Defining a Strong School Library Program



A strong school library program is a partnership made up of school leadership, the school community, and led by the school librarian.

The school library functions as the "hub" of the school. A strong school library program builds connections in these key areas to empower learners:

Curriculum & Instruction	A strong school library program connects students to the world around them through research and inquiry, and by supporting a climate and culture of reading. These connections are made through collaborative lessons and programming that integrate information and technology skills with classroom curriculum, through the curation of relevant and reliable print and digital resources, and by empowering students in the 4C's.		
Equity & Cultural Competency	A strong school library program displays a commitment to inclusiveness and respect for diversity that is embodied in its policies, instruction, programming, materials, and pedagogy. This includes ensuring access, amplifying historically marginalized voices, and promoting literature and informational texts that reflect the lives, experiences, and interests of all students.		
Use of Space & Time	A strong school library program provides open, flexible access to resources and programming in both the physical and digital library space.		
Family & Community Partnerships	A strong school library program develops partnerships with the community (families, caregivers, businesses, non-profit organizations, local government, experts in fields related to curriculum topics, etc.). These partnerships exist to support student learning, mentorship, community engagement, and library advocacy.		
Budget & Resource s	A strong school library program consistently invests in resources, both print and digital, that align with school and community goals to support student learning.		
Professional Learning	A strong school library program harnesses the collective leadership and expertise of the Media and Technology Advisory Committee members to lead personalized professional learning on skills related to information literacy, digital citizenship, and digital learning.		
Technology & Infrastructure	A strong school library program provides and advocates for equitable access to connectivity, digital devices, information, resources, programming, and services.		
Data & Privacy	A strong school library program promotes and advocates for student data privacy by providing instruction in data privacy to students and staff and by prioritizing data privacy issues when evaluating digital tools for student use.		

 $Sources: \ ``Future\ Ready\ Librarians ``TM."\ Future\ Ready\ Schools, future ready.org/program-overview/librarians/.,$

National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries. ALA Editions, an Imprint of the American Library Association, 2018.,