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March 10, 2010

RE: Model School Library Standards

California State Board of Education
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Ted Mitchell and Members of the State Board of Education:

On behalf of the California State PTA, I ask that you adopt the draft *School Library Standards for Students* and the draft *Model School Library Program Standards*.

We are impressed with the draft standards and feel that they are appropriate for each grade level. The standards coherently address the changing requirements for students to work with resource materials in a variety of formats and technologies, both print and digital. They take a balanced approach of providing freedom to learn and measures to navigate the Internet and social networking sites safely, ethically and analytically.

It is imperative that the standards be adopted now, as students need the benefit of learning key skills in how to access, evaluate, use and integrate information from print and electronic sources. Like teachers and administrators, parents and students want direction on cyber-citizenship, safety and age appropriateness, and these standards will be valuable in many venues. We appreciate the opportunity we had to be part of the process as the standards were developed

California State PTA recognizes the significant contribution to educational enrichment that is provided by school library/media centers. School library/media centers implement and enhance the core curriculum and instructional program adopted by the school and, at the same time, provide for student enrichment and enjoyment.

Further, California State PTA believes that libraries, schools, colleges and universities must support the development and exchange of ideas. This can only be accomplished by providing opportunities for each individual to rid himself of the bonds of ignorance and the restrictions of prejudice, without intimidation.

Libraries, technologies and all other types of instructional resources should be adequate in quality and quantity to provide for scholarly research. An educational environment should stimulate full investigation of all aspects of a subject with freedom of inquiry and freedom of discussion.

We applaud the Model School Library Standards and urge their immediate adoption.

Very truly yours,

Nancy Vandell
Legislative Advocate



CALIFORNIA
**OFFICE OF
PRIVACY
PROTECTION**

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www.privacy.ca.gov

March 9, 2010

Rosemarie Bernier
President
California School Library Association
50 Glenn Drive, Suite 150
Folsom, CA 95630

Dear President Bernier:

The California Office of Privacy Protection is dedicated to promoting and protecting individual privacy rights. We do this through a variety of education and advocacy programs, including the Cyber Safety for Children Program.

As a member of the Coalition for Children's Internet Safety, the California School Library Association is familiar with the Cyber Safety for Children program. Schools and school libraries obviously play a key role in achieving the program's goal of facilitating the smart, safe and legal use of the Internet by children. The resources for educators on the program web site (www.cybersafety.ca.gov/educators) are provided to assist K-12 schools in developing appropriate policies and programs.

I would be very pleased to add the proposed Model School Library Standards to the other resources on our Educators web page. The grade-level-appropriate knowledge and skill levels outlined in the Model Standards cover the key issues in cyber safety and privacy, as well as a broader information literacy and citizenship perspective. I want to congratulate the California School Library Association for its contribution to the development of this important and useful model that can help our schools prepare children for life in the digital age.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne B. McNabb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Joanne B. McNabb
Chief



COMMON KNOWLEDGE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 290361, DAVIE, FL 33329

954-262-8553

www.cksf.org

"Scholarships based on what you know"

March 9, 2010

To whom it may concern,

It is with sincere appreciation the Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation and FBI-SOS (Safe Online Surfing) Internet Challenge endorses the California State Library Standards. Recently the administrators of this program along with a representative from the FBI reviewed the draft of these standards to help develop a baseline that will be used to expand the program to include grade appropriate content for grades three through ten.

For the past two years California has demonstrated leadership in promoting internet safety as part of standard educational practice. We have found this first with the proactive approach of the CTAP program, later with the Santa Anna Cyber Safety Week content and now with the California State Library Standards.

I believe the forward thinking work that has been done on these standards will lay the groundwork that other states will follow. As much of the country continues to stumble and grasp in this area, California is demonstrating needed leadership that can be followed and built upon.

We will continue to work with educators in your state as we develop an internet safety program that can be used across the country.

Again, please accept our thanks and appreciation for sharing your work and collaborating on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daryl K. Hulce".

Daryl K. Hulce
Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation
Nova Southeastern University



8 March 2010

California State Board of Education
California Department of Education
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
COLLEGE LIBRARY
220 POWELL LIBRARY BUILDING
BOX 951450
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1450

Dear California State Board of Education:

I am writing in strong support of focusing on adoption and implementation of the Model School Library Program Standards. These Standards are decades overdue and offer critical support for school libraries. Without these Standards, school libraries will wither and students will be even more unprepared for higher education and for participation as informed citizens in a democratic society than they are today.

We need these Standards now more than ever, as students are overwhelmed with information of all sorts, and need guidance in learning how to become "information literate," so that they can identify, locate, evaluate and use information effectively and ethically. A 2001 research study, "Information Competence at UCLA," revealed "...that there are many gaps in [undergraduate] students' understanding of resources and [information researching] methods." (Caravello, Patti S., Borah, Eloisa Gomez, Herschman, Judith, & Mitchell, Eleanor. (2001). Information Competence at UCLA: Report of a Survey Project. UC Los Angeles: UCLA Library. Retrieved from: <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/4v06j4z5>)

Faculty Focus group sessions conducted at UCLA in 2005 revealed faculty concern regarding their students' information researching skills. "Most notably [sic] were students' lack of understanding regarding issues surrounding plagiarism and intellectual property; the inability of students to critically evaluate the quality of the material they have found; and students lack of understanding of what constitutes the scholarly process (how that differs in different disciplines, how to not only gather information, but analyze it, synthesize what is found and come up with their own interpretation of the material.)" (Kaplowitz, Joan. (2005). Faculty Focus Groups: UCLA Information Literacy Initiative. UC Los Angeles: UCLA Library. Retrieved from: <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/83d6v8fg>)

At the University of California, librarians try to play catch-up, by teaching guest sessions to undergraduate classes, by preparing workbooks, as well as online tutorials and help guides, and by staffing reference in-person, by phone, email, chat and text messages. The UCLA College Library (undergraduate library) offers an example of how daunting this task is, and how much

higher education needs school libraries and librarians. There are just 6 FTE librarians in the UCLA College Library (undergraduate library), to serve the needs of 25,614 undergraduates, a ratio of 1 librarian to 4,269 students. There is not enough time in a 24-hour/7-day-a-week year to meet these needs at this level.

We not only rely on school libraries and librarians to introduce information literacy concepts to their students, we help them do so. At UCLA, for instance, we offer an annual workshop for high school and community college librarians to help them learn new information literacy teaching and learning techniques, as well as new tools and information resources that will aid their students and better prepare them for information researching in higher education, and for lifelong learning.

I strongly support placing the highest priority on adoption of the California State Model School Library Standards. Adoption of these Standards would send a strong message of support both for Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's farsighted Executive Order S-06-09 establishing an ICT Digital Literacy Leadership Council <http://gov.ca.gov/executive-order/12393/> and for President Obama's compelling proclamation, declaring October 2009 as Information Literacy Awareness Month. Obama, B. (2009).

(Presidential Proclamation: National Information Literacy Awareness Month, 2009. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office. Retrieved October 27, 2009 from http://www.whitehouse.gov/assets/documents/2009literacy_prc_rel.pdf)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Esther Grassian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Esther Grassian
Adjunct Lecturer
UCLA Information Studies Department
&
Information Literacy Librarian
UCLA College Library
&
Chair, LILi [Lifelong Information Literacy group]
<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/college/10645.cfm>

cc: Glen Warren

ATKINSON, ANDELSON, LOYA, RUUD & ROMO

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OUR FILE NUMBER:

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March 5, 2010

E-MAIL

Glen Warren
Coordinator of Media Resources
Orange County Department of Education
3001 Red Hill
Costa Mesa, California 92626

Re: Draft Model School Library Standards

Dear Glen:

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to review the draft Model School Library Standards for California Public School, Kindergarten through Grade Twelve. Although it seems that standards are typically designed for educators, as an Education Law attorney, I recognize and appreciate the breadth of the library standards and believe they will be useful in my current and future work with school districts and county offices of education. It will be particularly useful to have an understanding of the types of information being taught to students as I develop and revise board policies and acceptable use agreements and assist with personnel and student discipline matters.

I appreciate the balanced approach to the standards in that they not only seek to promote student achievement and learning, but they address issues such as intellectual property, privacy, safety, and cyberbullying, all of which are governed by state and/or federal laws. Moreover, the draft standards address cybercitizenship, acceptable uses, school rules, ethics, and the consequences associated with technology misuse. Since I often work with school clients to develop and enforce policies which hold students and staff accountable for their technology use, I am pleased that there are age-appropriate standards being developed to address each of these issues.

Thank you for your continued work in the area of technology use and information literacy. If you would like to discuss the draft standards further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

ATKINSON, ANDELSON, LOYA,
RUUD & ROMO

By 
Penelope R. Glover



California Library Association

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1430 N Street, Room 5111
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-319- 0827

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Dear Mr. Mitchell,

Les Kong
ALA Chapter Councilor

On behalf of the 3,000 librarians and library supporter members of the California Library Association, I am writing to support the adoption of the draft School Library Standards for Students and the draft Model School Library Program Standards.

Barbara Flynn
Director

The ability to access, evaluate, integrate and use information from print and electronic sources is critical to success in education, work and life in the 21st century. As the flood of information grows and technologies change, it is imperative that California students receive the benefit of learning key skills in an age-appropriate, balanced and rigorous framework such as the proposed standards.

Mary George
Director

Sean Reinhart
Director

School library media centers are the keystone for educational excellence in our public school system. Skilled, knowledgeable and enthusiastic teacher librarians enhance the core curriculum by providing the expertise and guidance to ensure that today's students can safely, effectively, enthusiastically and successfully navigate resource materials in print and digital formats. The proposed standards support a model educational environment that will result in a quality experience for all students throughout California.

Lisa Rosenblum
Director

Patricia Rivera
Director

Monica Schultz
Director

The California Library Association supports the draft School Library Standards for Students and the draft Model School Library Program Standards and urges their immediate adoption.

Mark Smith
Director

Sincerely,

Hillary Theyer
Director

Holly Macriss
Executive Director

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Director, Monterey Public Library
CLA President



CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

David A. Sanchez
President

July 19, 2010

Dean E. Vogel
Vice President

Ted Mitchell, President
California State Board of Education
1430 N Street, Suite #5111
Sacramento, CA 95814

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Secretary-Treasurer

Letter of Support for Proposed California Model Library Standards

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Carolyn Doggett
Executive Director

Dear President Mitchell:

Following review of the draft California Model Library Standards by members of the California Teachers Association, we are pleased to express our support for the proposed standards. The California Teachers Association believes that quality school library programs are a necessary component of public education in California.

The proposed California Model Library Standards not only delineate what students should know and be able to do at each grade level, they also delineate the necessary staffing, technology, resources and infrastructure for successful school library programs. At a time when many local districts have made the decision to eliminate certified school library positions or eliminate school library programs entirely, the California Teachers Association feels that the staffing ratios, access hours and facility requirements are extremely important.

These standards, if properly implemented and provided the necessary funding and resources, should help bring California students into the 21st century. The California Teachers Association feels that effective school libraries will support student achievement and provide students with the information literacy skills needed to ensure California's economic prosperity.

Sincerely,

David A. Sanchez
President
DAS:jg

c: Dean E. Vogel, CTA Vice President
Gail M. Mendes, CTA Secretary-Treasurer
CTA Board of Directors
Carolyn Doggett, CTA Executive Director
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