

McGhee, Marla W. and Barbara A. Jansen. *The Principal's Guide to a Powerful Library Media Program*. Worthington, OH: Linworth Publishing, 2005. 139 pages. \$39.95. (ISBN:1-5868-193-3)

School librarians often complain that their principals don't know what to look for in a library program and don't have any idea how to evaluate a librarian's performance. This book aims to educate administrators and fill that gap. Each chapter has the same basic sections: "Guiding Questions" ("What are ethical issues involving the library media program?"), an introduction, several sections on the topic, a summary, "Planning for Action" and "Getting Started," works cited, and additional resources.

Administrators can easily browse the book, focusing on current needs, whether it is evaluation, their role in supporting the media center, or the responsibilities and priorities for the media specialist. In addition to administrators, librarians may find this book useful for self-evaluation and reflection. The authors, a former principal and a media specialist, also provide resources and research to support many aspects of a good library program, from flexible scheduling to collaboration and weeding. The authors are big fans of the Big 6 Skills Approach for research, so this book may be particularly helpful if your district has adopted the Big 6.

This book alone won't solve the problem of administrators who think it's all on the internet or that library time should be part of the elementary rotation with art, gym and music, but it is a good tool for interested administrators and librarians to gain common language and goals. Librarians may want to give it to their administrators or vice versa. We can only hope it will be adopted as part of administrator training programs to spread the word.

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