



Region One Education Service Center

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Interim Executive Director

REGION ONE LIBRARY LEADERSHIP NETWORK MEETING Workshop # 191872

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 Region One Education Service Center 9:00 AM – 10:45 AM

A regular meeting of the Library Leadership Network of Region One Education Service Center, Office of Instruction Support was held on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Vilia Garcia called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM, via Zoom connection.

The following members were present:

Brooks County ISD	Evelina Esquivel	McAllen ISD	Deborah Rubio
Brooks County ISD	Melissa Carrasco	McAllen ISD	Jenny Vega
Brownsville ISD	Rosa Ara	McAllen ISD	Roxann Martinez
Donna ISD	Isela Gonzalez	Mercedes ISD	Dahlia Saldana
Donna ISD	Katherine Mendoza	Mission CISD	Marissa Saenz
Donna ISD	Terri Kilby	Monte Alto ISD	Mary Sanchez
Donna ISD	Velma Rangel	Raymondville ISD	Dara Cepeda
Hidalgo ISD	Eloy Garcia	Rio Grande City Grulla ISD	Nydia Benitez
Jim Hogg County ISD	Cynthia Martinez	Roma ISD	Carla Oyervides
La Feria ISD	Rhonda Amstutz	Roma ISD	Lisbeth Rios
La Feria ISD	Umberto Flores	Roma ISD	Yadira Diaz
La Joya ISD	Alma D. Salinas	San Benito CISD	Mandy Martinez
La Villa ISD	Stephanie Ruiz	Sharyland ISD	Nicole Cruz
Laredo ISD	Mely Paez	Santa Rosa ISD	Anna Gaytan
Lasara ISD	Marisella Salinas	South Texas ISD	Ann Vickman
Los Fresnos CISD	Victoria Portier	Marine Military Academy	Kathleen Charrey

The following Region One ESC staff was present:

Vilia Garcia

I. Welcome and Introductions

Vilia Garcia welcomed everyone to the meeting. New Library Contacts/ Coordinators were encouraged to introduce themselves.

II. **Virtual Library Cooperative**

- Overview given of Virtual Library Resources through Region One website such as MackinVIA, BrainPOP, TexQuest and other online resources.
- Librarians needing training, access, and troubleshooting were advised to reach out to Library Services and Instructional Resources staff for guidance.
- Over 40 databases are part of the MackinVIA package.
- **TexQuest price reduction**
- TexQuest received grant funding and was able to reduce prices for resources. Region One successfully applied and received a discount. Local school districts were also able to take part in this reduced fee.
- Librarians were encouraged to continually share the Virtual Library resources and praise teachers for using them in the classroom.
- Repeated encouragement and motivation to educators was expressed as necessary to promote library resources.
- To request trainings, librarians were informed of Staff Development Request link on ESC LSIR website.
- Gale Opt Out- A couple of its databases are under review for various reasons. These databases were removed from the TexQuest portal to review the resources, links, and videos to verify meeting of SEL components. Retired librarians were hired to assist in the process and the resources will be ready for access in the coming days. A local district decided to opt out from these resources. If any district would like to opt out of the two databases, the librarians can reach out to TexQuest directly. Their access to other resources would not be affected.
- Other parts of the state have spoken out against SEL components in the online resources.
- Brainhive and Learn 360Plus were dropped from the VLC resources. Learn 360 is still part of the package.
- VLC Overview Page was reviewed regarding resources available.

III. **Fall Media Fair**

- Overview of Fall Media Fair was provided for any not familiar with the event.
- Library conference hosted by Region One. Library sessions such as MackinVIA, TexQuest, library skills, programming.
- Due to rise in Covid cases in the region, the Fall Media Fair will be held virtually this year again.
- Survey was sent out to librarians in August for input on face to face or virtual options for the Fair. Majority consensus was to have Fall Media Fair virtually. A \$10 fee will be charged.
- Date changed from October 22nd to October 15th. The sessions will be all day.
- Proposals will be emailed to Library Coordinators and encouraged to forward to their district librarians to see who would be interested in presenting virtually at the Fair.

- Librarians, library aides, teachers, and administrators can attend the Fall Media Fair. Anyone part of the Coop can attend.
- Various local districts are restricting travel due to pandemic so holding the Fall Media Fair virtual is the best option at the moment.

IV. Book Fairs

- Librarians are interested in what other school librarians are doing regarding book fairs. Feedback was asked on ideas and comments hosting book fairs.
- Sharyland ISD campuses are hosting online book fairs or host a book fair locally through Barnes & Noble. Each campus administration and librarian are working together to plan their own bookfairs.
- Laredo ISD will host book fairs utilizing crates and boxes following CDC guidelines
- Various school districts will host Online Book Fairs.

V. Leading from the Library Connection

- Trainings will be set up for Librarians to take a part of. In its planning stages and name of training will most likely change.
- Feedback was asked on what topics librarians would like to consider.

VI. Upcoming Professional Development

- **WK# 204859 Leading from the Library Connection – 09/24/21**
 - Monthly sessions for Librarians to connect across Region One to obtain ideas from other Librarians, professional network.
 - The Sessions will be virtual, 2-hour duration, and open to all librarians. In the spring some sessions may be face to face.
- **WK# 204858 New Librarian Training Cohort Session 1 –09/29/21**
 - Training developed for new librarians and paraprofessionals needing training on MackinVIA, Library skills, teacher to librarian transitions, 1st and 2nd year librarians.
 - Will be held virtually, half day, at no cost. In the spring some sessions may be face to face.
 - Sign up will be available on Staff Development Web page.
 - Librarians were encouraged to promote the workshops amongst their new librarian staff.
- **School Library Connection- date pending**
 - Training is scheduled in September, date is pending.
 - Library contacts were encouraged to log on to School Library Connection via MackinVIA. Some issues have arisen with username and passwords. If any issues arise, librarians were encouraged to notify Vilia Garcia and she would notify company representative.
- **TexQuest Training- date pending**
 - Several sessions are being planned. Dates are being confirmed with Region 20.
 - Sessions will be monthly on different databases and content level for elementary and secondary grade levels
 - As confirmation is received, dates of training will be shared.

VII. Closing Comments and Adjourn

- **Battle of the Books**
 - Information was provided for library contacts not familiarized with event.
 - Competition information is on the Library Services and Instructional Resources webpage
 - It is a regional competition for district teams that advance to compete.
 - Last year it was hosted virtually.
 - Book Titles for the 2021-22 school year are on the webpage.
 - There are Elementary, Middle School and High School titles.
 - Each district sends one campus per level to compete regionally.
 - Some districts combine students from different campuses to make up a team.
 - Teams consist of 4 students; 3 students and an alternate.
 - Competition is held in February.
 - A great way for students to read, get excited and encourage reading growth skills.
 - A title at the High School Level was removed and replaced with Tokyo Every After by Emiko Jean.
 - All Battle of the Books titles, including new title, have been uploaded into MackinVIA.
 - Most of them are available in Audio format as well.
 - Committee is working on questions for competition.
 - Competition will hopefully be held face to face while author visits will be mostly virtual.
 - If any librarians have questions regarding competition, they can reach out Vilia Garcia.
- Accelerated Reader (AR) trainings are not done by the department. Librarians are encouraged to reach out to the AR representative.
- Other librarian contacts shared their tips on how they have worked with the AR program.
- Librarians asked about Destiny as Library Manager uploaded to the Cloud, several librarians shared how it has helped them with their resource's management.
- Other districts utilize TIPWebIT or Follett and mentioned how it has helped them.
- Covid Protocol Survey sent out a few months ago was a success. Librarians came together to share their thoughts and ideas being implemented in their districts and campuses.
- Nicole Cruz, from Sharyland ISD, shared she joined other librarians to update School Library Standards and nominated to serve as testimony before committee in December.
- Roxann Martinez, from McAllen ISD, was congratulated for recognition on the national level and featured on the Kelly Clarkson show.
- Margie Longoria, a Mission CISD librarian, published a book.
- Advocacy is key and showcase of student's work is very important for librarians to keep on doing through social media is one way.
- Librarians were encouraged to keep up the excellent work being done in their districts and reach out with any questions and concerns.

Meeting ended at 10:45 AM

Minutes By:

Maria Adriana Samuel

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Program Assistant

Region One ESC Library Services & Instructional Resources