



# Montana Library Association

*From the Mountains to the Prairies*

## **MLA BOARD REPORTS**

Office held/Chair of: School Library Division

Reported By: Dianne Mattila

Date: June 18, 2017

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

The MLA conference was enjoyed by several school librarians. Many school librarians from the Billings School District volunteered at the membership table and luncheons. We had two donations for the Cates Scholarship auction. One was a basket of items from several librarians statewide and one was a "Book" Vase donated by the librarians at Skyview High School in Billings. The School Library Division Meeting went well. I was unable to attend it but I am happy to announce a new co-chair was elected at the School Library Division Meeting- Angela Archuleta. This year we had two candidates to choose from. Angela and I have yet to meet in person but we have met several times via email and telephone. Angela attended the MEA planning meeting in Missoula which will take place in October, 2017. We have several presenters and we are both planning to attend the conference there. We have also scheduled the Summer Library Retreat and thanks to Deb Kramer for setting up the registration up for that event. It will take place August 3 in Bozeman. Ann Ewbank who is a great advocate for school libraries and librarians has so graciously helped with setting up the place for the retreat. It will be at MSU-Bozeman and the Department of Education will be providing lunch and parking for attendees. We will have a pre-conference hosted by Nikki Kuech of Bozeman and we will meet at her parents historical home and enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres. We are both very excited about the retreat.

**New Issues:**

The School Library Retreat in August at MSU- Bozeman is a new issue as well. Angela and I have been hoping for a good turnout and will continually post on the MLA Social Media Sites.

Also, once again MLA will be a part of the MEA Conference in Missoula and have two full days of presentations for school librarians.

In addition thanks so much for the boards' approval of the "Every Library" partnership with Follett to provide advocacy for school librarians. Ann Ewbank will help with committee work for this partnership. More news will be provided via email and/ or Wired as time goes on.

Finally, the "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA) will be going to the Office of Public Instruction once again in August. Ann Ewbank again has spearheaded this initiative to include school libraries and librarians in the state of Montana. More news will be provided as time goes on.

**Board Action Requested:**

None at this time. Future action may include a letter to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Elsie Artzen to consider school libraries and librarians in the upcoming ESSA initiative. MLA president, Lisa Mecklenberg, will most likely be presented with a letter from the ESSA committee asking for permission to send.

**Other Comments:**

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