**CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARIANS AND ROBUST LIBRARY PROGRAMS ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING AND IMPROVE TEST SCORES.**

## School librarians are instrumental in student success.

In 2004, researchers surveyed more than 13,000 Ohio students in grades 3-12 to find out how school libraries help students learn.

*"We have unequivocal evidence from these kids that school librarians help them do better."* — Dr. Ross Todd, Professor, Rutgers University

What did Ohio's students say?

- 99.4% reported school libraries help them become better learners.
- 88.5% believe school libraries help them get better grades on projects and assignments.
- Instruction by school librarians provided skills to make students' projects better. Students valued learning how to search the Internet, evaluate Web sites, and use software programs, like PowerPoint and Excel.
- Students felt library-based classes helped them with using and accessing information for research assignments.

*"A school librarian is absolutely key — that clearly came through."* — Dr. Ross Todd

The complete study can be found at http://www.oelma.org/studentlearning/default.asp

*Need more information? Contact your school's Library Media Specialist.*

Kim Porter, a mother from Mount Gilead, Ohio, described how school librarians influenced her children:

*"I was talking to my college-age children about which teacher had the biggest impact on them. All three agreed that the most beneficial learning took place in the school library.*

*This is where they learned the skills to be successful in college and as life-long learners. They felt that they were more prepared than many of their college classmates when it came to the skills they needed to do research and to write college papers. Their classroom teachers had the opportunity to collaborate with the librarian, devising projects which met the state standards as well as gave them needed skills.*

*Our family motto is, 'You don't need to know everything; you just have to know where and how to look for what you need to know.' With our school librarian's help, they have those skills."*

The Ohio Educational Library Media Association is in its 31st year of supporting Ohio's school librarians.


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# Certified School Librarians Bring Information Into Focus

**OELMA**
**Ohio Educational Library Media Association**

# Ohio's Students Need a Certified Library Media Specialist in Every School.

## Certified Librarians Are Information Experts

- School librarians teach students to select and to use reliable, relevant information and to evaluate Internet sites for accuracy and reliability.
- They work collaboratively with classroom teachers to integrate reliable sources, such as INFOhio databases, into class projects.

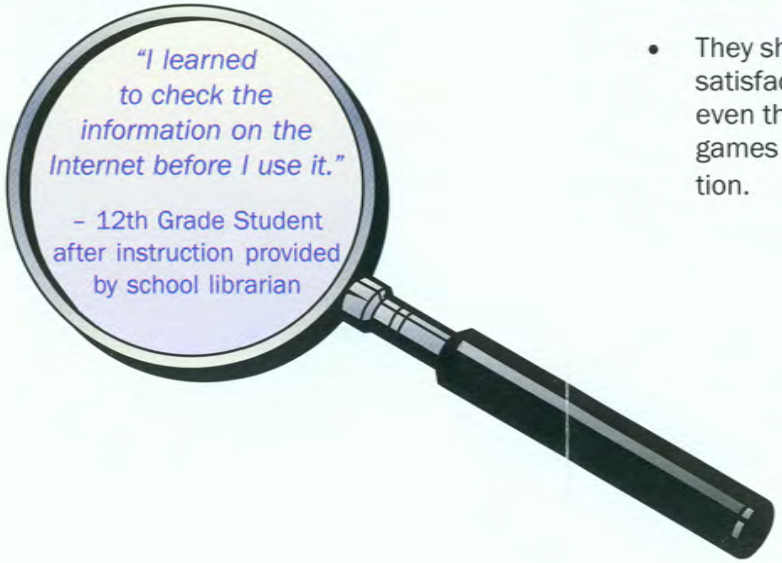
*"I am the human search engine who makes sense of the Internet by helping students evaluate web sites for authority and appropriate content."*

– Certified Library Media Specialist
Canal Winchester Local Schools

- They evaluate newly published titles, selecting quality materials that align with educational standards and the school's curriculum.

## Certified Librarians Teach Information Skills

- They teach students how to effectively find, evaluate, and utilize needed information.
- School Librarians provide instruction on responsible and ethical use of information.
- They train teachers to use emerging technologies and to integrate technology into the curriculum—teaching 21st Century skills needed for college and the workplace.




## Certified Librarians Promote Reading and Life-Long Learning

- Research confirms that reading frequency has direct correlation with vocabulary growth, reading fluency and increased test scores.
- School librarians recommend books that match students' interests, encouraging leisure reading.

*"My school librarian has lots of suggestions and always gives me just the right book. I read all the time."*

– 9th Grade Student

- They show students the joys and satisfaction of the written word, even though movies, TV and video games clamor for students' attention.