



**PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BUSINESS MEETING**

Hershey Lodge and Convention Center
Hershey, PA
Nigerian Room
April 1, 2017
7:30-8:30 AM

- I. Call to order (Allison Burrell)
 - A. President Burrell called the meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.
- II. Minutes (Patricia McNeill)
 - A. Minutes were posted on the conference website (Weebly) prior to the meeting.
 - B. Jenn Bates moved to accept the minutes of the May 14, 2016 meeting. Natalie Hawley seconded.
Motion carried.
- III. Treasurer's Report (Natalie Hawley) (EXHIBIT A)
 - A. Budget balance as of March 31, 2017 is \$190,048.03.
 - B. Treasurer's report will be filed subject to audit.
- IV. State Library Update (Glenn Miller)
 - A. Glenn Miller was able to attend much of the conference and expressed his appreciation of the opportunity.
 - B. He encouraged members to be active in PSLA, which is vital to the success of the Association.
 - C. Acknowledging the challenges ahead in both Harrisburg and Washington, D.C., he stressed the importance of a united profession that is moving in the same direction and working for increases in funding.
 - D. PSLA's involvement in ESSA is important to help push for a strong role for school libraries in the state plan.
 - E. He announced that a contract has been signed to add TrueFlix to POWER Library; it will begin in June and run through the entire school year.
- V. ESSA Update (Allison Burrell) (EXHIBIT B)
 - A. Dustin Brackbill and Cathi Furhman, the Teaching and Learning co-chairs, along with Eileen Kern, worked with Beth Olanoff (PDE) to present Thursday's session on ESSA.
 - B. It is important that librarians make their voices heard to protect funding; phone calls are important.

VI. President's Report (Allison Burrell) (EXHIBIT C)

A. PA House Education Committee Hearing—Aug 30, 2016

1. PA Representative Stan Saylor called a hearing for the House Education Committee at the Perkiomen Valley High School for Aug. 30, 2016. The hearing was well-received and is posted on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmyTfVaoOoc&feature=youtu.be>).

B. ESSA Task Groups

1. Allison Burrell and Allison Mackley had the privilege of being named to two of the PA Department of Education's work groups (Educator Certification and Educator Evaluation groups, respectively) for developing PA's plan for implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This was an excellent opportunity to help ensure that school librarians are included in the implementation of this important legislation. More information can be found at <http://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/ESSA>.

C. ESSA Training (October 25, 2016)

1. PSLA partnered with AASL to offer a complimentary workshop on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) at Toftrees Resort in State College. Training materials and more information on ESSA from AASL can be found at <http://essa.aasl.org/>.

D. HB 740 (EXHIBIT D)

1. On March 7, 2017, HB 740, the "One Certified Librarian Per Public School" bill was introduced in the PA House of Representatives, with Rep. Mark Longietti as prime sponsor and Rep. Thomas Murt as co-sponsor. This is an amendment of the Public School Code of 1949, and the reintroduction of a bill introduced during 2015-2016 (HB 1163). PSLA is proud to be supporting this bill, which would help ensure that all of our PA public school students receive the support of a certified school librarian. The handout is available on the PSLA webpage at <http://www.psla.org/membership/psla-legislation/>.

E. Meetings in Harrisburg: March 21, 2017

1. Jennifer Bates (PSLA President-Elect) and Allison Burrell met with Kevin Harley from Quantum Communications, our strategic communications firm, and visited Rep. Eichelberger (House Education Committee Chair) and Sen. Hickernell (Senate Education Committee Chair) to introduce themselves and the organization and to bring awareness of basic issues in school libraries.

F. Legislation Task Force (Deb Kachel—Legislative Liaison)

1. A Schoology group "School Library Legislation" has been created to encourage conversation about current and future legislation. This group is public, so anyone can join after creating a free account at Schoology.com, using the join code VN9KP-RMV2N. A great deal of information about how to get involved in legislative issues can be found at <http://www.psla.org/membership/psla-legislation/>

G. Schoology

1. PSLA began using the free version of Schoology last summer at Summit as a value-added piece of membership. This is only available to PSLA members and provides a way for members to communicate with each other and leadership more easily. The “All Members” group can be joined, after creating a free account at Schoology.com, using the join code 325BR-7KNK9. PSLA membership will be verified prior to a Schoology member being allowed to join the group.

H. Strategic Communications

1. PSLA continues to employ Quantum Communications as our strategic communications firm. Quantum organizes and publishes the PSLA newsletter (<https://paschoollibrariansassociation.wordpress.com/>) and organized the hearing and meetings in Harrisburg. Frequent communication between officers and the firm has greatly improved PSLA Board’s understanding of PA politics, as well as the quality and quantity of the product that Quantum can offer our organization. Quantum has also been instrumental in getting a number of op-ed pieces about the importance of school libraries placed in publications around the state.

I. Staffing Survey 2016-2017

1. Great appreciation is expressed to Eileen Kern for once again spearheading the 2016-2017 Staffing Survey, with the help of leaders across the state who assisted with encouraging school districts to submit their surveys. Their hard work resulted in data from all 500 school districts. This data can be invaluable as we talk with the public, administrators, school boards, legislators, and other library supporters to demonstrate the current state of school libraries in PA. Several documents have been created from this data and are available on the PSLA website at <http://www.psla.org/publications/psla-publications/>.

J. Regional Leaders Academy

1. Entering their fourth year of partnership through LSTA grants, PSLA and the University of Pittsburgh are beginning the Regional Leaders Academy. The 30 members of this academy, representing 22 of the 29 PA Intermediate Units, will engage in a variety of in-person and virtual trainings throughout the coming year to develop their leadership skills and learn how to become key communicators throughout our state. They will serve an important role in disseminating PSLA information and professional development to librarians across the state.

K. PSEA

1. PSEA’s *The Voice for Education* will feature a cover story on school librarians in its July issue. We made arrangements for visits to several schools in Pennsylvania and for meetings with a small focus group at our conference. This is an excellent opportunity to share our stories with a much larger audience in the hopes of garnering more support for our profession, as well as HB 740.

VII. Committee Reports (EXHIBIT E)

A. Conference

1. Conference Attendance: 496 attendees.
2. Conference Planning 2018
 1. Keynote: Gwyneth Jones: The Daring Librarian.
 2. Author Keynote: Greg Pizzoli.

B. Annual Reports for all Committees were posted on the conference website (Weebly) prior to the meeting.

VIII. Old Business

A. LSTA Update—Sustaining and Regional Leaders Academy (EXHIBIT F)

1. See VI. President's Report, J. Regional Leaders Academy

B. Staffing Survey 2016-2017 (EXHIBIT G)

1. Eileen Kern is seeking assistance with this in the future.
2. See VI. President's Report, I. Staffing Survey 2016-17

IX. New Business

A. Resolutions/ Recognition

1. Recognition of Connie Roupp who passed away on February 1, 2017.
 1. Connie worked for the Athens Area School District as the librarian for 33 years, prior to retiring in 2003. She was one of the earliest members of PSLA and served the Association as Treasurer, Secretary, Conference Treasurer, Workshop Presenter, Moderator, and Committee Chair. In 2013, Connie was recognized as an Outstanding Contributor to PSLA.
 2. A moment of silence was observed.

X. Future Dates

- A. PSLA Board Conference Call—May 20, 2017
- B. ALA Annual Conference—June 22-27, 2017—Chicago, IL
- C. PSLA Leadership (Advisory Council & Summit)-- July 11-13, 2017
- D. AASL – November 9-11, 2017—Phoenix, AZ
- E. ALA Midwinter—February 9-13, 2018—Denver, CO
- F. PSLA 45th Annual Conference—May 3-5, 2018--Hershey Lodge & Convention Center (Hershey, PA)
- G. ALA Annual Conference—June 21-26, 2018—New Orleans, LA
- H. PSLA 46th Annual Conference—March 28-30, 2019 Hershey Lodge & Convention Center (Hershey, PA)
- I. PSLA 47th Annual Conference—April 30- May 2, 2020 Hershey Lodge & Convention Center (Hershey, PA)
- J. PSLA 48th Annual Conference—April 15-17, 2021 Hershey Lodge & Convention Center (Hershey, PA)

XI. Adjournment

- A. Robin Burns moved to adjourn the meeting. Jamie Scott seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

EXHIBIT A	Treasurer's Report
EXHIBIT B	ESSA Update
EXHIBIT C	President's Report
EXHIBIT D	HB 740 Conference One-Pager
EXHIBIT E	Committee Reports
EXHIBIT F	Leadership Academies Summary
EXHIBIT G	Staffing Survey Results
EXHIBIT H	PSLA Bylaws
EXHIBIT I	PSLA Constitution
EXHIBIT J	Resolution Form