

Librarians are Best Positioned to Integrate the Common Core Standards

School Librarians, certified as School Library Media Specialists in New Jersey, are professionals who are positioned to positively influence student learning and help teachers to craft assignments that promote critical thinking and the development of life-long learning skills. Librarians can work with teachers to improve the rigor of resources that are used to complete assignments. Librarians can integrate the CCSS in the following areas:

- Close Reading
- Collaboration
- Data Driven Instruction
- Evidence Based Writing
- Reading
- Research
- Technology
- Vocabulary



The Common Core Standards (CCSS)

- Are the product of a state-led effort to create a consistent framework for education
 - Are designed to ensure that all U.S. children learn the same material at the same time
 - Focus on reading, writing, math, critical thinking and problem solving
 - Aim to prepare students for college and the workforce and ready to participate in the global economy/society
- Adapted from [*Thinking About the Common Core Standards*](#)



How Can Librarians Help?

Librarians Can:

- Partner with teachers to craft authentic inquiry-based research assignments
- Recommend and provide access to quality literary and informational texts (nonfiction) in all subject areas
- Provide digital information
- Use our national and state standards to model best practices and teach the research process
- Plan building-wide independent reading initiatives that promote school-wide participation
- Teach students how to find relevant, accurate and challenging texts on any topic of interest
- Teach students to evaluate information for authority and accuracy
- Give free access to thousands of popular fiction and nonfiction titles for independent reading and research

Students Can:

- Learn to develop and refine questions throughout the research process
- Access digital information
- Find informational texts that support academic standards
- Learn to read for information and create and demonstrate knowledge
- Learn to evaluate information to answer questions or solve problems
- Interact and collaborate with others
- Conduct short and long research projects using challenging material that extends learning
- Find a welcoming place to read, reflect, create and learn

N · J · A · S · L

New Jersey Association of School Librarians

Making the Common Core Work

You know what? The people who can help make Common Core work are the librarians, because they're familiar with all areas of the curriculum, and they know the universe of resources and make the connections."

- Susan Ballard, AASL Past President



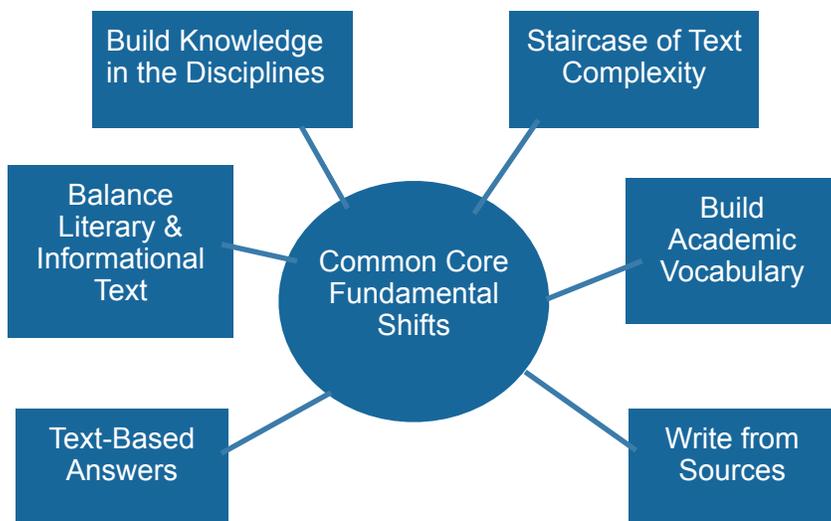
"Standards alone will not improve schools and raise student achievement, nor will they narrow the achievement gap. It will take implementation of the standards with fidelity by school leaders, librarians, and teachers to significantly raise student achievement."

- American Association of School Librarians. [Implementing the Common Core State Standards: The Role of the School Librarian](#)

Recent Research Confirms

Over 21 state studies confirm that school librarians and libraries support students in academic achievement, lifelong learning, 21st century skills, and reading.

- School librarians and teachers make a strong instructional team combining their knowledge of pedagogy, resources, and technology to meet the specific needs of each student.
American Association of School Librarians. 2011. [School Library Programs Improve Student Learning: Teachers](#). Chicago: ALA.
- "The most important thing a strong library program can have is a full-time certified librarian with support staff."
PA School Library Project, et. al. 2012. [Creating 21st-Century Learners: A Report on Pennsylvania's Public School Libraries](#).
- "Findings show that New Jersey school libraries and school librarians contribute in rich and diverse ways to the intellectual life of a school, and to the development of students who can function in a complex and increasingly digital information environment,"
Dr. Ross Todd, 2012. [The New Jersey Study of School Libraries: One Common Goal - Student Learning](#)



The New Jersey Association of School Librarians (NJASL) believes that every student in every school in New Jersey deserves to be served by a resource-rich school library program that is staffed by a state certified full-time School Library Media Specialist who can help schools meet the CCSS by enhancing learning to fully prepare students to excel in college and the workplace.

NJASL is the professional organization for school librarians in the state of New Jersey. NJASL advocates high standards for librarianship and library media programs in the public, private, and parochial schools in New Jersey to ensure that students and staff become effective users of information. Learn more about NJASL by visiting www.njasl.org. For more information, email president@njasl.org.