

ESSB 5102 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Education

NOT CONSIDERED 01/02/2024

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that students with
4 access to school library information and technology programs staffed
5 by qualified teacher-librarians have improved school and life
6 outcomes, including higher academic achievement, increased graduation
7 rates, and increased preparedness for college or career pathways.
8 Unfortunately, not all students have access to these programs
9 statewide, leading to disparate outcomes. Lack of access to these
10 programs disproportionately impacts low-income families and families
11 of color. Recent findings show that access to high-quality school
12 libraries was one of the most significant factors in closing the
13 literacy gap for students experiencing poverty. Additionally, the
14 legislature finds that the rise of misinformation and disinformation
15 available through the internet necessitates comprehensive instruction
16 by a qualified teacher-librarian in information literacy, digital
17 citizenship, and media literacy for all K-12 students. The value of
18 these programs was apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic. School
19 districts with qualified teacher-librarians and strong school library
20 information and technology programs were better able to support
21 teachers, students, and families during remote learning.

22 The legislature has shown support for school library information
23 and technology programs through the passage of legislation clearly
24 defining both programs and teacher-librarians. These programs have
25 been acknowledged as critically important to supporting state-
26 mandated learning goals, essential academic learning requirements,
27 and high school graduation requirements through inclusion of both
28 teacher-librarians and library materials as part of basic education
29 in the prototypical school model. Teacher-librarians are seen as
30 critical partners in the education of our students including in the
31 equitable and successful use of educational technology. Despite this
32 continued support from the legislature, data shows large areas of

1 Washington where students do not have access to school library
2 information and technology programs staffed by qualified teacher-
3 librarians.

4 The legislature intends to provide access to high-quality school
5 library information and technology programs with qualified teacher-
6 librarians for students and staff at all K-12 levels while also
7 recognizing the value of allowing local school boards to decide how
8 to most effectively implement these essential programs for their
9 schools and students.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 By September 1, 2024, each school district must adopt or amend:

13 (1) A policy that acknowledges the requirement for boards of
14 directors to provide every student with access to school library
15 information and technology programs as specified in RCW 28A.320.240;
16 and

17 (2) Procedures that describe how students can access school
18 library information and technology resources and materials.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.320.240 and 2015 c 27 s 1 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (1) The purpose of this section is to identify quality criteria
22 for school library information and technology programs that support
23 the student learning goals under RCW 28A.150.210, the (~~essential~~
24 ~~academic learning requirements~~) state learning standards under RCW
25 28A.655.070, and high school graduation requirements adopted under
26 RCW 28A.230.090.

27 (2) (a) Every board of directors shall provide resources and
28 materials for the operation of a school library information and
29 technology program(~~s as the board deems necessary for the proper~~
30 education of the district's students or as otherwise required by law
31 or rule of the superintendent of public instruction)). Each student
32 shall have access to a school library information and technology
33 program, as determined by the board of directors and consistent with
34 the requirements of this section.

35 (b) In accordance with (a) of this subsection (2), beginning with
36 the 2023-24 school year, school districts of the first class, as
37 determined in accordance with RCW 28A.300.065, must employ a minimum
38 of one teacher-librarian for every 1,000 enrolled students.

1 (3) "Teacher-librarian" means a certificated teacher with a
2 library media endorsement under rules adopted by the professional
3 educator standards board.

4 (4) (a) "School library information and technology program" means
5 a school-based program that is ((staffed)) overseen, except as
6 provided under (b) of this subsection, by a certificated teacher-
7 librarian and provides a broad, flexible array of services,
8 resources, and instruction that support student mastery of the
9 ((essential academic learning requirements)) state learning standards
10 and state standards in all subject areas and the implementation of
11 the district's school improvement plan.

12 (b) A school district of the second class, as described in RCW
13 28A.300.065, may staff a school library information and technology
14 program with a noncertificated staff member if the district has made
15 all reasonable efforts to staff the program with a certificated
16 teacher-librarian. In such a circumstance, a school district is
17 authorized and encouraged to partner with a nonprofit or government
18 entity to provide staffing services including, but not limited to, a
19 library or regional library as defined in RCW 27.12.010, or an
20 institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

21 (5) The teacher-librarian, through the school library information
22 and technology program, shall collaborate as an instructional partner
23 to help all students meet the content goals in all subject areas, and
24 assist high school students completing high school and beyond plans
25 required for graduation.

26 (6) The teacher-librarian's duties may include, but are not
27 limited to, collaborating with his or her schools to:

28 (a) Integrate information and technology into curriculum and
29 instruction, including but not limited to instructing other
30 certificated staff about using and integrating information and
31 technology literacy into instruction through workshops, modeling
32 lessons, and individual peer coaching;

33 (b) Provide information management instruction to students and
34 staff about how to effectively use emerging learning technologies for
35 school and lifelong learning, as well as in the appropriate use of
36 computers and mobile devices in an educational setting;

37 (c) Help teachers and students efficiently and effectively access
38 the highest quality information available while using information
39 ethically;

1 (d) Instruct students in digital citizenship including how to be
2 critical consumers of information and provide guidance about
3 thoughtful and strategic use of online resources; (~~and~~)

4 (e) Create a culture of reading in the school community by
5 developing a diverse, student-focused collection of materials that
6 ensures all students can find something of quality to read and by
7 facilitating school-wide reading initiatives along with providing
8 individual support and guidance for students; and

9 (f) Oversee classified staff, including library technicians,
10 library assistants, and others, to implement the school library
11 information technology program.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 The superintendent of public instruction will provide data,
15 information, best practices, and other assistance to help facilitate
16 school district implementation of this act."

17 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Requires, beginning with the 2023-24 school year, school
districts of the first class (school districts with more than 2,000
enrolled students) to employ a minimum of one teacher-librarian for
every 1,000 enrolled students.

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