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MEDIA CENTER MESSENGER

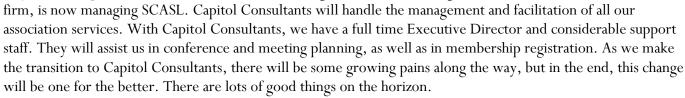
THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Valerie Byrd Fort - SCASL President

Once again, summer has flown by and we have returned to the smiling faces of our students, teachers and administrators.

Each school year brings with it change and this year will be no different. There is lots of change in store for me...I am at a brand new school with a new (to me) administration, faculty and students — but, I am ready. To me, change is exciting.

SCASL will be going through quite a few changes this year as well. As you may know, Capitol Consultants, South Carolina's largest association management



In addition to working with Capitol Consultants, SCASL has been hard at work planning an exciting professional development opportunity for its members. You have heard of 23 Things, the Web 2.0 Learning Model that was developed by Helene Blowers at the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County (http://plcmclearning.blogspot.com/); and School Library Journal has also started a similar program called, "All Together Now" (http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/290000629.html).

I am proud to announce that SCASL is doing its own Learning 2.0 program. More information about the program can be found in this issue of the MCM.

Amanda LeBlanc and her Conference Steering committee have been hard at work planning the 34th Annual SCASL Conference in Greenville, South Carolina, March 11-13, 2009. The Steering Committee has put together a "one stop shop" conference with professional development including all strands: technology integration, literacy and more!

It has been a busy summer and it is sure to be a busy school year. Do your best to embrace the changes that happen over the course of the school year. I'm sure this will be your best school year yet and the best year ever for SCASL!

Please know that you can contact me at any time!

Valerie Byrd Fort, SCASL President vfort@lexington1.net



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CORRECTIONS AND APOLOGIES

In the May issue of the Media Center Messenger:

- In listing the districts with 100% membership in SCASL, Greenwood 52 and McCormick were inadvertently omitted.
- Senator Vincent Sheheen's name was misspelled in the caption of his photo on page 1.
- The article on page 28 entitled "Where, Oh, Where Can the School Librarians Be?" was incorrectly attributed. The author is Peggy Harrison of Greenwood.

KEEP IN TOUCH

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To subscribe:

Address: listserv@listserv.sc.edu

Subject: Leave blank

Message: Subscribe SCASL-LS yourfirstname yourlastname

The Media Center Messenger:

Send all suggestions, corrections, articles and ideas to *jmoggles@hughes.net*

Other important addresses:

SC Dept. of Education: http://ed.sc.gov/

SCLA: www.scla.org

SC State Library: www.statelibrary.sc.gov

ALA: www.ala.org

SCASL MISSION STATEMENT

The South Carolina Association of School Librarians advocates professional excellence, facilitates collaboration and develops leadership to ensure that school library media programs are integral to teaching and learning in every South Carolina school.

2008-2009 IMPORTANT DATES

September 2008

National Library Card Sign Up Month

September 27 – October 4, 2008

Banned Books Week

October 2008

Membership Renewal Deadline
 SCASL Award Deadline

12-18 Teen Read Week October

17-19 AASL Fall Forum (Oak Brook, Illinois)

November 2008

5-7 South Carolina EdTech (Myrtle Beach, South Carolina)

January 2009

23-28 ALA Mid-Winter Meeting (Denver, Colorado)

February 2009

19-21 SCIRA 2009 Annual Conference (Myrtle Beach, South Carolina)

March 2009

9-13 Teen Tech Week

11-13 SCASL 2009 Annual Conference (Greenville, South Carolina)

April 2009

National School Library Media Month

13-17 National Library

16 South Carolina Read In!

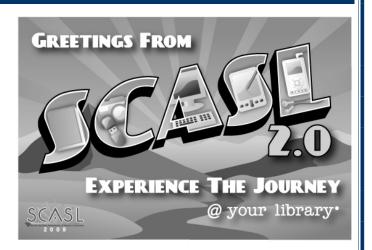
30 El dia de los ninos/El dia de los libros

May 2009

11-12 Library Legislative Day (Washington DC)

November 2009

4-8 AASL National Conference & Exhibition (Charlotte, North Carolina)



Mark your calendars for the SCASL Thirty-Fourth Annual Conference! March 11 - 13, 2009 at the Carolina First Center in Greenville, South Carolina! Our theme this year is **SCASL 2.0: Experience the Journey** @ **Your Library.** Come to this "one stop shop" conference with sessions covering storytelling, technology integration, leadership, literacy, and more! Watch your mailbox for the **Call to Conference**, coming soon! And don't forget to pay your membership dues by October 1 to receive member rates for conference! Questions about conference? Contact Gabrielle Barnes (gbarnes@capconsc.com), SCASL Executive Director or Amanda LeBlanc (aleblanc@greenville.k12.sc.us), Conference Chair.



2009 AWARDS & GRANTS

DEADLINE

February 2, 2009, unless otherwise stated. To apply for an AASL award or grant visit www.ala.org/aasl/awards to download an application.



SCASL AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Is your school library an integral part of your school? If so, we would like to honor those who have helped make it happen! The SCASL Awards Program includes five annual awards. Please consider nominating your exemplary school library media specialists and/or their supporters.

Media Specialist of the Year Honors a full-time media specialist on the basis of exemplary programs as well as active participation and service to SCASL and other related organizations.

Distinguished Service Award Recognizes an individual or an organization for contributions to SCASL and school media programs throughout the State of South Carolina.

Administrator of the Year Recognizes and thanks an exemplary administrator.

Nancy Jane Day Scholarship

Provides a SCASL member with reimbursement for the cost of one successfully completed college course taken to improve job performance or complete a graduate degree in library science.

Margaret Ehrhardt Student Scholarship

Provides a scholarship to a graduating media center volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to South Carolina school librarianship, school library services and/or SCASL. For more information or to download an application packet go to http://www.scasl.net/awards.htm.

The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2008.

Applications should be emailed or postmarked by that date. These awards will be presented at the SCASL Conference in Greenville, March 11-13, 2009. The Awards Committee of

SCASL is currently accepting nominations for these awards.

SCASL Honor Roll of Administrators and Paraprofessionals

A way to show appreciation for those who help us promote our programs. They will be recognized in the Media Center Messenger and the conference program, they will receive a certificate of merit, and a letter of commendation will be sent to their supervisor, superintendent or school board

Carole H. McGrath Awards Committee Chairperson cmcgrath@hampton1.org

BOOK AWARDS

The book awards program is a great way to incorporate new and exciting books into your library program. All of the information that you need about participation, voting and banners is located at the SCASL website. Just click on book awards to find out all of the details. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Lisa Conrath at ewm1573@yahoo.com.

If you have great ideas that you would like to share about how you incorporate the book award program into your media center please share with us on the SCASL listsery!

Happy reading! Lisa Conrath Book Awards Committee ewm1573@yahoo.com

MARGARET EHRHARDT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Margaret Ehrhardt Student Scholarship honors a high school senior library media center volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to South Carolina school librarianship, school library media services and/or the South Carolina Association of School Librarians. Nominations are made by the student's library media specialist. The \$1000 scholarship is sent to the scholarship recipient's institution of choice.

In order to nominate a student, the library media specialist must send a letter of recommendation and a letter from the student using the criteria stated at the following location: http://www.scasl.net/professional_awards.htm. Applications for this award may be sent by email or email attachment but faxes

will not be accepted. Applications will not be returned. All applications must be received by email no later than October 1, 2008, or postmarked no later than October 1, 2008. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at <code>cmcgrath@hampton1.org</code> or by phone at 803-943-3568.

Please share this scholarship opportunity with your media specialists and help us honor a deserving young person.

Carole H. McGrath Awards Committee Chair cmcgrath@hampton1.org



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2009 PROQUEST/SIRS INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AWARD

The Intellectual Freedom Committee is calling for nominations for the 2009 Proquest/SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award.

- Do you know a media specialist who uses innovative or creative programming to raise awareness of students' First Amendment rights?
- Do you know a media specialist who has boldly opposed censorship in their school library media center?
- Do you know a media specialist

who promotes intellectual freedom through quality library media center programming?

If so, recognize this individual by nominating her/him for the 2009 ProQuest/SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award.

To nominate an individual, please include the following information:

- Your name, title, school, email and phone number.
- Nominee's name, title, school, email and phone number.

 Why does this nominee qualify for the award? (be sure to include details of related programs, services and advocacy)

Send nominations to:

Michael Giller
Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair
SC Governor's School for the Arts &
Humanities
15 University Street
Greenville, SC 29601
mgiller@scgsah.state.sc.us

SCASL OFFERS EXCITING NEW PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY!

You have heard of Learning 2.0, the Web 2.0 Learning Model that was developed by Helene Blowers at the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County (http://plcmclearning.blogspot.com/); and some of you may be participating in School Library Journal's program, "All Together Now" (http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/blog/290000629.html). In these programs, you learn about 23 Web 2.0 Things you can use in your library or classroom.

I am proud to announce that SCASL is doing its own Learning 2.0 program! SCASL 2.0: Experience the Journey! Our program will start in September and last 9 weeks.

The SCASL program is based on the program at the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County.

SCASL members will be learning about the following things:

- Photos and images
- Blogging

- RSS and newsreaders
- Social Networks
- Tagging
- Wikis
- Online applications and tools
- Video and Podcasts

Each thing will have a discovery exercise (you pick beginner or advanced) and a curriculum connection for using that thing in the classroom or library.

The goal of our 23 Things program is to learn more about Web 2.0 tools and to have fun learning and sharing! Watch the SCASL listserv and blog for more information!

If you have any questions, please contact: Valerie Byrd Fort

SCASL President vfort@lexington1.net

SAVE THE DATE FOR A(UGUSTA) BAKER'S DOZEN

The 2009 A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen: A Celebration of Stories will be held April 24-25, 2009 at the Richland County Public Library in Columbia, SC. A lecture and reception with the featured guest, who will be announced soon, will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 24.

Storytelling for Families will be held from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 25. Co-sponsored by Richland County Public Library and the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science, the event brings to life the world of storytelling and children's

literature while honoring nationallyknown author and storyteller Augusta Baker.

Baker moved to Columbia in 1980 and was the storyteller-inresidence at USC until her death in 1998.



POLITICS & THE MEDIA

I am sure you (and your teachers and students) are paying attention to all of the news related to the upcoming presidential election. Once again, the media are our main sources of information, so doesn't it make sense to include "media literacy" in our classrooms and libraries?

Engaging Students By Analyzing The Presidential Debates

If you're not already aware, the Commission on Presidential Debates has scheduled four televised debates between now and the November election.

> September 26 1st Presidential Debate October 2 Vice Presidential Candidate Debate October 7 2nd Presidential Debate October 15 3rd Presidential Debate

With that in mind, my colleague Karen Zill and I co-authored an essay entitled "Lights, Camera, Debate!" (How To Watch The Debates From A Media Literacy Perspective) which is included in September's "Cable In The Classroom" magazine. You don't have to receive the magazine in order to download the essay and the accompanying Debate Watcher's Analysis Worksheet (for students). All can be found by going to http://www.ciconline.org/cicmagazine-sept08. All of the essays are in Adobe Acrobat format.

Techniques of Persuasion- Debates (Streamline)

If you do a keyword search for "techniques of persuasion" in Streamline (ETV) you will find some excerpts from previous Presidential debates. These streaming clips are good for students to view as they learn to distinguish the various "techniques of persuasion" (included in the newly revised ELA standards).

Plug for My New Media/Politics Book

"Political Campaigns and Political Advertising: A Media Literacy Guide" will be released by Greenwood Press in early December. The book is designed for middle and high school students. (Discounts are available on pre-orders.) It covers photography, television, radio, the Internet and more. There are chapters on the role of the political campaign consultant as well as how the media cover campaign events. As part of my research for the book, I attended last January's GOP debate in Myrtle Beach, so I've included a behind-the-scenes look at what the media sees. URL:

http://www.greenwood.com/catalog/GR4755.aspx

Supporting the Teaching of Non-Print Sources

This summer, I had the pleasure of working on a support document to the newly revised SC State Department of Education's English Language Arts teaching standards. (Several of your LMS colleagues were also part of this work.) In the document I worked on, teachers will find correlations to ELA

BY FRANK BAKER

texts for topics such as advertising, visual literacy, editorial cartoons and teaching with film. The document will also include links to websites, streaming videos and books related to the topics. For more information, be sure to log



onto the SCDE ELA website where this material, and other support documents, will be posted:

http://ed.sc.gov/agency/Standards-and-Learning/Academic Standards/old/cso/english_la/ELAindex.html

Blogging for the National Council of Teachers of English

As part of my role on the NCTE's Commission On Media and Assembly on Media Arts, I am maintaining a blog of interesting education, media, and technology news for teacher/educators. The URL is: http://fbaker.easyjournal.com. You might want to surf over and determine if this is one you want to add to your RSS feed.

New Recommended Text:

YOUTH-POWERED VIDEO: A Hands-On Curriculum for Teaching Documentary

Based on EVC's two decades of experience, this comprehensive curriculum package helps middle and high school teachers and out-of-school program instructors guide youth in producing a documentary video. This practical toolkit of instructional strategies uses media and technology to engage all students in creative and rigorous inquiry-based projects on current issues of importance to them. Using this multidisciplinary approach, teachers can integrate English, social studies, art, and technology into video projects as students develop their literacy, research, critical thinking, and civic engagement skills.

- Easy To Use No prior video experience necessary
- Adaptable Use for an individual activity, a week-long unit, or an entire semester
- Standards-Based Curriculum fulfills both national and New York State education standards
- ♦ An Excellent Resource For middle school and high school teachers, teachers in training, and out-of-school program instructors

URL: http://shopdei.com/amla/catalog.php?product=135&parent

As always, I enjoy hearing from School Library Media Specialists and others. If you have a question or comment, please contact me at fbaker1346@aol.com

USC-SLIS

BY: DR. SAM HASTINGS, DIRECTOR

Greetings from Davis College and the School of Library and Information Science. Our students have returned and I know you are ready for a new school year as well. Summer sure happens fast! We attended the American Library Association meeting in Anaheim and hooted and hollered when our students won the Student Chapter of the Year award! We celebrated two graduations this summer. One for our Maine, Lobster 3 cohort and one for our Columbia students. As always, these were wonderful celebrations, filled with joy and anticipation. We feel very good that almost all of our graduates have positions waiting for them. Pictures of both events are on the website http://www.libsci.sc.edu.



On August 16, we held orientation for our new group of students. I am pleased to report that they are the most diverse group with increased representations of both gender and race. When I addressed the group, it was difficult not to jump up and down and shout "Hurray!" These new students are from various backgrounds including engineering, computer science, humanities, education and the social sciences. As always, we expect great work from this new group of scholars.

So it's a new year and we have many new things to report! We have a new president at USC, Dr. Harris Pastides and we are celebrating our good fortune at such a wonderful match. He understands our School and welcomes our involvement with his initiatives for the university. We have a new director of our sister school in the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies. Dr. Carol Pardun joined us as the director of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and we couldn't be happier! We have new faculty in Dr. Kendra Albright and Dr. Paul Solomon who join us as associate professors. Their profiles are on the website and I encourage you to take a look at their stellar backgrounds. We are celebrating our good fortune again! We also have two new programs underway. For the doctoral students, this is their second year of course work and they are already helping us teach! Our new undergraduate program in Information Science is up and running! We continue to develop the program but are delighted to have some of the very brightest students in our inaugural class.

On September 16 we will celebrate our second annual literacy leader awards. Verizon helps sponsor these ALL awards and this year ETV, Reach 2010 and Jane Connor will be honored. The event takes place in the State Library on Senate with the lions out front and our Center for Children's Books and Literacy on the mezzanine.

I hope your school year starts with as much excitement and enthusiasm as we have going! It occurs to me that fall is really a time for new beginnings (and the state fair!) If you want to join us at the fair, let me know. We usually meet outside one of the gates and have a "SLIS goes to the fair night". We'll ride the Ferris wheel and eat our way from the horse barns to the arts and crafts exhibit where Dean Emeritus, Fred Roper consistently wins blue ribbons for his pound cakes! Have a good start to fall and let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

Yours, Dr. Samantha Hastings shasting@gwm.sc.edu

ADVOCACY

BY: JESSICA FELKER

It's the start of a new school year. That can mean only one thing...everyone needs YOU! But when it comes down to it, do they really know about all the different hats that you wear as a media specialist? If not, you must become a better advocate for our profession. As part of the advocacy committee, you could help get the word out about the wonderful job that media specialists do. Your input would also be used on the upcoming tips book that is soon to be published for the members of SCASL. We have already gathered many wonderful tips from members at conference and from the Tried & True articles in previous issues of the *Media Center Messenger*. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to work on the tips book!

Here are a couple of tips for the new school year. Start a weekly e-newsletter for your faculty. Include information on media center programming, new professional journals that have arrived, etc. Also, don't forget to distribute DISCUS and Streamline updates with a treat to teachers in their boxes to welcome them back.

Jessica Felker Advocacy Committee Chair ifelker@lex5.k12.sc.us

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY

BY: DAVID GOBLE, DIRECTOR

Greetings – How quickly time passes. It seems like yesterday school was getting out and summer was here. Today, many of you are back in school and I believe that all of you will be back by week's end.

This summer was very busy at the State Library. We put the finishing touches on our Strategic Plan and developed our business plan and balanced our budget. Of course we will need to sharpen our pencils a little more in light of announced budget reductions earlier this month.

We have decided to focus on six strategic areas. Each of these areas is designed to focus on the contributions that South Carolina libraries bring to the people of South Carolina. The six focus points are these:

- Libraries are essential to education and cultural heritage.
- Libraries are essential to economic development.
- Libraries are essential to the wellness of South Carolina citizens.
- Libraries are essential to family literacy.
- Libraries are essential to good governance in South Carolina.
- Excellence is essential to the operation of the State Library.

It would be easy to think that school libraries and librarians only fit into one or two of these areas. It is my intent to prove that is not the case. I agree with Jim Rettig, the new president of the American Library Association, who said "I view our school, public, academic, and other types of libraries as parts of an integrated library ecosystem. If one part of the system is threatened or suffers, the entire system is threatened and suffers."

The thought behind the development of all six areas was to find ways to improve the environment for all libraries in South Carolina. I look forward to working with you over the course of the next few years to demonstrate that school libraries are essential to South Carolina.

The staff at the State Library is very excited that SchoolRooms will be available to you this year. We hope it will facilitate learning and enhance your ability to serve students, teachers and parents. We would be very interested in hearing what you think of SchoolRooms.

On behalf of the staff at the State Library I wish you the best school year ever.

David Goble

dgoble@statelibrary.sc.gov

REMEMBER TO CELEBRATE BANNED BOOKS WEEK

September 27 – October 4, 2008

This year marks the 27th Anniversary of Banned Books Week (BBW). BBW celebrates our First Amendment Rights, which include the freedom to choose what you want to read and the freedom to express your opinions. During times of war it is especially important to recognize and celebrate the precious democratic freedoms that our founding fathers established and that our military continues to defend throughout the world. We honor the service of our military and our forefathers when we celebrate BBW.

Some ways to celebrate BBW include:

- BBW displays in the library media center.
- Hosting an open-mike where students can read from their

favorite banned books.

• Talking to social studies classes about the First Amendment, their rights, and book banning.

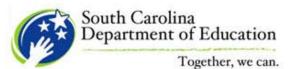


 Inviting students into the library media center for lunch and a round-table discussion about censorship and notable Supreme Court Cases.

Here are some BBW resources from ALA to help you get started.

- Banned Book Week Basics
- Most Frequently Challenged Books 2007
- First Amendment





SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SERVICES

BY: MARTHA ALEWINE

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer break and a smooth, enthusiastic beginning of school. We have several new projects underway for this school year; here are just two of them:

ICT (Information Communication Technologies) Scope and <u>Sequence</u>: A group of media specialists, classroom teachers, district library supervisors, and technology directors have worked this summer to revise the Information Literacy Scope and Sequence that has been available for your use during the last few years. With the revision of the National Education Technology Standards for Students (NETS-Students) from the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and the revision of the AASL national information literacy standards, now called Standards for the 21st Century Learner, we knew the time had come to revise our scope and sequence. The revised scope and sequence is available online at http://martha.alewine.googlepages.com in the section for The Simple Four. We are confident you will appreciate the work of the committee in putting this document together and will see the benefit and advantages of using it in your school and district.

100 Suggested Titles: We are currently updating our basic suggested reading lists. Our goal is to have the 2009 suggested reading lists available in early January, 2009, so that you will have plenty of time to share them with your teachers as they begin plans for any summer reading programs, lists, and/or requirements. We are adding several new lists for 2009 and are soliciting suggestions of titles now. These lists will also be available in early January, 2009. The new lists include 100 Suggested Picture Books, 100 Suggested Graphic Novels, and Have You Read This Series? For inclusion on the picture book suggested reading list, the book must have been published within the last five years (2004 copyright date cutoff) and must have at least two favorable reviews. We will include the winner of the SC Picture Book Award but will not include the entire list of nominees. The purpose of this suggested reading list is to offer titles that may not have been included on other lists. We will not purposely include any national award winners (e.g., Caldecott) because those books are included on other suggested reading lists.

On the 100 Suggested Graphic Novels suggested reading list, we will have three sections - elementary, middle, and high school. The books must have been published within the last five years and have at least two favorable reviews. The suggested reading list, Have You Read This Series?, will also have three sections - elementary, middle, and high school.

We will not have a copyright timeframe for this list since books in a series will span several years. This list is to highlight the series that your students enjoy reading (e.g., Harry Potter, Warriors, Boxcar Children, Twilight, Pendragon).



How can you help? Send all your suggestions for titles for any of these suggested reading lists to Martha at malewine@ed.sc.gov.

Other important information:

LMS Annual Survey: The deadline for completing the 2007-2008 survey has been extended to October 15, 2008, due to access problems during the summer. No other extension will be given. Unfortunately, there is no money associated with the 2007-2008 LMS Annual Survey; however, that does not negate anyone's responsibility for entering the data from his/her school on this annual report. The 2008-2009 survey will open for data entry on May 1, 2009.

LMS Town Meetings: We will have monthly town meetings this year broadcast on channel 301. Plan to record these programs and view them online.

Here's the program lineup for the next few months: **Sept. 25** - *The Role of Media in Politics* presented by Frank Baker.

Oct. 23 - The new ELA standards, the connection to the media center, and The Simple Four, research/problem-solving model, developed to work with the ELA standard for research and inquiry.

Other programs will air on **November 20**, (please note that there will be no Town Meeting in December), **January 29**, **February 26**, **March 26**, **April 23 and May 14** on channel 301. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss the important information and professional development included in these LMS Town Meetings.

School Library Media Services and the Office of Instructional Promising Practices are here to help you. Feel free to contact us (malewine@ed.sc.gov or 864-229-4230) at any time with questions, requests for assistance, or on-site visits. We're looking forward to hearing from you and to working with you again this year.

Martha Alewine Consultant School Library Media Services malewine@ed.sc.gov

ELA INDICATORS BY: JANET BOLTJES

I would like to challenge each of you to think of at least one book you have read that would address one of the ELA indicators. The standards are official now (www.ed.sc.gov/agency/Standards-and-Learning/Academic-

Standards/old/cso/standards/ela/documents/ /ELAStandards2008.pdf)

The wiki page has been redone to match the revised standards.

www.scasl.pbwiki.com/ELA+Standards

We can be helpful to each other and our English teacher friends by addressing these indicators with suggestions for books to reinforce the standards and indicators. There are "Standards Support Documents" in varying stages of completion. Links to the support documents are at

http://ed.sc.gov/agency/Standards-and-Learning/Academic-

Standards/old/cso/standards/ela/index.html

Each of these documents will contain a passage similar to this: Student Texts. There are many titles that teachers and students may select to better understand drawing conclusions and making inferences. Library media specialists from the South Carolina Association of School Librarians (SCASL) are collaborating with the SC Department of Education to provide a sampling of

MAKE ROOM FOR SCHOOLROOMS!



Have you met SchoolRooms yet? Visit scsl.schoolrooms.net and signup for a free User ID today.

SchoolRooms is the South Carolina State Library's newest service for the K-12 community. As a partner with DISCUS, SchoolRooms is an online multimedia discovery place for South Carolina students, teachers, parents, and librarians. SchoolRooms provides resources built around South Carolina school curricula, to assist students with homework and school projects. Best of all, you can search your county public library's catalog, educational websites, and selected DISCUS databases all at once. SchoolRooms continues the State Library's commitment to providing information access to all South Carolinians. Partnering with public libraries, the SC Department of Education and SC Educational Television, SchoolRooms will constantly be updated with new materials and sources to provide the best resources for student achievement. "We are very excited to make SchoolRooms available to all South Carolina citizens. Finding ways to bridge the digital divide between information "haves" and information "have- nots" is a strategic goal for the State Library." said David Goble, Director of the South Carolina State Library.

When your students need information for homework, projects, or just for fun, think SchoolRooms! Here are some of the great features all students can find in SchoolRooms:

- Search Best-of-Web for excellent websites
- Look up encyclopedias, articles,

- magazines, and more through DISCUS
- Find books from your public library
- Watch animations and slideshows on tons of cool topics
- Explore games, pictures, and lots more!

Need information just for you as a school librarian? SchoolRooms has you covered! There are educator and librarian Rooms with lots of resources on library management, literacy, professional development and more! Here are some features you can find in SchoolRooms on a variety of topics:

- Discover lesson plans, fun activities, literacy resources, and other tools to help you and your students succeed.
- Learn about library, classroom, personal, and professional management with engaging resources.
- Search for technology training and information literacy for you and your patrons.
- Look up articles, health information, and more through DISCUS.
- Find books from your public library.

Want to find out more? Visit the SchoolRooms information page here: http://www.statelibrary.sc.gov/schoolrooms to find FAQs, short training videos, registration for online and in-person classes, examples, and much more.

This educational resource is available at libraries, schools, and from home, using a simple e-registration form available at the website http://scsl.schoolrooms.net. The South Carolina State Library is working with public libraries to make SchoolRooms available to all South Carolina citizens by fall 2008.