

Good Ideas!

*Compelling Ideas for
Administrators, Teachers, PTAs,
and School Boards*

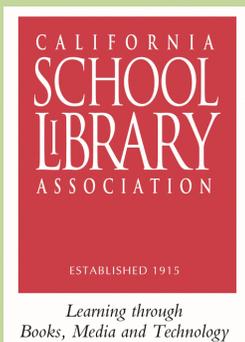
**Advocate for School Libraries Award
Dr. Mark Archon
Director, Instructional Technology Services
Department Fresno County Office of Education**



**CSLA is proud to
present "Good
Ideas" for
creating
information
literate students.**

The recent reauthorization of ESEA in the form of the Every Student Succeeds Acts (ESSA) has laid the foundation for education in the United States for the foreseeable future. The school library community is excited and validated that school libraries have been explicitly mentioned numerous times (see <http://bit.ly/ESEAOVeriew>) as it relates to effective school programs. All of us associated with school libraries in California must seize upon this opportunity to reengage in our relentless advocacy for strong, well-funded and effective school libraries. We all must do all we can to spread this message. Recently CSLA has joined in a collaborative effort with CUE to bring the message beyond the library world. This is a wonderful step in the right direction.

This spring, I will be working with a local school district that is a model for California school districts to emulate in the way it has embraced school library programs. Selma Unified School District has only about 6,400 students and yet employs a district library coordinator, four Teacher Librarians and library technicians at all school sites, many of which are full time.



Selma USD continues in its efforts to add personnel, funding, and community partnerships to continue to grow its library program. We plan to conduct a replication study on the impact of this district library program. We also plan to share these data and associated presentation(s) at upcoming educational conferences. We will specifically be targeting district and school administrators as our audience. Sharing this information will help shine a light and extend the reach of the power of effective school library programs in California.

In addition, our county office meets quarterly with district technology leads to discuss latest trends in education technology and to network with one another. Some of our future meetings will be held at exemplary school libraries as a means to help our attendees see first-hand how a vibrant library environment, a well-resourced library program and staff can be a vital part of a successful school.

I am thankful for the work that CSLA is doing to keep a focus on school libraries, for their partnership with CUE, for being a strong professional learning organization that schools and those connected with school libraries need as we move into the new era of education under the new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Dr. Mark Archon December 2015.

Administrative Leadership Award

Garrett Kirkland, Principal

Albert Einstein Middle School in Sacramento

Mr. Kirkland sees the library as an epicenter of creativity, innovation, knowledge and discovery. He understands the dual role that the library plays in creating a fun and vibrant atmosphere as a cultural component of the school, as well as the information rich space (both physically and virtually) for academic growth and development. His SDIP (School Development and Improvement Plan) explicitly calls for a full time librarian as a mechanism to “increase academic rigor for all students through all departments and curricular areas.”



Administrative Leadership Award

Clara Schmeidt, Senior Director of Secondary Education

Manteca Unified School District

As Ms. Schmeidt rose through the ranks of administration, she has consistently fought for libraries and library media teachers. She not only values them, she truly understands how vital they are to the quality of education. Her philosophy is that school libraries are a key component of student achievement and that the teacher librarian makes it all happen through collaboration, coordination, and expertise. This philosophy is reflected in the drafting of library mission and vision statements for the high school libraries.



Good Ideas Award

Virginia Hamilton, Union Mine High School

Tourism Fair in Spanish 2



Virginia collaborated with Martin Walsack, a Spanish teacher, to update and improve an existing Spanish 2 assignment, “La feria de turismo.” Students were bored with the project which involved working in pairs to create a poster for a Spanish-speaking country and presenting them in a fair held in the library. Virginia wanted to insert some technology into the current assignment. The Spanish department agreed that if the lesson went well, then all Spanish 2 teachers would implement the lesson.

The revised lesson substituted the poster with a Prezi, which Virginia taught the class how to do. Students worked with partners and shared their Prezi with each other and with their teacher. She also taught them how to embed a You Tube of something interesting from their country. Finally, they had to embed background music from their country. On presentation day, they all checked out Chrome Books and had their Prezi playing as the class circulated.



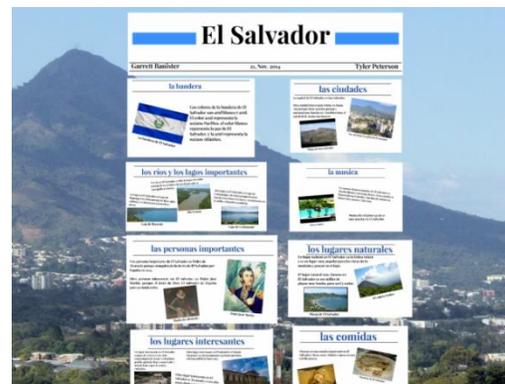
The students loved the new assignment, and were very engaged.



Unlike the former assignment, both students worked on doing the research and working collaboratively on the Prezi. Not only did they learn a lot more about their countries by capturing the local “flavor”, they were very interested in the other Prezis presented by the class. The teacher and teacher librarian noticed that much more Spanish was being used. With all the

music, the library was crazy-noisy but fun. The Spanish teachers were very pleased and all are using the new lesson now for their Spanish 2 classes.

View a completed Prezi at <http://bit.ly/1IPnyBy>



Good Ideas Award

Leigh Ann McCready, Milpitas High School

Family Health History



Leigh Ann collaborated with the Physical Education department on a freshman research project investigating a disease that runs in their family.

In 2012-2013, all departments were asked to emphasize writing across the curriculum in preparation for the implementation of the Common Core State Standards. The Physical Education department decided to have freshmen students use a medical history form common to many doctors' offices to talk to their parents about family health history. Following this, students write a 2-3 page paper about why the disease they choose is important to them personally, research cause, effects, treatment and prevention and what they will do personally to possibly prevent the disease in their own future. Every three weeks, students rotate through various units in 9th grade PE, and every freshman writes this paper during the Cardio Unit.

During 2013-2014, PE Department Lead, Corinne Osborne approached Leigh Ann McCready about having her students come into the library to work on the paper. That first visit, the library was simply a workspace, but after watching the students and assisting the students, Corinne and Leigh Ann then talked about ways that the teacher librarian could better support the project. For the next round, Leigh Ann pulled print resources for students to use during the one day library visit, and worked with individual students on accessing electronic information. In 2014-2015, the physical library was closed for fall semester but Corinne and Leigh Ann discussed how she could continue to support the project. They decided to give the students two days of in-class work time utilizing the PE portable for instruction. Leigh Ann made a presentation to the students on how to access quality medical information online and how to properly cite sources. In addition, the books were kept available for the project so a cart of books went to the room. Leigh Ann created a Symbaloo page (bit.ly/PEpaper) of credible resources available electronically. The teachers who brought their students for the two days of research felt this was a valuable use of the class time. In the fall of 2015, all PE teachers brought their students to the library for two days for the introductory lesson provided by the teacher librarian and a day of research. To continue to build student capacity in research, students were introduced to Noodle Tools and databases to enhance the academic rigor of their product.



Mackin Technology Award

Yvonne Weinstein, Frank A. Miller Middle School



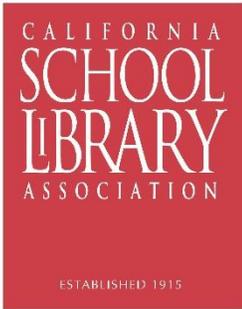
Yvonne earned this award due to her skills in integrating technology and facilitating digital citizenship with the one-to-one Chromebook rollout on her campus and encouraging students to explore technologies, including 3D printing and augmented reality.

One of Yvonne's technology strengths is digital citizenship. She was instrumental in promoting a "Digital Citizenship Day" on campus in October of 2015 where every teacher and student were actively involved in learning about the importance of being digital citizens. According to one of her administrators, she has used these skills to help facilitate the roll out of their one-to-one Chromebook rollout on campus this year. She also provided parents with information they need to assist their children in being effective digital citizens too.

Yvonne believes students should have the opportunity to see technology in action in various ways. During the 2014-2015 school year, Yvonne led students to participate in the Hour of Code using Scratch by MIT. On September 15, 2015, Yvonne introduced augmented reality by celebrating Dot Day which encourages creativity, courage and collaboration. Students and staff wore polka dots and then came to the library to color a trigger image that was then brought to life through augmented reality.

Yvonne eagerly explores technology and isn't afraid to try new things from adding a 3D printer to the library, utilizing digital picture frames, incorporating eBooks and audiobooks or exploring Google Cardboard. As one colleague stated "she puts the tech discoveries into action."

Yvonne's passion for technology carries on beyond the school environment. Another colleague describes it this way: "Yvonne does not restrict her technology influence to the confines of the school. She has made five trips to Uganda during her summer vacations to assist the local people in any way she can. This past summer, Yvonne taught elderly Ugandan women how to use a sewing machine to create products they can sell to support themselves. A sewing machine may seem like a 150 year old technology to some, but to these women, a sewing machine represents a brand new technology...During previous trips, she taught local school teachers basic computer skills."



*Learning through
Books, Media and Technology*

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6444 E. Spring Street #237,
Long Beach, CA 90815-1553
Voice & Fax Phone (toll-free): 888-655-8480

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Good Ideas! is published by the Curriculum and Standards Integration Committee of CSLA, an association of teacher librarians, classroom teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals and others whose mission is to provide leadership to insure that California educators and students are effective users of ideas and information. The association promotes the effective use of learning resources, including print and non-print media and technology in the teaching and learning process.

Editor: LeighAnn McCready

Contributors: Mark Archon, Virginia Hamilton, Kathie Maier, Yvonne Weinstein

Curriculum & Standards Integration Committee: Lesley Farmer, Liz Dodds, Terry Lai, Karen Morgenstern

To nominate a school library and a teacher librarian for the *Good Ideas Award*
csla.net/publications/good-ideas/