

Knowledge and Awesomeness



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TASL Annual Conference
October 27, 2012

What makes a library conducive to learning?



Positive Factors

- ❧ Providing tools
- ❧ Welcoming environment to get them in the door
- ❧ Build relationships between librarians and teacher/students
- ❧ Make instruction happen
- ❧ Content knowledge

Barriers

- ❧ Money
- ❧ Lack of time
- ❧ No administrative support
- ❧ Stereotypes
- ❧ Too many rules
- ❧ Lack of teacher buy-in

Teachers' Words: Climate Conducive to Learning



☞ All the programs that we have and the fact that we're open during lunches for kids to come in after they're done eating. Book Chats, Teen Read Week, giving students a chance to talk about what interests them. I think they understand that the library is not just about books.

Teachers' Words: Climate Conducive to Learning



∞ The openness, the fact that it's pretty, a light-filled inviting place, with spaces to work individually, as a small group meeting, a whole classroom...you feel welcome.

Teachers' Words: Climate Conducive to Learning



∞ You can talk out loud and not feel like you have to whisper. There can be multiple things happening all at once, and kids can spread out and work on whatever they need to work on. It's very user friendly.

Teachers' Words: Climate Conducive to Learning



☞ The most important thing is to have media specialists who are inviting to the staff, that encourage them to use their resources. It's one thing to have the resources available, but if you don't share them with the staff—we don't know what you have and what it is. We need to be reminded. Teachers need to know that it's not just books but is a media center.

Teachers' Words: Barriers to Learning



☞ A culture of “SHHHH”, a punitive culture, with children being worried that they will be written up for being kids. Obviously not horseplay, but the normal things kids do, like checking their phones or listening to music while researching. Kids should not feel unwelcome in a space because it is designated to be so sacred for learning.

Teachers' Words: Barriers to Learning



❧ I used to feel like I was always competing with the English department. I understand that if they're doing research papers they need access, but it's hard to have restricted access. We always need more technology and resources.

What makes a library awesome?



Positive Factors

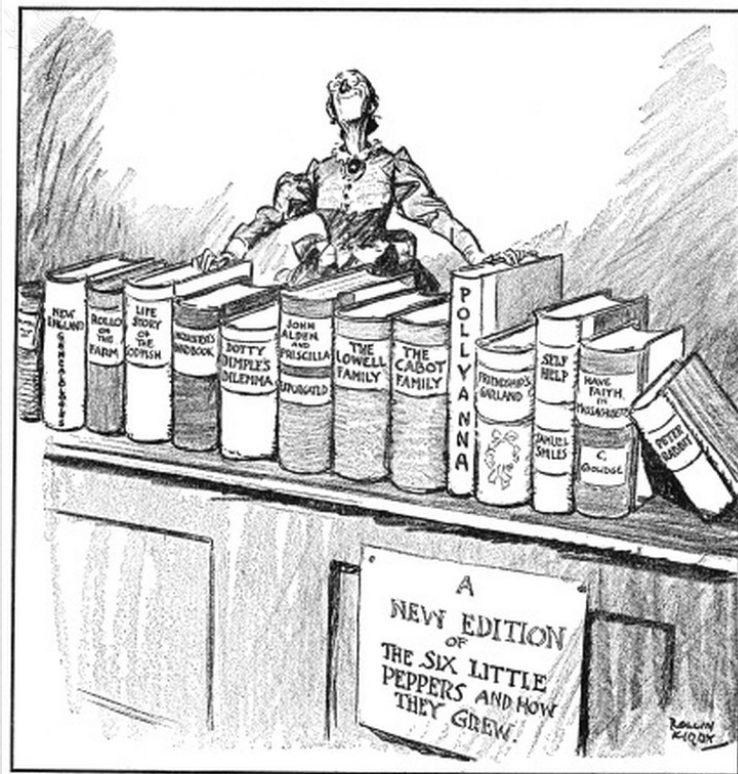
- ☞ To read books
- ☞ Great resources
- ☞ Place where you won't be judged
- ☞ Accepting of disabilities
- ☞ DVDs, multimedia, games
- ☞ Always there; constant through school years
- ☞ Build relationships

Barriers

- ☞ Scheduling
- ☞ Testing
- ☞ Additional responsibilities
- ☞ Staffing cuts
- ☞ Librarians' bad attitudes
- ☞ Lack of money
- ☞ Cosmetic problems
- ☞ Behavior connected to social problems
- ☞ Lack of professional developments

Students' Words: *Awesomeness*

TML: That Mean Librarian



BOSTON



Keyword: PERCEPTION

TML: That Mean Librarian



For your group's barrier scenario, discuss...

- ☞ What's the real issue here? How does the student/teacher's perception differ from the librarian's perception?
- ☞ What can we do to address this issue in a way that encourages knowledge and awesomeness?