

# Designing Virtual Library Learning Spaces



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board  
April 5, 2011



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Waterloo Region District School Board

<http://library.wrdsb.ca>



## Together for Learning School Libraries and the Emergence of the Learning Commons

A VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

osla  
Ontario School Library Association

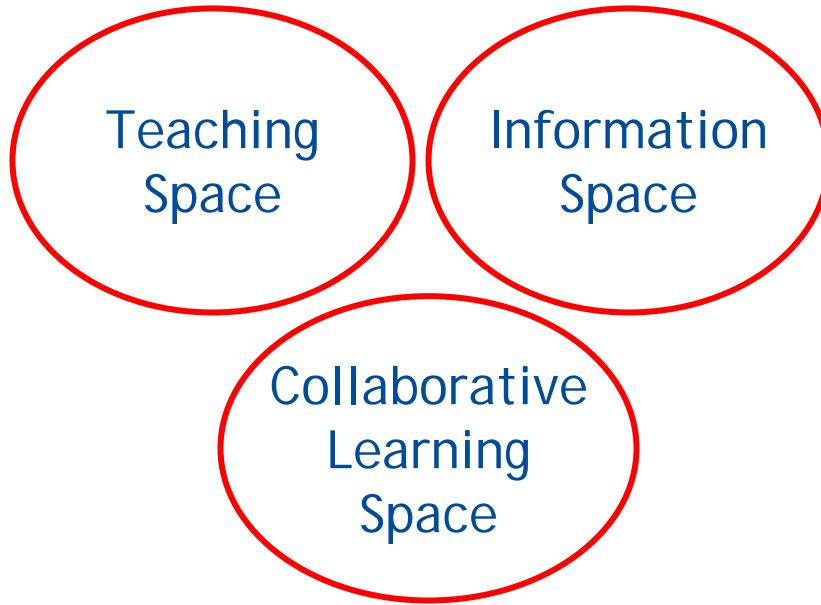
The time has come for school libraries to welcome an ever-widening variety of learning practices and activities. This can be accomplished through the provision of real and virtual spaces that encourage and facilitate expanded engagement.

The challenge is discovering how to reconfigure our current spaces both inside and beyond a school and a school library's walls to reflect this new reality. Access to the technology that makes it possible, obviously, is critical.

21st  
Century

School  
Library

## PHYSICAL SPACE



Our online library spaces must be dynamic, usable learning spaces.

## VIRTUAL SPACE

# A Vibrant Online Presence is Essential for All Libraries

The library has to be somewhere and everywhere.

We need to be better when users are in the virtual library space than when they cross the threshold of our physical library space.



**Joseph Janes**

Dean, The Information School  
University of Washington

OCULA Spotlight Speaker, Super Conference 2008



Design components of 21st century learning spaces need to consider collaboration, comfort and community. Wherever possible, learning spaces should be colourful, inviting and playful. Learning is fluid and participatory... as a result, space should not place limits on learning. Instead, space should encourage collegiality and intellectual development.

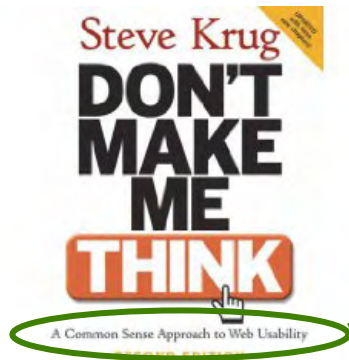


### Together for Learning

School Libraries and the  
Emergence of the Learning Commons



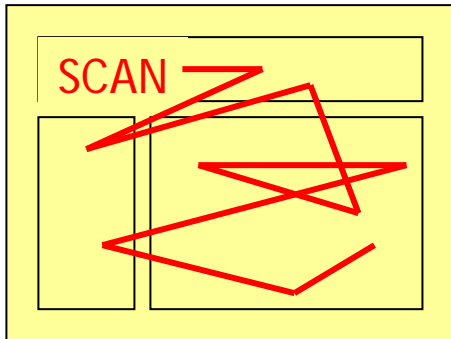
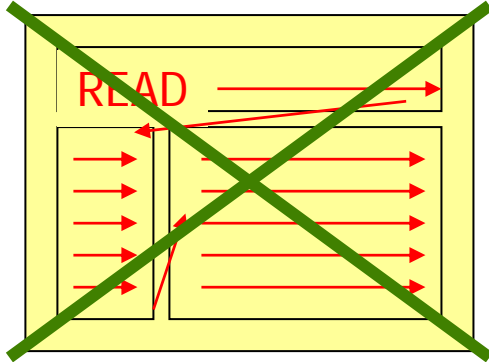
A VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY



# A Common Sense Approach to Web *Usability*

How we really use the web:

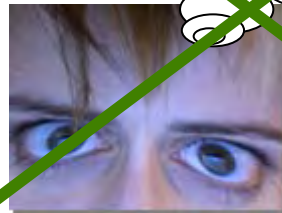
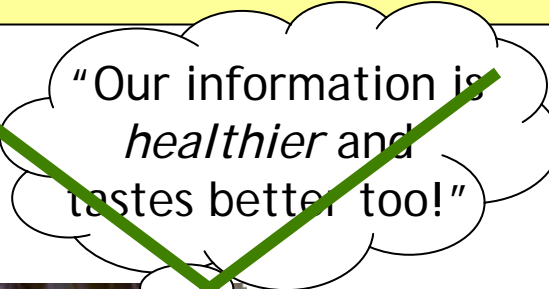
SCANNING



SATISFICING

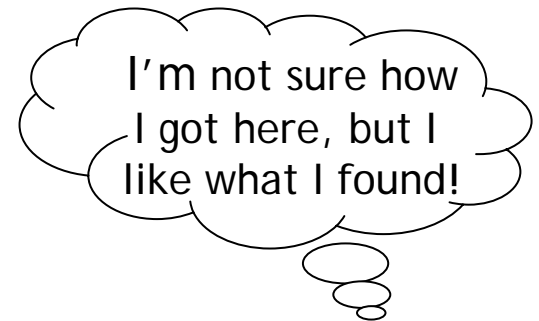
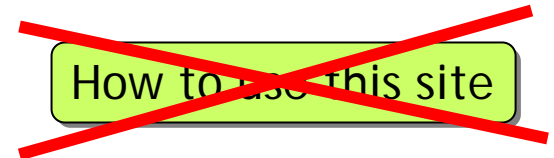
"Principle of Least Effort"

Fast Food Approach  
to Information-Seeking

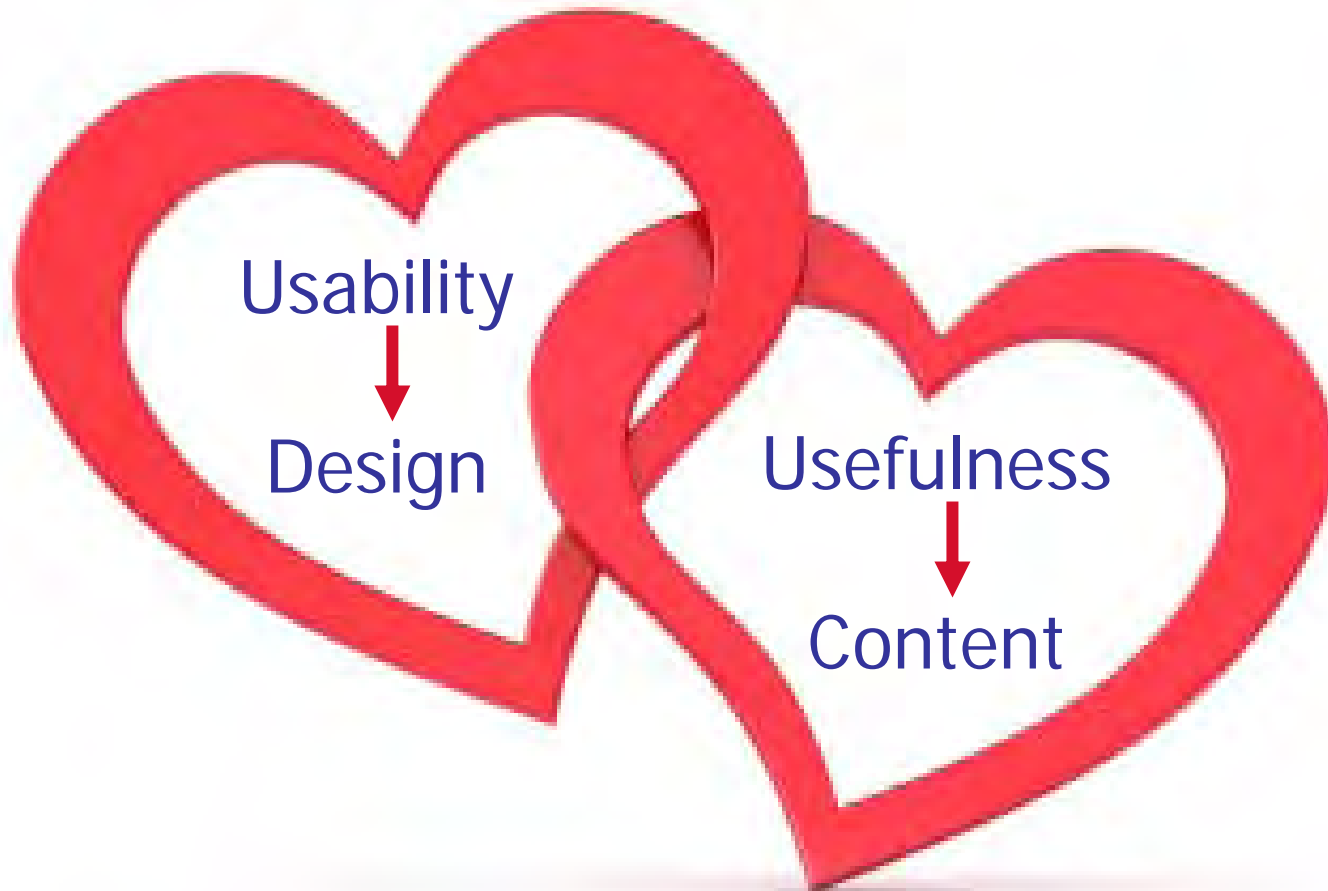


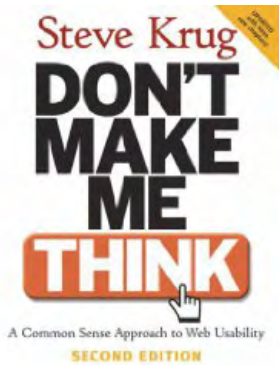
Perplexed Librarian

MUDDLING  
THROUGH



The ideal website is both **USABLE** and **USEFUL**

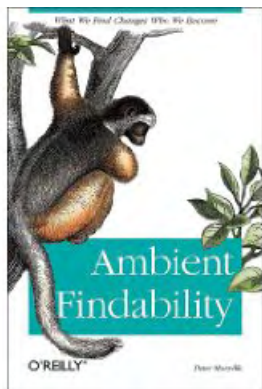




## Usability

### It's not rocket surgery™

*After all, usability really just means making sure that something works well: that a person of average (or even below average) ability and experience can use the thing - whether it's a Web site, a fighter jet, or a revolving door - for its intended purpose without getting hopelessly frustrated. (Krug, 2006)*



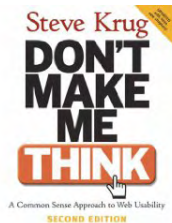
## Complexities of Achieving Usefulness

- Information Interaction
  - Defining Information
  - Information Retrieval
  - Language Representation
  - The People Problem
  - Human Information Interaction

- Findability

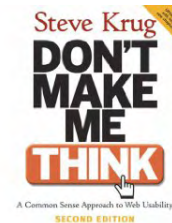
(Morville, 2005)





# Heuristic Evaluation Based on Krug's Law

**Don't make me think.**



## 1. Make it self-evident:

- Make intent of all pages obvious
- Use plain English, not jargon
- If it's not obvious, make it self-explanatory

## 2. Avoid visual noise:

- Lack of visual focus - competing visual elements
- Incongruence of colors
- Lack of white space

## 3. Omit ~~needless~~ words:

- Be concise
- Avoid "happy talk"
- It shouldn't need instructions: No "*how to use this website*"

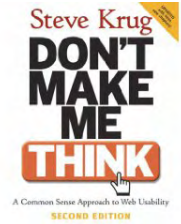
## 4. Make navigation obvious:

- Provide street signs
- Provide breadcrumbs



# Heuristic Evaluation Based on Krug's Law

**Don't make me think.**



## 5. Don't deplete the reservoir of goodwill:

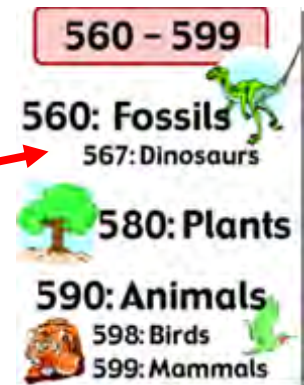
- **Things that diminish goodwill:**
  - *Punishing me for not doing things your way*
  - *Asking me for information you don't really need*
  - *Shucking and jiving me*
  - *Putting sizzle in my way*
  - *Your site looks amateurish*
- **Things that increase goodwill:**
  - *Know the main things that people want to do on your site and make them obvious and easy*
  - *Tell me what I want to know*
  - *Save me steps wherever you can*
  - *Put effort into it*
  - *Know what questions I'm likely to have, and answer them*
  - *Provide me with creature comforts like printer-friendly pages*
  - *Make it easy to recover from errors*
  - *When in doubt, apologize*

# Physical Library Space

-  Open
-  Flexible
-  Inviting
-  Organized



Good signage  
in the *physical*  
library space



# Physical Library Space



Resource-rich & organized to support...





Photo used under license from iStock Photo: <http://www.istockphoto.com>



CC Licensed photo by Ann Arbor District Library: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/aadl/3404945718/>

the messy business of learning  
that takes place within its walls.

# Virtual Library Space



Resource-rich and organized to support ...

...the messy business of learning that takes place in collaborative online spaces AND everywhere else.

Book Blogs

Facebook Groups

Online  
Presentations

Research Project  
Wikis

Collaborative  
Writing with  
Google Docs

Twitter  
Backchannel  
Discussions

Knowledge-Building Centres

**AND** in the physical learning commons.



# The WRDSB Library Learning Commons Story

The screenshot displays the WRDSB Library Learning Commons website. At the top, a blue header features the WRDSB logo on the left, the title "Library Learning Commons" in the center, and the tagline "Learning Caring Connecting" on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "Learning Commons", "Find Books", "Virtual Library", "eVideo", and "Staff Resources", followed by a search bar. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features a large banner with a photo of students in a library, overlaid with the text "Explore: Navigate the library, discover the world." Below this banner are six buttons arranged in a 3x2 grid: "Read", "Research", "Teach", "Explore", "About Your Library", and "Blogs". The right column contains a "Recent News" section with four news items, each with a date. Below the news is a "SUBSCRIBE" button. Further down is a social media widget for "WRDSB Libraries" with a post about the OLA Super Conference and a "Join the conversation" link. The footer is a blue bar with five icons and labels: "iLC Library Learning Commons", "Find Books", "Virtual Library", "eVideo", and "Staff Resources".

**Library Learning Commons** Learning Caring Connecting

Learning Commons Find Books Virtual Library eVideo Staff Resources

**Explore:**  
Navigate the library, discover the world.

**Recent News**

- New In The Virtual Library Jan 11th, 2011
- Red Maple Author Visits Stanley Park PS Dec 13th, 2010
- Forest Of Reading Nominees For 2011 Oct 25th, 2010
- New Library Books For French Immersion Schools Sep 24th, 2010
- Let's Read! At Waterloo Area Libraries Sep 3rd, 2010

**Read** **Research**

**Teach** **Explore**

**About Your Library** **Blogs**

**WRDSB Libraries**  
wrdslibraries

WRDSB library website featured at OLA Super Conference!  
27 seconds ago  
reply

Join the conversation

**iLC** Library Learning Commons

**Find Books**

**Virtual Library**

**eVideo**

**Staff Resources**



# Opportunity Strikes!



**Free Online Information Resources**  
Available at your local library.

Learn how to search online, read or download the full text of magazines, newspapers and more for free from home, work or school.

**Your Librarian Knows How. Just Ask!**

Access to selected online resources is made possible by **Knowledge Ontario** with funding provided by the Province of Ontario.

**k<sup>o</sup>**  
Knowledge Ontario

[www.knowledgeontario.ca](http://www.knowledgeontario.ca)



**Waterloo Region District School Board VIRTUAL LIBRARY**

Encyclopedias, Atlases, Dictionaries, Almanacs

Look here for magazine & newspaper articles, reference sources, pictures, graphics, multimedia and much more. For students in Grades One to Eight.

Search by topic, keyword or the type of resource you need.

For young researchers. Find a book to read.

Guided search from Searchasaurus. Search by title, author, series, or keyword.

For senior elementary and high school students.

Magazine, journal, reference, multimedia sources. Search by topic, keyword or the type of resource you need.

Canadian and International newspapers, magazines, journals and reference materials.

Current magazines, professional journals and reference sources.

Expanded Academic ASAP.

Comprehensive journal and newspaper backfiles. Find resources back to 1960.

Look at current and controversial topics from different viewpoints.

...and the WRDSB Virtual Library is born (January 2008).

# The Problem Remained: Secondary Libraries

- ✓ Sixteen teacher-librarians working in isolation at sixteen schools
- ✓ Duplication
- ✓ Need to be able to collaborate
- ✓ Varying levels of comfort, time and ability to support library web presence
- ✓ Want common research guide, based on resources developed over past few years



Research Library Policy Subject Specific Resources Homework Helpers Teacher Resources



Electronic Book Catalogue

Electronic Video Catalogue

# LIBRARY

## EASTWOOD COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

[Home](#)
[Find Books](#)
[Virtual Library](#)
[Databases](#)
[Links](#)
[Google](#)
[Technology](#)
[Easybib](#)
[Blog](#)
[ECI Home](#)

### Eastwood Collegiate Library

...a learning commons for all...

**Library**

*Here is where people,  
One frequently finds,  
Lower their voices  
And raise their minds.*

Light Armour, McGraw-Hill, 1954.  
Richard Armour

**Contact Information**

760 Weber St. E.  
Kitchener, Ontario  
N2H 1H6

Phone  
519-743-8265

Fax  
519-743-1002

School Hours  
8:15am-2:30pm

Office Hours  
7:45am-3:45pm

Principal  
Nancy Strobel

Vice Principals

**Stephanie Meyers NEW ADDS - check her website**

Drop into the library today. New books added...

## Southwood Secondary School Library

[ONLINE DATABASES](#)
[SSS CATALOGUE](#)
[SEARCH ENGINES](#)
[DIRECTORIES](#)
[FAST FACTS](#)
[ASSIGNMENTS](#)

SSS HOME

CITING SOURCES

OTHER LIBRARIES

TEACHER RESOURCES

SUBJECT RESOURCES

RESEARCH TEMPLATES

LIBRARY INFO

LIBRARY HOME

Tuesday, November 17th, 2009

*I am the Library.  
I am neither walls nor shelves.  
Nor even the books that stand in rows.  
I am the wisdom of the universe  
Captured and arranged for you.*

**WELCOME.....**

<http://virtuallibrary.wrdsb.on.ca>

**Get the Facts!**

Quality Reference Sources

- Something for Everyone
- Specialized Resources

**paesports**

**Discovering Collection**

**Encyclopedia (HISTORICA)**

**Dig Deeper!**

Comprehensive Resources

- Magazine, Newspaper Articles
- Specialized Journals
- Peer-Reviewed Articles

**C.P.O.**

**Academic OneFile**

**Student Research Center**

**General Reference Center Gold**

**Master That Subject!**

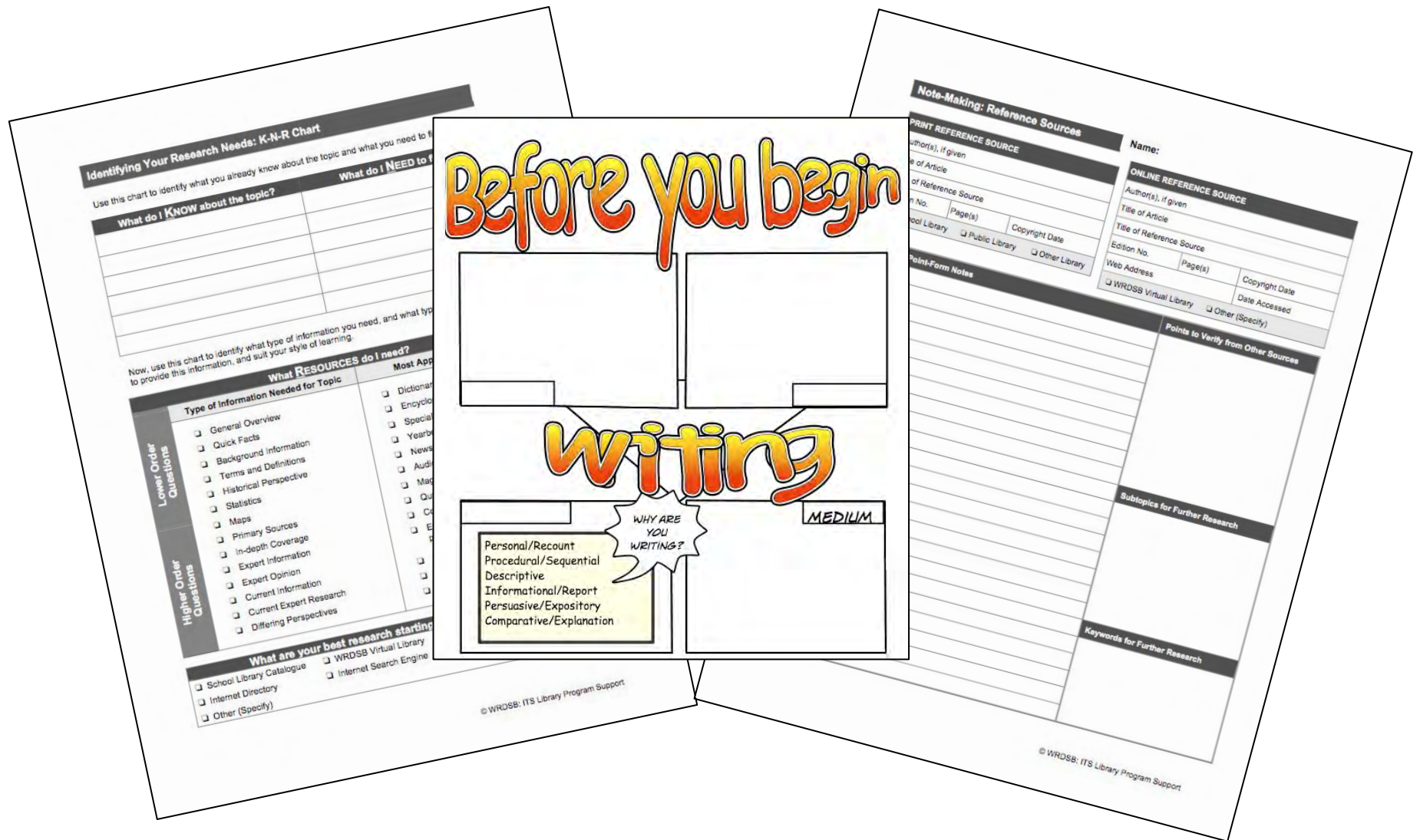
**Get Both Sides of the Story!**

## High School D Library

???

Minimal Content





Working independently and collaborating to create great material.

How could we scale this up effectively and share broadly?

# The Problem Remained: Elementary Libraries

- ✓ Five teacher-librarians working centrally, supporting 102 schools
- ✓ Still have mandate to support instructional role of libraries and support teachers
- ✓ Need common resources
- ✓ Need to be able to collaborate
- ✓ Varying levels of comfort, time and ability to support library web presence

## The Problem: Need One Place to Look

- ✓ Instructional Resources
- ✓ Procedures & Policy
- ✓ Library Catalogue
- ✓ Virtual Library
- ✓ Central Libraries / Professional Resources

Promotion & Marketing

"A **SHARED VISION** is not an idea...it is rather a **force in people's hearts... a force of impressive power.**

It may be inspired by an idea,  
but once it goes further - if it is compelling enough to  
acquire the support of more than one person  
- then it is no longer an abstraction.

People begin to see it as if it exists.

Shared visions derive their power from **common caring.**

Shared vision is vital for the learning  
organization because it provides the **focus**  
and **energy** for learning."

Peter Senge



# Library Learning Commons

Learning Caring Connecting

Learning Commons

Find Books

Virtual Library

eVideo

Staff Resources

SEARCH



## Explore:

Navigate the library, discover

Read

Research

Teach

Explore

About Your Library

Blogs

Support for Students

Support for Teachers

System Projects

## Recent News

In The Virtual Library Jan 11th,

Author Visits Stanley Park  
th, 2010

Best Of Reading Nominees For 2011  
Oct 25th, 2010

New Library Books For French  
Immersion Schools Sep 24th, 2010

Let's Read! At Waterloo Area Libraries  
Sep 3rd, 2010

SUBSCRIBE

WRDSB Libraries

wrdsblibraries

WRDSB library website featured at  
OLA Super Conference!  
27 seconds ago

reply

Twitter

Join the conversation

News

Integration  
with other  
WRDSB  
sites

Twitter  
Feed  
(WRDSB Libraries)

System View



Library  
Learning  
Commons



Find  
Books



Virtual  
Library



eVideo



Staff  
Resources

One Place to Look



[Blog](#) > [Read](#) > Recommended Reads

## Recommended Reads

### Book Lists



[Adventure Series](#)



[Fantasy Series](#)



[Graphic Series](#)



[Historical Fiction](#)



[Humour Series](#)



[Horror & Supernatural](#)



[Mystery Series](#)



[Realistic Fiction](#)



[Romance Series](#)



[Science Fiction](#)



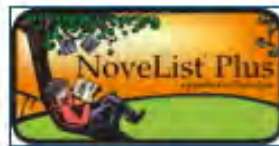
[Sports Series](#)

[Great Reads Junior](#)

[Great Reads Intermediate](#)

Find more great recommended reads in the Virtual Library.

Check out **NoveList K-8 Plus** or **NoveList Plus** (Secondary).



Reading  
Engagement

Webpages

# Great Reads-Intermediate

## Realistic Fiction Titles

Bite of the Mango	Mariatu Kamara
Black and White	Eric Walters
Diamonds in the Shadow	Caroline B. Cooney
Lush	Natasha Friend
Poison Ivy	Amy Koss Goldman
Shepherd's Granddaughter	Anne Laurel Carter
Taken	Norah McClintock
United We Stand	Eric Walters

## Horror/Supernatural

Breathe	Cliff McNish
Eighth Grade Bites	Heather Brewer
Dead is a State of Mind	Marlene Perez
Full Tilt	Neil Shusterman
The Graveyard	Neil Gaiman
Groosham Grange	Anthony Horowitz
Horowitz Horror	Anthony Horowitz



## Humour Titles

Dead Guy Spy	David Lubar
Diary of a Wimpy Kid	Jeff Kinney
Dork in Disguise	Carol Gorman
Geek Charming	Robin Palmer
Twits	Roald Dahl
Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks	E. Lockhart



## Science Fiction Series

Books of Ember	Jeanne DuPrau
Missing	Margaret Peterson Haddix
Gideon Trilogy	Linda Buckley-Archer
Hunger Games	Suzanne Collins
Chaos Walking	Patrick Ness
Maze Runner Trilogy	James Dashner
H.I.V.E.	Mark Walden
Uglies	Scott Westerfield

## Sports Series

Take it to the Extreme	Pam Withers
Orca Soundings	Various authors
Orca Sports	Various authors
Impact Books, A Jake Maddox Sports Book	Jake Maddox



## Romance Series

Twilight	Stephanie Meyer
Beacon Street Girls	Annie Bryant
Lily B.	Elizabeth G.
Mate, Dates and	Cathy H.
Princess Diaries	Meg C.
Confessions of	
Georgia Nicolson	Louis

Resource List  
Downloads

# Book Trailers

What is that book about? Discover the latest and greatest books in your library by watching these video book trailers.

What's New!



*Power Surge* by Andy Briggs



*The Red Pyramid* by Rick Riordan



*Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins



*Witch & Wizard* by James Patterson

Video  
Book Trailers



# Silver Birch



This program is for students in Grades 3 to 6. The Silver Birch program is comprised of three lists: Fiction, Non-Fiction, and Silver Birch Express.

## Silver Birch Book Trailers

### Silver Birch Express



### Silver Birch Fiction

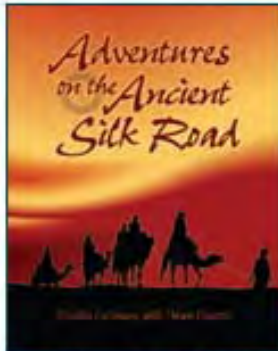


### Silver Birch Non-Fiction



- [Silver Birch Express](#)
- [Silver Birch Fiction](#)
- [Silver Birch Non-Fiction](#)

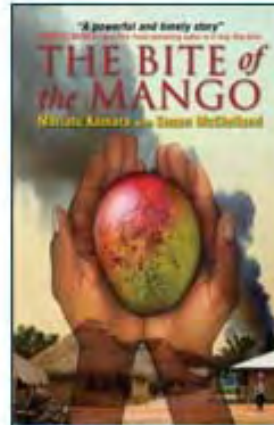
Library  
Programs



[Adventures on the Ancient Silk Road](#)



[Agency: A Spy in the House](#)



[Bite of the Mango](#)



[Charlie](#)



[Ghost Ride](#)



[Green Career\\$](#)

## Pages

[Welcome Readers!](#)

[Digital Citizenship](#)

[A Few Words From Our Sponsor..](#)

[But I Don't Know What To Say!!](#)

[How To Write A Post](#)

[How To Write A Comment](#)

[Spoiler Alerts](#)

[How To Add A Link](#)

[Inserting An Image](#)

## Categories

[Adventures On The Ancient Silk Road \(2\)](#)

[Agency: A Spy In The House \(2\)](#)

[Bite Of The Mango \(1\)](#)

[Charlie](#)

[Ghost Ride](#)

[Green Career\\$](#)

[Journey To Mars](#)

[My Name Is Henry Bibb](#)

[Haunts](#)

[Journey To Mars \(1\)](#)

[My Name Is Henry Bibb \(3\)](#)

Cross-School  
Blog

# Topics and Sub-Topics

Selecting a topic and deciding on the focus of your research is key. Use the organizers provided to help you develop your topic and sub-topics.

## Topic Web


Use the Topic Web to:

- identify layers of topics and sub-topics
- make connections between ideas
- narrow your topic and research focus

Revisit the Topic Web as you delve more deeply into resources and discover more layers to your topic.

 [WRDSB Library Topic Web](#)

 [WRDSB Library Topic Web](#)

 [WRDSB Library Topic Web Example](#)

See an example of how the Topic Web can be used, below.

## Topic & Sub-Topic Planner

Use the Topic & Sub-Topic Planner to:

- show how your sub-topics support the ideas you have developed about your topic
- make sure that you have at least three pieces of supporting evidence for each of your sub-topics
- help prepare an outline for your final project

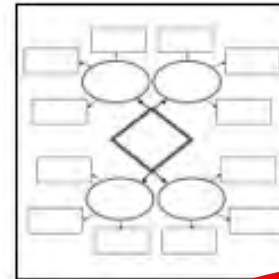
 [WRDSB Library Topic Sub-Topic Planner](#)

 [WRDSB Library Topic Sub-Topic Planner](#)

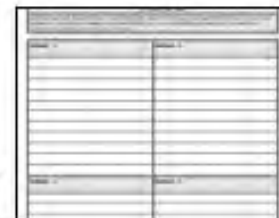
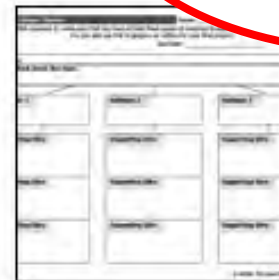
## Organizer

Organizer to:

• list key points about each of your sub-topics  
• assess whether you have enough evidence to make  
• prepare arguments about each of your sub-topics, or



Inquiry & Research



Web Content  
& Downloads



## Looking at Issues from All Angles

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Different people have different perspectives on issues. Use this organizer to help you see different points of view, so that you can develop your own.

Perspective #1	Student
→	Cell phone is my lifeline
→	Need it for access to my files / work
→	Use it for research

Perspective #2	Teacher A
→	Distraction in class
→	Safety issue
→	Can be used for cheating

Perspective #3	Teacher B
→	A tool for enrichment in my class
→	A way to connect to the real world
→	Capacity for storage & retrieval
→	Teach effective use

Perspective #4	Parents
→	Want to contact my child when necessary
→	My child should be able to contact me when necessary

Issue

Should cell phones be allowed in school?

I think that...

Exemplars



# Common Knowledge: What you need to know



A Library Learning Commons Tutorial  
<http://library.wrdsb.ca>

*Learning • Caring • Connecting*

Video  
Tutorials





# Citation: What You Need To Know!

Research help from the Waterloo Region District School Board Library Learning Commons  
<http://library.wrdsb.ca>

## WHAT DOES CITATION MEAN?

When conducting research you collect information, ideas and quotations from many sources. You must acknowledge each source with a citation.

## CITING MEANS THAT:

Your sources can be verified for their authority and currency.

Your research steps can be re-traced, so that your audience can consult specific sources and assess your conclusions about the topic.

You are honest about acknowledging others' words and ideas.

You are able to back up your own ideas with the words of the experts.

## WHY MUST I CITE?

### IT'S ABOUT MORAL RIGHTS!

Canadian Copyright law says that the creator of a work has the right to be acknowledged by name. The creator of a work also has the moral right to the integrity of their work, to protect it from being mutilated or distorted, or to prevent it from being associated with harmful or false causes without their permission. Learn more about copyright: <http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/digital/citatemore/copyright-explained/>

### IT'S ABOUT ACADEMIC HONESTY!

Not acknowledging your sources constitutes academic dishonesty. Failing to give this acknowledgment may be perceived as taking credit for others' ideas or creations, and would consequently be considered plagiarism. Learn more about academic honesty and plagiarism: <http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/digital/citatemore/honesty-plagiarism/>

## WHAT MUST I CITE?

### YOU MUST ACKNOWLEDGE:

- ✓ Direct quotes
- ✓ Paraphrased information or ideas
- ✓ Statistics
- ✓ Specialized information
- ✓ Images, charts, graphs, media files

## KEEP TRACK OF YOUR SOURCES!

Keep track of what information you got from each of your sources. Our notes can help you with this! <http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/information-tracking/>

## GATHER THE RIGHT INFORMATION!

You need to record key information about each source, like the author's name, the publisher, publisher or web address, etc. Use our Notes List to keep track of your sources! <http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/academic-honesty-plagiarism/what-must-i-cite/>

## USE THE CORRECT CITATION FORMAT!

Citations must be formatted so that it is easy for people to retrace your research footsteps to find your sources.

### Style guides for formal academic writings:

<http://library.wrdsb.ca/research/style-guides/>

### For all other information and formal presentations:

## Tech Tools for Learning



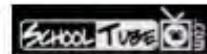
[Google Documents](#)  
[Google Presentations](#)  
[Google Spreadsheets](#)

[Google Maps](#)  
[Google Sites](#)  
[Google Forms](#)

### Collaboration and Communication Tools



### Presentation and Sharing Tools



### Audio Visual Tools



Tools, Tools,  
Tools

# Copyright-Friendly Sources

The following sites will help you find files you have permission to use, provided you follow the terms of the license. It is your responsibility to ***find, read and abide by the terms for the materials you use*** and to ***keep track of your sources and give attribution as appropriate***. Look for the terms of use or terms and conditions on every site that you visit.

## Sources for Images and Music Files



**Pics4Learning:** Copyright-friendly images for use in education.  
[Pics4Learning Image Use Policy](#)



**flickr Creative Commons:** User photos with CC licensing.  
Browse by license type.  
Review the different license terms on the [flickr Commons page](#).



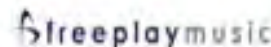
**flickr: The Commons:** Public Domain images and archives.  
[Copyright information for images in The Commons](#)



**Wikimedia Commons:** Public domain and "freely-licensed" media files.  
[Commons: Reusing content outside Wikimedia](#)



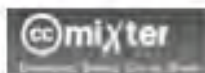
**DK Clip Art:** Images from the Dorling Kindersley book series  
[DK Clip Art Terms and Conditions of Use](#)



**freeplaymusic:** Broadcast quality music.  
[freeplaymusic terms of use](#) See 2(d) Free Student Educational Use



**incompetech:** Royalty-free music files.  
[incompetech Royalty-free Music Licenses](#)



**CC Mixer:** Music remixes with Creative Commons licensing  
[CC Mixer Yea, But Is It Legal?](#)

Tools, Tools,  
Tools



# Dewey...In Pictures

Use this easy Dewey Decimal Classification picture chart to help you quickly find your favourite non-fiction books and to learn what kinds of books are found under different Dewey Decimal numbers!



UFOs and the  
Unexplained  
**001**



Fairy Tales  
**398.2**



Dual Language  
**440**



Space, Astronomy  
**520**



Weather  
**551.5**



Dinosaurs  
**567**



Plants  
**580**



Library  
Orientation



Amphibians  
**597**



Reptiles  
**597**



Fish & Sharks  
**597**



Birds  
**598**



Mammals  
**599**



Inventions  
**600-609**



Human Body  
**610-619**



Transportation  
**621-629**





Let's take a look at the different sections of the library.



Orientation  
Videos



# Teach

Learning, Caring, Connecting @your School Library

Teacher  
Resources

**Library's Added Value**

**Strategic Connections**

## Teach

Reading

Book Trailers for Teachers

Inquiry and Research

Character Education

Ressources françaises

Online @ Your Library

Teaching with Technology

Collaboration and Support

Resources for your PLC

Contact Us

Teacher's Toolbox

# Early Learners Love Non-Fiction!

Children are more engaged in reading when they are able to choose books that highlight interests and passions. Many students, particularly boys are enthusiastic about high-interest non-fiction material. Giving students a choice promotes independent reading, fosters a better understanding of the value of reading and empowers and motivates students.



## Why Read Non-fiction?

- Some students prefer non-fiction and that's ok
- It allows students to access high interest topics (cars, animals, dinosaurs, arts and crafts)
- It builds background knowledge
- Students learn to read non-fiction in a variety of ways (diagrams, labels, charts, text boxes)
- Multi-leveled text allows students to access 'chunks' of information at an appropriate reading and interest level
- It helps to increase and extend vocabulary
- It enhances understanding of different topics
- It can be a strong motivator because it builds on student interest
- It helps young students to make 'real' world connections



## How Can I Support My Students with Non-fiction reading?

- Value and support student non-fiction choices
- Allow frequent opportunities for students to select non-fiction from your school library
- Discuss student interests and help them to find related materials in the library
- Create opportunities to model how readers access non-fiction
- Ensure that young children are exposed to non-fiction materials in the classroom
- Talk with your students about ideas and information gathered from non-fiction texts
- Be sure to include non-fiction in read aloud experiences
- Provide suggestions for parents on ways that they can support non-fiction reading at home

## Why is Non-Fiction Important?

...Info-Kids - are often actively engaged in learning on a variety of levels. It is their interest in a specific topic that motivates them to want to learn, and in many cases to realize that they need to read better.

(R. Jabe & M. Dayton Sakari, Info-Kids: How to use non-fiction to turn reluctant readers into enthusiastic learners, 2002.)

When students are allowed to read something that interests them, substantial reading growth often can be seen.

(S. McCormick in Info-Kids: How to use non-fiction to turn reluctant readers into enthusiastic learners.)




Web Content  
& Downloads



# Book Trailers for Teachers

WRDSB teacher-librarians introduce you to great new books, recently added to elementary library collections. Have a look and a listen!



-  [A Chance to Shine](#)  
by Steve Seskin and  
Allen Shambling




-  [Bad Boys Get Hen Pecked](#)  
by Marie Palatini and  
Henry Cole




-  [Best Time to Read](#)  
by Debbie Bertram




-  [Black Book of Colors](#)  
by Menena Cottin



-  [Character Building Day by Day](#) by Anne D. Mather  
and Louise Weldon




-  [Dear Vampa](#)  
by Ross Collins




-  [Hello My Name is Bob](#)  
by Linas Alsenas



-  [How Many Donkeys](#)  
by Margaret Read  
MacDonald and Nadia  
Jameel Taibah



-  [I am Too absolutely small for school](#)  
by Lauren Child

Video  
Book Trailers





## Welcome to the Virtual Library

The WRDSB Virtual Library connects you to a wealth of information. From encyclopedias, ebooks and audio books to newspapers, magazines and scholarly journals, this collection has it all. Resources are organized by appeal to elementary and secondary students, and to connect teachers to a full range of professional resources.



Elementary  
Resources

Secondary  
Reference

Secondary  
One-Stop

Secondary  
by Subject

Secondary  
eCollections

Primary Source  
Materials

Professional  
Resources

Research  
Helpers

## Virtual Library

### Welcome to the Virtual Library

About the Virtual Library

Elementary Resources

Secondary Reference

Secondary

Secondary

Secondary

Primary Source

Professional

Research



## Virtual Library

Secondary One-Stop

## Secondary One-Stop

Delve more deeply into your topic with these comprehensive databases.

Access magazine articles, popular and professional journals, and newspaper articles and peer-reviewed academic journals.



Canadian & international content.  
User-friendly search interface.



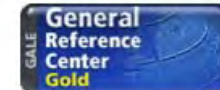
Canadian & international content.



Canada's provinces, people and perspectives.



Academic & professional sources.



Popular journals & magazines.



Comprehensive journal & newspapers sources.  
Extensive backfiles to 1980.



Current & historical perspectives on global issues.



Look at both sides of current, controversial issues.

Virtual Library  
Re-Invented

# Mission Critical

Can we actually build  
an online library  
learning commons?

Will our teacher-librarians  
embrace the project and  
understand its strategic  
importance?

Will our stakeholders support us?  
Will they see the benefit?  
Can we meet their needs and  
exceed their expectations?

Who will do the work?  
How will we keep it going?

Do we have the resources?  
Will our own department  
support us?

Will what we ultimately create  
be usable and useful  
and inspire learning?





Elementary Library Staffing Grant



ITS Department Reorganization



New Leadership



Better Support



Renewed Vision



Together For Learning









# Wordpress MU

Technology


 **Library Learning Commons** [Visit Site](#)

 **Dashboard**

Dashboard

Content Overview


My Blogs

 **Pages**

Edit

Add New


pageMash

 **Media**

Links

Posts


Comments

 **Profile**

Tools

Settings

Calendar

 **Dashboard**

**Right Now**

*At a Glance*

5 Posts

123 Pages

10 Categories

36 Tags

☐ Comments

☐ Approved

☐ Pending

☐ Spam

Theme **WRDSB Library Learning Commons**

*Storage Space »*

1000MB Space Allowed

674.69MB (67%) Space Used

**Recent Comments**

No comments yet.

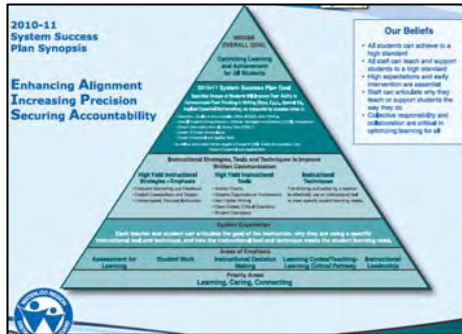
**Incoming Links**

This dashboard widget queries [Google Blog Search](#) so that when another blog links to your site it will show up here. It has found no incoming links... yet. It's okay — there is no rush.



- 🦆 Secondary Teacher-Librarians
- 🦆 Elementary Teacher-Librarians
- 🦆 Library Consultant





Learning Services  
& School Success

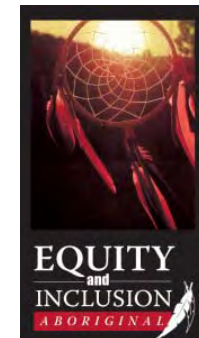
ESL Teachers

Special Education  
SERT Networking

## Strategic Partnerships



Character  
Education



Equity & Inclusion  
Aboriginal





## Existing Rich Content: Local Needs



## Earlier Vision... Secondary Schools & the Library Learning Commons

Common Resources  
Common Needs  
Common Message

Minimal Local Content

High School D  
Library



hyperlink

hyperlink

hyperlink

hyperlink

hyperlink

hyperlink

hyperlink

hyperlink





## Quick Links

- [WCI Catalogue](#)
- [Virtual Library](#)
- [Library Learning](#)
- [WCI Book Blog](#)

## WATERLOO COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE LIBRARY

*Your Gateway to Quality Educational Resources*

### Library News



**Code of Digital Conduct** It is important that students understand the need for acting responsibly in our digital...



**Student Email** Every student has access to student email through WaterWorks. This email account can be...



**WE'RE BLOGGING!!!** Check out the new WCI Library blog under Quick Links. It's a work in progress at this point, but...



**Top 100 Young Adult Novels 2010** Check out the...



**Wireless network...** Students are now able...

### Learning Commons

Read

Research

Teach

### Library Department

[Library Home](#)

[About the Library](#)

→ [Assignments](#)

[Career Cruising](#)

[E-Book Subscriptions](#)

[Helpful Tech Tools](#)

[Other Libraries](#)

[Research Help](#)

→ [Teacher Tools](#)

Common to all secondary library websites.



Waterloo Region  
District School Board



Learning • Caring • Connecting



| WRDSB Home | Registration Information | School Year Calendars | Balanced School Day

## School Links

[Home](#)  
[About Us](#)  
[Newsletters](#)  
[Staff Directory](#)  
[Parent Resources](#)  
[School Council](#)  
[School Forms](#)  
[Student Resources](#)

## Contact Information

**Abraham Erb P.S.**  
710 Laurelwood Drive  
Waterloo, Ontario  
N2V 2V3

**Attendance Line:**  
519-747-1577

**Phone:**  
519-747-7694

**Fax:**  
519-746-4428

**School Hours:**  
9:00am-3:20pm

**Office Hours:**  
8:00am-4:00pm

**Principal:**  
Martha Knowlton

## Student Resources



Your one-stop shop  
for connections to  
reading and tips for  
finding the information  
you need.



Online resources for  
research and reading.  
(Ask library staff for  
home access login  
information.)

## Community Connections



Click the logos to visit  
the web site of your  
local community  
public library.

Common to all elementary school websites





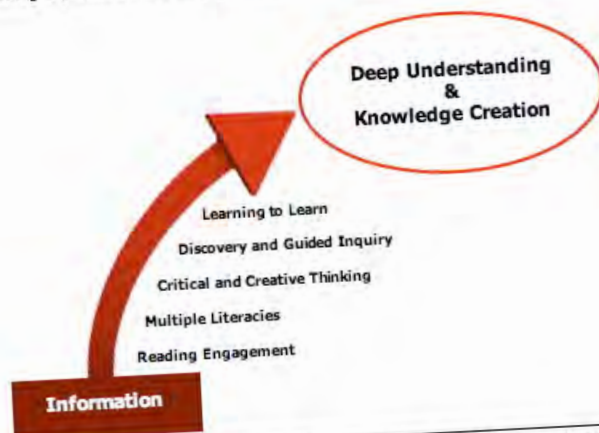
## Elementary Library Program Goals

The goals of the elementary library program are to foster:

- **Engagement in reading and literacy development.** The school library motivates and engages readers by inviting them to choose from a wide-ranging collection of fiction, non-fiction and virtual resources.
- **A culture of inquiry and critical thinking skills for research.** Inquiry and research are at the heart of many subject curricula. The school library fosters a culture of inquiry with its rich resources and instructional support. Skills of guided inquiry helps students explore information more deeply and develop deeper understanding.
- **Personal, social and cultural growth.** School library resources reflect Canada's diverse society, history and cultural values. Students are encouraged to pursue their own interests and passions through reading. Through guided inquiry, students learn about information ethics, academic honesty and develop as responsible citizens.
- **Information literacy and learning through technology.** Technology is central to the school library program. Students and teachers have access to our broad range of online resources and services. Integrating technology into the inquiry and research process enriches learning.

The team of elementary teacher-librarians and the ITS library consultant work to support teachers as they use the library and its resources in their instructional programs.

The starting point is equitable access to quality information, selected according to WRDSB guidelines and supporting system goals and instructional priorities. The library program helps teachers to design higher order learning experiences that engage students in the information to knowledge journey.



Adapted from **Together for Learning: School Libraries and the Emergence of the Learning Commons**, Ontario School Library Association, 2010. (Developed with the support of the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Education.)  
<http://www.togetherforlearning.ca/>

**WRDSB elementary itinerant teacher-librarians support these goals by:**

- Selecting vibrant library resources that support the curriculum, meet the differentiated needs of all learners, and support the board's goals of equity and inclusion
- Providing resources and consultation for fellow teachers on integrating the library into their programs
- Providing resources and consultation for other teachers on the role of the library in literacy and in inquiry and research instruction
- Leading the Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading programs for WRDSB elementary schools
- Supporting library clerks in the provision of exemplary customer service
- Providing staff development and training for elementary library clerks
- Managing consistent library service and collection standards for all elementary schools

**The ITS library consultant supports these goals by:**

- Providing professional leadership for elementary and secondary libraries and advising on library programs, policies and procedures
- Leading professional development opportunities for teacher-librarians and other teachers on all aspects of library programs, technology-enabled learning, and information literacy
- Leading staff development and training opportunities for library clerks
- Selecting resources for and managing the Virtual Library collection
- Consulting on library facility standards and design
- Working with other sections of Information Technology Services in providing instructional and technical support for libraries and learning

**Making connections to WRDSB goals and your school success plan:** We would like to help your school realize the full potential of the school library to support your school's success plan.

**Some of the many topics we can provide support with are:**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| ✓ Getting the most out of your school library | ✓ Research & inquiry skills                       | ✓ Using the Virtual Library   |
| ✓ Great reads for all ages and interests      | ✓ Inquiry-based learning and critical thinking    | ✓ Using the Library Learning Commons website                        |
| ✓ Boys, reading & libraries                   | ✓ Non-fiction writing in inquiry units            | ✓ Professional resources for your TLC                               |
| ✓ Early readers love non-fiction              | ✓ Using graphic organizers in the inquiry process | ✓ Podcasting for learning (Book trailers, non-fiction writing etc.) |
| ✓ Independent reading and the library         | ✓ Successful searching for successful learning    | ✓ Blogs, wikis and other webtools for collaborative learning        |
| ✓ OLA Forest of Reading programs              | ✓ Critically evaluating sources                   | ✓ Creating your own online professional learning network            |
| ✓ Great books for character education         | ✓ Academic honesty & plagiarism                   | ✓ Digital citizenship   |
| ✓ Picture books across the curriculum         | ✓ Information ethics                              |   |
|   | ✓ Copyright in education                          |   |

**Some of the ways we can provide support are:**

- |                                     |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ✓ Teacher consultation              | ✓ Workshops and presentations | ✓ Personal correspondence |
| ✓ Staff, grade or division meetings | ✓ Connecting to your TLC      | ✓ Central workshops       |

**Are there other ways that you would like our support? Please let us know!**



The **Library Learning Commons** website provides a wealth of information and interactive resources for students and teachers, and is our primary means of providing support across all schools and programs. We encourage you to explore this wonderful resource, created by WRDSB elementary and secondary teacher-librarians and library program support.  
<http://library.wrdsb.ca>

# Elementary: Renewed Instructional Focus





Secondary: Increased Collaboration & Sense of Purpose



# Reaching Out to the World Via Twitter @wrdsblibraries

The image shows a screenshot of a Twitter profile page for @wrdsblibraries. The page layout includes a header with the Twitter logo, a search bar, and navigation links (Home, Profile, Messages, Who To Follow). The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'What's happening?', displays a timeline of tweets. The right column, titled 'Your Tweets', shows the user's own tweets and statistics (Following: 199, Followers: 182, Listed: 20). A 'Trends' section is also visible on the right. A blue-bordered widget is overlaid on the bottom right of the page, containing a tweet about a citation guide. Below the widget, a blue arrow points from the text 'Widget Fed into LLC Homepage'.

twitter Search Home Profile Messages Who To Follow wrdsblibraries

What's happening?

Timeline @Mentions Retweets Searches Lists

**KidLitAnita** A Reynolds MacArthur  
RT @MacCheeky: Watched "Zoom" starring Tim Allen and Courtney Cox Arquette... This kid gives it two thumbs up! #films #movies #parents #kids  
26 minutes ago

**I\_unger** Lisa Unger  
"@fryed: 119th Anniversary of the first documented ice cream sundae? Thanks Google, I'll celebrate that with you!" -nice! Good dessert 2day  
32 minutes ago

**I\_unger** Lisa Unger  
Welcome to twitter @JGrin17. Happy learning and connecting!  
35 minutes ago

**cbcdocs** cbcdocs  
The largest algae bloom ever recorded on Lake #Winnipeg covered the entire surface of the lake. More 2nite @ 7 #tnot  
<http://ow.ly/4mTt>  
40 minutes ago

**Ken\_Donnelly** Ken Donnelly by ballantynedj  
I have a question for all parties" "How's it going with the Afghan Detainee doc review?" #cdnpoli #ebn41  
46 minutes ago

**nybooks** NY Review of Books  
'Mercurial September,' a poem by Les Murray <http://bit.ly/gZEH3b>  
#poetry

Your Tweets 53

28 Mar: Confused about citation? Download our guide, "Citation: What You Need to Know" and view video tutorial! <http://tinyurl.com/4hwue8j>

Following 199 Followers 182 Listed 20

Recently listed in: liba, Librarians, Librarians-Libraries, Education, Cdn-Librarians-Libraries

Trends

Canada · change  
#MM2011 Promoted  
#thingsthatpiesmeoff  
#sincewebeinghonest  
#happymothersday  
KGAs  
Liberal Platform  
MILEY WON  
Ice Cream Sundae  
Kraft Hockeyville  
Detroit

Who to follow

Suggestions for you · view all

**DellHomeUS** · Follow  
DellHomeUS Promoted

**zbpiper** · Follow  
Zoe Branigan-Pipe

**WRDSB Libraries**  
**wrdsblibraries**

Confused about citation?  
Download our guide, "Citation: What You Need to Know" and view video tutorial!  
<http://tinyurl.com/4hwue8j>  
5 days ago

Widget Fed into LLC Homepage →

# Our Catalogue Interface

[Search](#) [My Account](#)

[Advanced](#) | [Basic](#)

You're searching: **Waterloo Regional District School Board**

**Welcome to Abraham Erb Library Catalogue!**

Please enter your search and select the 'GO' button. To refine your search fill in more than one field.

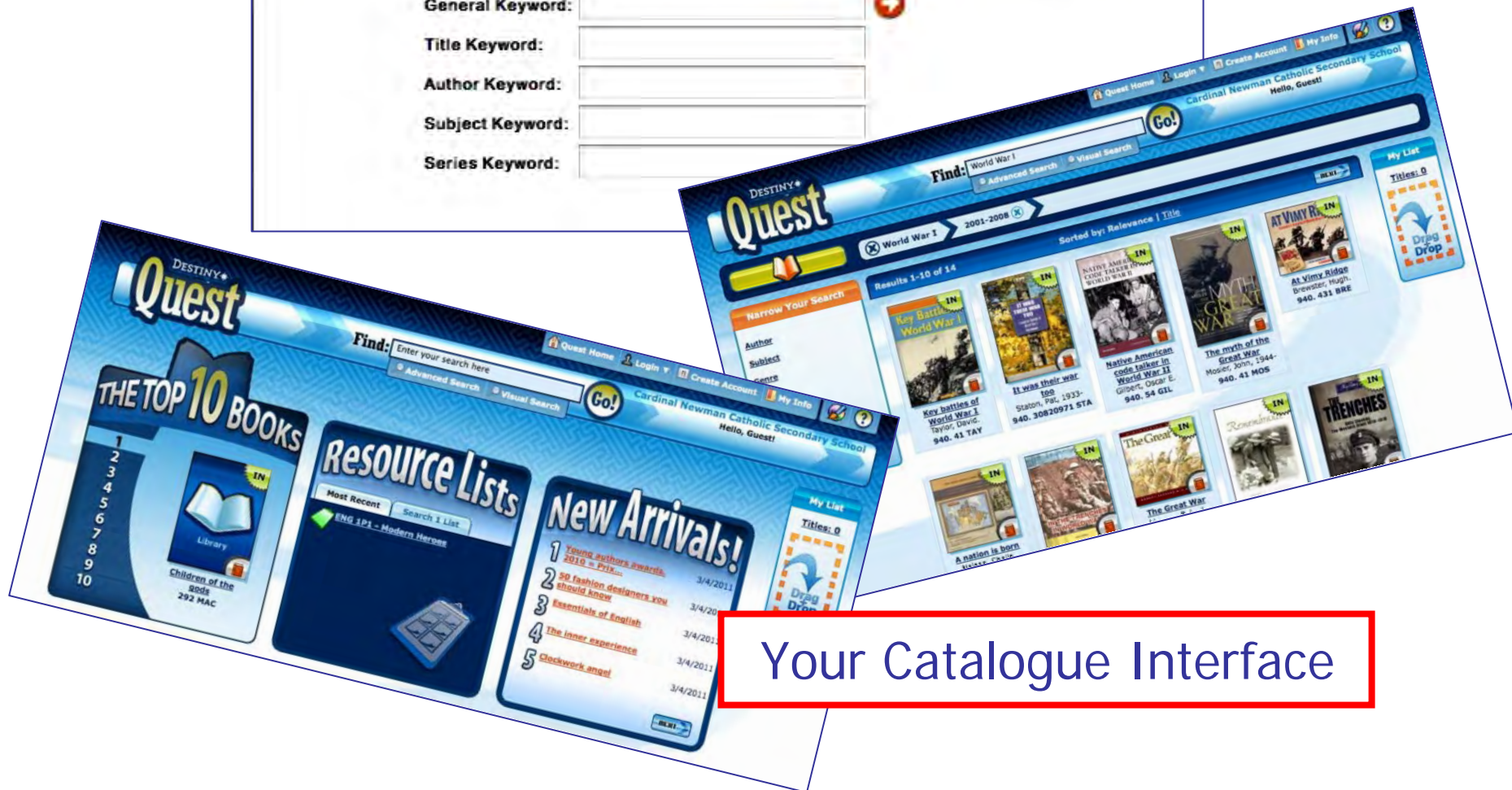
**General Keyword:**

**Title Keyword:**

**Author Keyword:**

**Subject Keyword:**

**Series Keyword:**



Your Catalogue Interface



# Most pressing ongoing challenges?



Search Interfaces

Central Resources

## Future Directions for the WRDSB Education Library



A Consultation for the Waterloo Region District School Board

Anita Brooks Kirkland, Library Consultant, ITS

Completed in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for a Master of Library & Information Science Degree  
Executive MLIS Program, School of Library & Information Science, San José State University

Challenges mostly  
**organizational**,  
not technical.

# Most exciting possibilities?

**facebook**

Search

Home Profile Account



**Waterloo Public Library**

[www.wpl.ca](http://www.wpl.ca)



[Wall](#) [Info](#) [Photos \(3\)](#) [Discussions](#) [Links](#)

**Waterloo Public Library (Ontario, Canada)**  
Local Business · Waterloo, Ontario



Wall Waterloo Public Library (...) · Most Recent

Share: [Post](#) [Photo](#) [Link](#) [Video](#)

Write something...



**Waterloo Public Library (Ontario, Canada)**  
is happy to announce that customers no longer need to enter a PIN for self-checkout. Just scan your card and starting checking out your selections!

6 hours ago · Like · Comment

2 people like this.

 **Anum Syeda** Noticed that when I went in today! :-)) When checking out I realized something was missing and realized, a-ha! the pin number. It's definitely more efficient; I have sticky fingers and always had to re-press my pin #.

6 hours ago · Like · 1 person

Write a comment...



**Our Ontario Coordinator**  
Using "mystery" photos from online collection brings in key information about community history at Waterloo Public Library (Ontario, Canada)

 **Flash from the Past: Uptown Waterloo** looked very different in...  
[www.guelphmercury.com](http://www.guelphmercury.com)

"You can trust your car to the man who wears the star, the big bright Texaco star..."

Monday at 10:10am · View Post

**You and Waterloo Public Library (Ontario, Canada)**



4 friends like this.

**Friends' Events** [See All](#)



**iSchool PhD Research Presentation...**  
Monday, April 11

  
RSVP: Yes · No · Maybe

**Recommended Pages** [See All](#)



**Education Institute**  
Michelle M Arbuckle suggested you check out her page.  
[Like](#)

**Sponsored** [Create an Ad](#)



**The Library Corporation**  
Library automation, cataloging, online selection & acquisitions, authority control – quality products and service for libraries!

[Like](#) · Jo Rolfe likes this.

**Copyright Protection**  
[mywerx.com](http://mywerx.com)



**SIMPLE, POWERFUL, and REVOLUTIONARY.**



# Ongoing Key Success Factors:

Innovation

Professional  
Learning

Strategic Relevance  
& System Support


Evidence-Based  
Practice

VIEW

Home

last edited by Anita Brooks Kirkland 3 days ago

WRDSB Library Wiki



The purpose of this wiki space is to provide a means of sharing professional knowledge in the community of teacher-librarians in the school district.





**Contents**

- [Together for Learning WRDSB](#)
- [Implementing Together for Learning](#) (Professional Development, November 2010)
- [Loertscher / Koechlin PD: Moving Towards a School Library Commons](#)
- [Own Your Learning in the 21st Century](#) (Professional development, April 2011)
- [Library iPad Project](#)
- [Red Maple Blog Project](#)
- [White Pine Blog Project](#)

# So what's happening in Ontario?

(My unscientific but extensive informal survey)





Several “pockets of excellence”, but,

-  Many school libraries have no visible web presence
-  Problem is far more acute in elementary schools
-  Websites often have minimal content
-  Lack of attention to design factors

# So what's happening in Ontario?

(My unscientific but extensive informal survey)

Several “pockets of excellence”, but,

-  Websites (library or school) most frequently have no visible links to online database resources / catalogues central sites
-  Central sites only exist in a few instances
-  Authentication barriers are a serious concern
-  Minimal awareness in school library sector of current research and developments in search interfaces



## Together for Learning School Libraries and the Emergence of the Learning Commons

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
A VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

osla  
Ontario School Library Association

The time has come for school libraries to welcome an ever-widening variety of learning practices and activities. This can be accomplished through the provision of real and virtual spaces that encourage and facilitate expanded engagement.

The challenge is discovering how to reconfigure our current spaces both inside and beyond a school and a school library's walls to reflect this new reality. Access to the technology that makes it possible, obviously, is critical.



# A Vibrant Online Presence is Essential for All Libraries

The library has to be somewhere and everywhere.

We need to be better when users are in the virtual library space than when they cross the threshold of our physical library space.



**Joseph Janes**


Dean, The Information School  
University of Washington

OCULA Spotlight Speaker, Super Conference 2008



Where there's a will there's a way.

School board virtual library design success factors:






-  Collaborate! Building content together is always better than going it alone
-  Optimize central support
-  Build in opportunities for school-specific content
-  Integrate, integrate, integrate!
-  Collaborative, user-friendly, SUPPORTED software
-  More than links, more than tools: **website should scaffold learning**

We're not in this alone.



Where there's a will there's a way.

## System Success Factors for 21st Century Learning:

-  Supported access to internal or external online collaborative tools (i.e., student email, website CMS, blog servers, Google for Schools, etc.)
-  Access to full range of Web 2.0 tools
-  Optimize network for access while maintaining security
-  Ubiquitous, enterprise-level wireless access
-  Philosophical shift about the online world





From this approach...

### INTERNET – POSTING INFORMATION

The *Keeping our Kids Safe at School Act* came into effect on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. It explains what must happen when serious student incidents or inappropriate student behaviour takes place at school.

With the passing of this act, students who post inappropriate things on the internet at school or at home (such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, MySpace, Hotmail, etc.) which negatively affects the school climate may be suspended or expelled depending on the nature of the issue. The police may also be involved.

Students are warned not to post any information about other students on the internet or serious consequences may occur.



FRAUD • PORNOGRAPHY • WEAPONS • VULNERABILITY • HATE CRIME • INSTANT  
MESSAGING • SPYWARE • IDENTITY THEFT • ICO • CHEATING • WEBCAMS •  
ISOLATION • VIOLENCE • ADDICTION • FIREWALLS • MSN • INTERNET

# DANGERS ON-LINE

001 00

## ARE YOUR KIDS SAFE?

PARENTS SHOULD NOT MISS THIS!!  
A **FREE** informational seminar to help parents  
protect their children from the dangers  
of today's technology.

# Code of Digital Conduct

Acting Responsibly in a Digital World

I will act with integrity.

## Respect Yourself

- I will respect myself through my actions.
- I will ensure the privacy of my own information.

## Protect Yourself

- I will not post information that will put me at risk.
- I will report any attacks or inappropriate behaviour directed at me.
- I will protect my passwords, accounts and resources.

## Respect Others

- I will show respect for others.
- I will not use electronic media to insult, bully, harass or stalk other people.
- I will not visit sites that are degrading, pornographic, racist or inappropriate.
- I will not access other people's personal spaces or areas.

## Protect Others

- I will protect others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate communications or materials.

## Respect Property (Intellectual and Technological)

- I will verify the accuracy of information.
- I will request permission to use resources and digital content, websites, books, media, etc.
- I will use Board technological property only for legitimate purposes.
- I will not disrupt the activity of Board equipment.
- I will not violate the security of Board equipment.

## Protect Property (Intellectual and Technological)

- I will purchase my music and media and will refrain from distributing media in a manner that violates licenses.

I understand that failing to follow this code will include consequences consistent with the school's code of behaviour and the WRDSB Acceptable Use Procedures (AUP).  
<http://www.wrdsb.ca/aup>

...to this approach.

# CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

## in a Digital World Conference:

# Your Digital Footprint



# Our Strategic Imperative

- 🦆 Collaborate, collaborate, collaborate
- 🦆 Work together across schools and within schools
- 🦆 Optimize central board support & resources
- 🦆 Advocate for collaboration across the province
- 🦆 Market, market, market
  - ✓ Making meaningful connections
  - ✓ Strategic alignment

Is Steve Jobs a Role Model for Librarians?

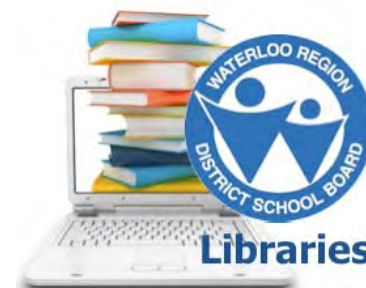
David F. Kohl (2010). *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 36(3).





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School Librarianship Specialist

Consultant, ITS, K-12 Libraries  
Waterloo Region District School Board



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