



# Montana Library Association

*From the Mountains to the Prairies*

## **MLA BOARD REPORTS**

Office held/Chair of: MLA- School Library Division  
Reported By: Angela Archuleta and Dianne Matilla  
Date: 10/9/2017

### **Progress or Successes Since Our Last Meeting:**

**We updated our MLA-SLD By-Laws. We are now working on planning for MLA-SLD Co-Chair elections and plan to call for nominees in February for April Conference, starting to plan for our summer retreat, and plan to call for proposals for the event here soon. In addition, if time permits, will send certificates of appreciation for those who presented at our summer retreat in 2017. Clarification to ensure I understand that our MLA Board Meeting in April is Wednesday afternoon?**

### **New Issues:**

Three issues impact the school librarians that partake in our association. We have left these three issues on-the-table as I did not see these issues addressed at the board meeting.

- 1) We develop a membership plan that allows for pro-rated rates if someone joins mid-year and reimburse members money if they overpay dues. Mission first; members always.
- 2) Develop a recruitment plan that allows potential members to sample what we have to offer so they have an opportunity to "try us out" before they commit to spending their hard earned money. For instance, we provide school librarians or special librarians one year of free membership or offer a conference to them at the member price to see the fun they are missing.
- 3) Board meetings are a challenge for school librarians. A three-hour virtual meeting is not really realistic for any of us. It did help us to have a meeting at MLA. In addition, if perhaps in the future, we did not meet in October the day after MEA-MFT, it may assist us in finding a way to go to the board meeting. We can provide those dates of MEA-MFT when they are available. Any other suggestions?

### **Board Action Requested:**

- 1) Taking care of current members- other organizations, like Pacific Northwest Library Association, allow members to start their year when they pay their dues. I think we need to take this thought into consideration to allow MLA more flexibility with their money
- 2) Recruitment: Develop a recruitment plan that allows potential members to sample what we have to offer so they have an opportunity to "try us out" before they commit to spending their hard earned money. For instance, we provide school librarians or special librarians one year of free membership or offer a conference to them at the member price to see the fun they are missing.

### **Other Comments:**

*\*Please attach your completed report and email it to MLA Secretary.*