

## ***A. Description of Your School Community***

Answering the following questions will help you to develop your school library media center school community description.

2. How many children attend your school? 640 ( As of October 2017 )

3. What grade levels does your school serve? K-4

4. Please describe your community. Include demographics, such as population, location, total area, race and ethnicity, income distribution, educational level of the community, \$ per pupil for schools, etc.

Its district includes privately owned homes, multi-family homes, multi-unit apartment complexes, low-income housing, and a variety of income levels. There are children on free/reduced lunch program. Educational level of the community varies from postgraduate/professional to high school. The school population is internationally very diverse, including children from Russia, China, India, Brazil, Egypt, the Philippines, Japan, and other countries.

5. Any special programs in the school?KEIP and FEIP, ACCESS, elementary ELE (English language education) for the district, BOKS (before-school fitness program), Early Risers, ASAP, Instrumental music lessons and band.

6. Any special needs programs?ACCESS program, Learning Center/SPED

7. What makes your school unique? For example, has it a special mission, special populations, etc.?

At Ben-Hem, we enhance the possibilities of all learners. Students, teachers, and parents work together to bring our mission to life through a sustained, uncompromising focus on our core values.

It is our mission to ensure that:

all students, through effort and perseverance, excel as learners, individuals, and members of a diverse society

all students develop confidence in themselves as individuals and learners, with their peers as friends and mentors, and with their community as a resource

all students thrive in a positive school climate that engages them in rigorous learning while providing an atmosphere that instills the joy and fun of seeking knowledge

parents and teachers collaborate in a collective effort to support and care for students

We value CAREing?

8. Provide a brief summary of the results of state testing and the impact on the school library program:

Results for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts DESE Natick Public Schools testing [LINK](#).

## B. Description of the Library Media Program

1. Briefly describe your library media program as it currently exists. All grades are exposed to library skills activities. The literature may be curriculum, theme- or seasonally based, and may be fiction, nonfiction, or poetry. There is very active book circulation by students, and by teachers as needed to support their classroom instruction. The Ben-Hem Students enjoy a weekly read aloud. The Library is used for research projects.

2. What special programs does your library media center provide? The Library is open to all students once a week for 40 minutes a day. ASAP uses the Library after school. The Library also hosts a Media Center Room.

3. How do students get access to the library media center? Each class in the school has one assigned library period per week, except for Kindergarten classes, which come twice.

4. How do teachers access the services of the library media center and of the library media specialist? The Library is available from 8:30 - 2:30 everyday. Staff can come in whenever they are free. They also can email me. Occasionally they send a child down for a book that is needed immediately.

5. Are you working on developing a flexibly accessed library media program? If yes, how? No.

6. Is the library media specialist involved in cooperative planning with the classroom teachers? No

7. Is the library media specialist involved in curriculum development with the classroom teachers? No

8. Describe how technology is integrated into the library media program. Ben - Hem as 2 Laptops and eight Ipads that are accessible to the children. They can use these to look up books in our Destiny Catalog. They also have access to World Book Online, Brainpop and a few coding apps.

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9. Describe library media center involvement with the reading program and literacy development in the school. N/A

10. What is the budget for the school library media center? (Include breakdown by categories). \$7100.00 for Books and Supplies