that back to the other librarians to consider this.

Conference Committee: No members.

Conference Program committee: No one from the board is on, but we do have some school people that applied. Heidi doesn't know who this is.

Membership Committee: Susan said she can't attend because they only meet on Fridays. She asked them to meet later in the day, but they have not agreed to this. They are very nice, but they don't seem to understand how difficult it is for a school person to leave during the school day. The emails are not being responded to – and this is frustrating. Susan is not sure how to approach this so school members can be a part of this process.

2. Meet n Greet results

It would be nice if the whole organization (CAL) participates in the Meet-n-Greets. Aurora's was very successful – though it was all public librarians except for Su & Susan. There were about 20 people who attended. Patty Bateman was very helpful working with Susan to arrange this. They discussed ways public librarians and school librarians can work together.

Adams 12 – Su was not able to get into the building. Nance was able to do the presentation. The message was very good and the librarians were receptive.

Colorado Springs was very successful – 2-3 public librarians and a couple of private school librarians. The conversation was good.

Western Slope's meet n greet was successful as well. It followed the CLiC workshop. There were 3 school librarians that attended.

The "Meet n Greet" name has taken hold. Maybe next year we'll increase membership. The best turnout was the online day. Maybe we should hold a virtual meet-n-greet. We'll consider that for next year.

Arizona

The largest school district in Arizona, Mesa, is preparing to eliminate certified teacher-librarians, and school librarians around the country were asked to email or fax the board members to try to persuade them from this decision. Activists to prevent this tragedy got a call from the Washington Moms, and they are moving forward with many possible approaches to the school board. Budget cuts are the root of the issue. The state had required ELL teachers for every school – this seems to have resulted in the decision to eliminate certified librarians. This is starting in Arizona –but it could happen just as easily in Colorado. Nance regularly gets calls from principals to see if they can eliminate the certified librarian position. Because Colorado is a local control state, she can't say that they must have one. Nance will start using the wording from NCLB regarding "highly qualified."

We should pull together some statistics and facts to share in the state. We should get students involved. We should include the message about equity in education. We should show the Joyce Valenza video that is on our blog. Can AASL tell us the student to librarian ratio? There may be data out there. Here is a link to a 1997 study:

http://nces.ed.gov/programs/quarterly/vol_1/1_2/3-esq12-i.asp

Martin has volunteered CAL support for this to go to the Arizona school board. Su will ask him to do this. Nancy will put an article on the blog to encourage Colorado librarians to individually send letters of support for school librarians to the Arizona school board.

The Washington Moms created t-shirts “FUNd” school libraries. These are available on the web site.

TEACH grant: Library media is not included as a field of need (hard-to-fill area).

V. Unfinished Business from 2/8/08

1. CAL Budget process and results

CAL supported all of our requests. AASL was moved out of the CASL budget and into a separate one.

Susan may not be able to attend AASL this summer, due to her mother having surgery. She is not sure if she can attend – but hopes to attend.

We need to be thinking about nominating people for the board next year.

2. CAL memberships old and new – we need to take time to review the spreadsheet and contact people who’s memberships have expired. When people have retired, we need to find out who has replaced them and invite them to join. We need to build our membership with this “younger” generation.

It would be a good idea to offer a special membership for retired librarians at a reduced rate. This could really increase our membership and funding. This is a conversation that should be taken to CAL/membership committee. CASL has suggested this twice, and the committee has not supported the idea. Next year might be a good time to bring this up again.

3. Colorado Read-to-Achieve Commission Nominees

The committee has openings that could be filled by school librarians. This could be an excellent way to interface with non-librarians. It is difficult to get people on government-appointed boards. We can send forward nominations, but after that it would be out of our hands. Nominations are due July 1.

Forward names for AASL nominations to Susan.

4. CAL Conference/Membership: Discuss evaluations and moving forward

No discussion needed at this time.

VI. Future Business

1. CAL CE Committee needs presenters in Durango for a September event (confirmed by 4/18)

CAL Continuing Ed committee needs presenters for a Durango event. Nancy and Gwen did this 2 years ago and had a very small turn out. Michelle Brown, Janet Oliver, JoAnn Hibert are strong leaders and perhaps should be asked to present.

The deadline has past for this – but Su will email the chair and let her know that there are Power Librarians in the area that could be asked to present. They are not currently CASL members. We need to discuss this as a Power Library board. JoAnn is willing to go out and present. Dave Sanger is also willing to present.

Next meeting is May 17, 2008. We could see if we can meet at Cherry Creek library. Patty Bateman might be able to help out with a location. Nance can check on Castlewood Public library – near Denver Tech center.