

Policy and Membership Committee Report

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

1. After the 2015 Library Certification Process, it appears that three school districts no longer meet the membership criteria.

Those districts are:

- Ashley CCSD #15 (Washington County)
- Webber Township HSD #204 (Jefferson County)
- The High School of St. Thomas More (Champaign)

Each of the above districts indicated that they were not staffed the minimum of 15 hours per week. Webber Township and The High School of St. Thomas More indicated that they had no permanent financial support for the collection and Webber Township also indicated that the district was not compliant with the ILLINET Interlibrary Loan Code.

I had done a site visit to Ashley in September of 2014 and expected this result from the certification process. The paraprofessional who had been in the library had been pulled out as a special education aide and nothing was being done in the library. The district is also struggling financially.

I spoke with the Superintendent at Webber Township High School who verified that there was no real staffing in the library.

I also had the opportunity to speak with the Principal at the High School of St. Thomas More. This school is a SHARE member and participates in My Media Mall. He indicated that they were going “electronic” and didn’t need system membership any longer. I also have the impression that after the retirement of their school librarian at the end of the 2013-1014 school year, the position was not filled. A letter was sent to the principal from Chris Dawdy and I explaining in detail what the loss of system membership would entail.

Finally letters were sent to the persons completing the certification and administrators of each agency explaining how the suspension process would work. Those were mailed at the end of last week.

2. The Certification process also alerts us to school districts that might be dealing with consolidations. Two districts Jamaica CCSD #12 and Catlin CUSD #5 will be merged as of July 1, 2015 It will be called the South Fork School District.

3. We have received a membership application from the Decatur Correctional Facility. Their application is included with this report. To the best of our knowledge, this facility has never been a part of a regional library system. The newly hired librarian is a former school librarian and is familiar with SHARE. She is doing programming with her patrons and is interested and will to participate in resource sharing.

Submitted by Ellen Popit, IHLS Staff
April 14, 2015

