

# BRIDGING THE GAP

Between Public Libraries  
and Schools



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Youth & Teen Services  
Coordinator

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Youth Services Librarian



**Plymouth  
District Library**



# DEMOGRAPHICS

- Plymouth District Library, Class 5 (serves 26-50k population)
- 38,081 cardholders (11,946 of those active within the last year)
- Plymouth-Canton Community School District
- 15 Elementary Schools, 5 Middle Schools, 3 High Schools, 1 Alternative High School Program
- Youth Department includes three full-time staff (soon four), one part-time, and one intern.

# STRATEGIC PLANNING

“Plymouth District Library shares resources to create connection and opportunity for our entire community, because we are stronger together.”

# COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

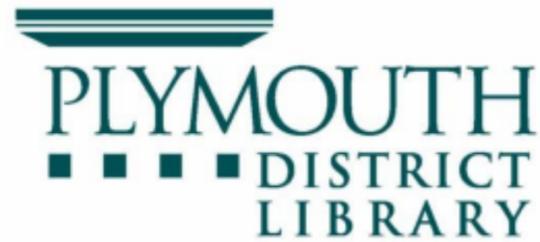
- Develop School Relationships
- Google Form
- Library Cards
- Educator Newsletter
- Schools & Teachers Webpage



# BENEFITS & SERVICES

- MeL for Multiple Copies
- Curated Book Bundles
- Teen Book Match
- Collection Development
- Expand Our Patron Base
- Helping Kids Without Access
- Develop Community Relationships





*Plymouth District Library shares resources to create connection and opportunity for our entire community, because we are stronger together.*



## Education Outreach Newsletter

September | 2022

### Welcome back to another school year!

Our intent with this newsletter is to supplement the tools and resources of PCCS Educators while making you aware of library programming that might be interesting to you and your students. This newsletter goes out to the Library Media Specialists in PCCS but please share it with your teachers and staff if you'd like.

We plan on sending newsletters like this in May, September, and January of each year. We welcome any and all feedback to further personalize the content to your needs. Please contact Jessica Keeler ([jkeeler@plymouthlibrary.org](mailto:jkeeler@plymouthlibrary.org)) and/or Lauren Baker ([lbaker@plymouthlibrary.org](mailto:lbaker@plymouthlibrary.org)) with questions, concerns, and feedback.

### Upcoming Youth & Teen Programs



# EDUCATION OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

- Program Video
- Featured eResources
- New Titles (Diverse Selection)
- Program Features  
(a closer look)

# BRINGING OUR EXPERTISE TO YOU

- Storytime tailored to your curriculum
- Support for your book clubs, classes, and projects
- Summer reading assemblies
- Informational visits

P.D.L.



# GOALS

- Never Stop Asking
- Become Household Names
- Remain Flexible



thank you



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PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY



Sabrina Halsey

Teen Outreach Librarian

Kerry Roman

K-5 School Outreach Librarian



Orion Township Public Library

- Orion Township Public Library, Class 5 (serves 26-50k population)
- 23,194 cardholders
- Lake Orion Community Schools
- 6 Elementary Schools, 3 Middle Schools, 1 High School, and 1 K-8 private school
- Student card application is in the school Kindergarten registration paperwork
- All teachers are eligible for library card with automatic 6-week checkout period

# History...

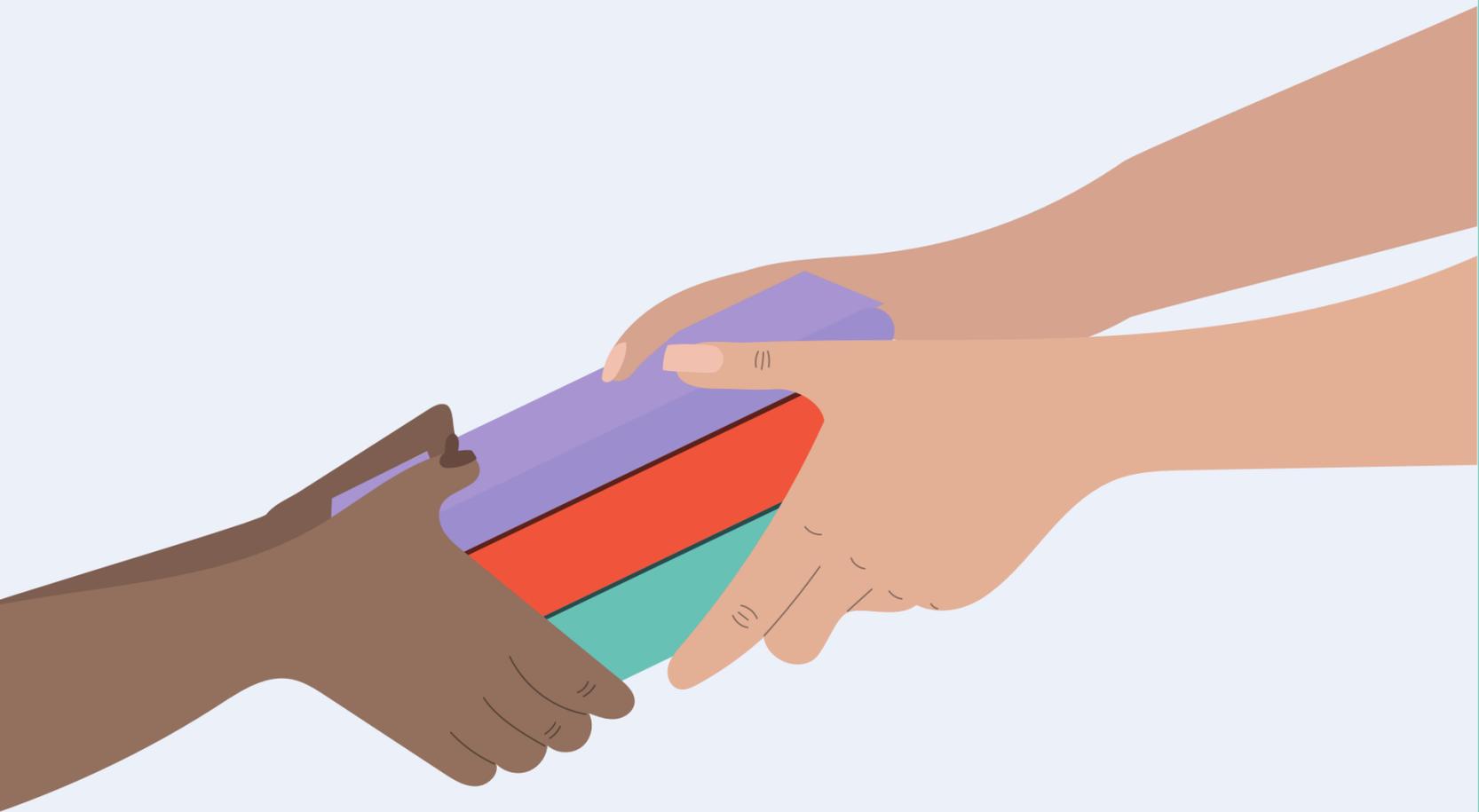
- Partnership called "ThinkLink"
- Started with each school having a designated librarian contact for book drop off/pick up

# Evolved

- Teen Librarian services 3 middle schools 6-8 and one very large high school 9-12.
- Youth Outreach Librarian services 6 public K-5 elementary schools and one private school K-8.



# Find Your Person!





# Communication



- Yearly meeting with Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning - review and update contract
- Submit articles for Teacher and Parent Newsletters
- Media Specialist meetings and email
- Building visits
- Building staff meetings
- Regular meetings with district Curriculum Specialists
- District Marketing Coordinator



# Book Delivery and Pickup

Request

Request  
Arrives at  
Public  
Library

Delivery

Teacher /student request  
via email.

Teen

- Excel spreadsheet for accountability
- All student checkouts on student accounts
- Checkouts used to be media specialists account- decrease use.
- Book to be put on hold-Teen Programming card

Youth

- Excel spreadsheet for accountability
- All checkouts on teacher or Media Specialist accounts

Delivery and pick up  
books from school Media  
Center.



# K-5 Youth Outreach Librarian

- Battle of the Books-Library run
- Student/Teacher Library Cards
- Book Drop off/Pick ups
- Kindergarten Story Time Visits
- Virtual Bookshelves
- First Chapter Friday - in person or Zoom
- Kindergarten Library Card Party
- ThinkLink 5
- Summer School Visits
- March is Reading Month visits
- Book Buddies (with teen librarian)



# Teen Librarian

- MS Battle of the Books -collaboration with 3 middle school librarians
- Student/Teacher Library Cards
- Book Drop off/Pick up
- Lit Lunches-go into the school during the lunch periods for activities
- Monthly take-and-make kits; post Covid addition and alternate with school librarians
- Book Talks
- Honors and AP Book Collection
- ThinkLink After School
- High School Book Club

# Kindergarten Library Card Party

- Promote party at school visits in October/November
- Party in November - story, activities, crafts, pick up library card



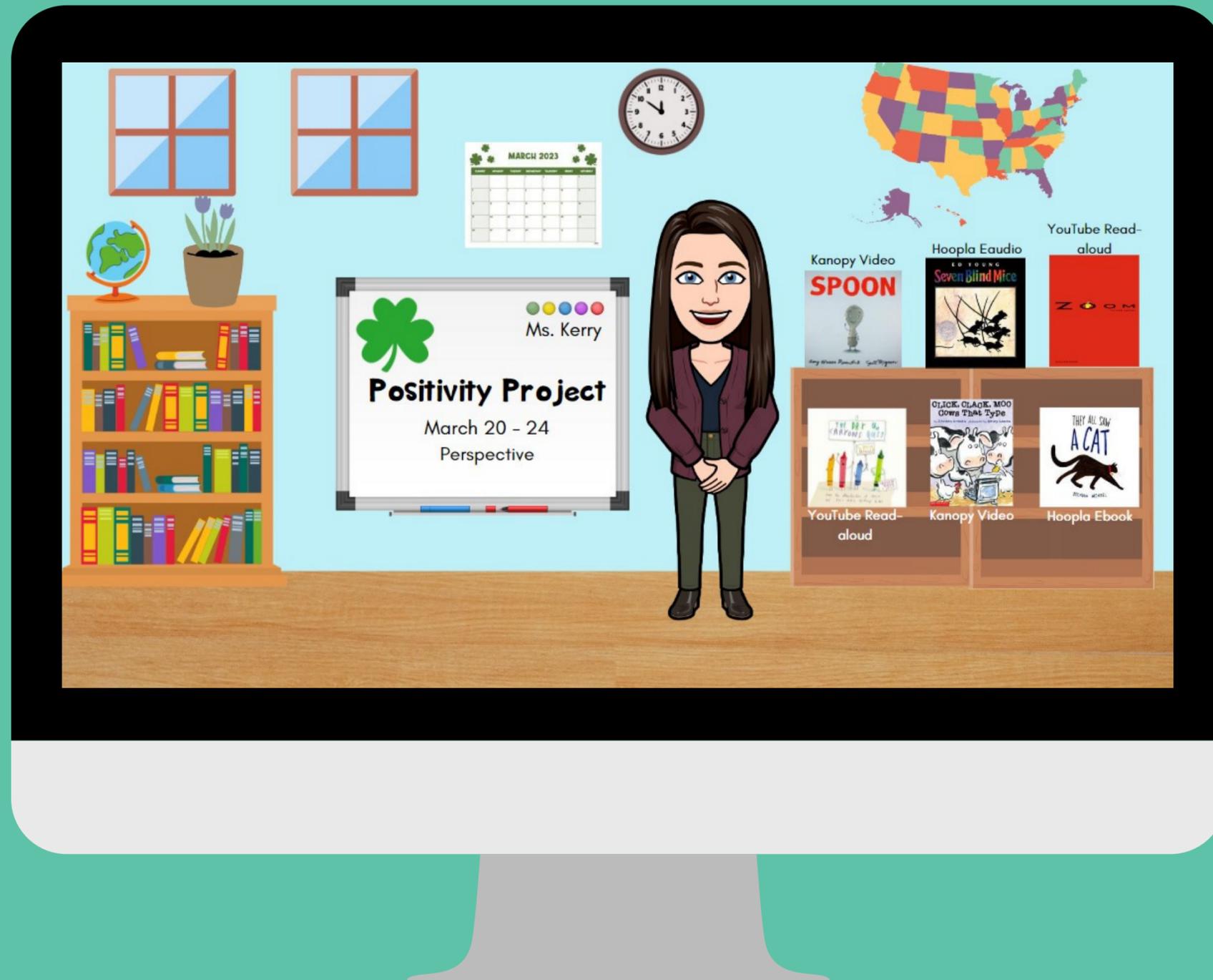
# Kindergarten School Visits

- Visit each Kindergarten classroom 1x/month
- Stories, song, flannel story, etc.



# Virtual Bookshelves

- Weekly virtual bookshelf relating to Positivity Project trait sent to each Media Specialist
- Monthly virtual bookshelf with DEI resources
- Shared with school staff
- Links to Ebooks, Eaudios, or other library resources





Battle Bingo



Duct Tape Book Marks



March Is Reading Month

# MIDDLE SCHOOL LIT LUNCH

- Lunch hours- 9:45-12:45
- Bring all supplies
- Always have candy!!!!

LUNCH  
TIME

# Take and Make Kits

- Started as the post-covid version of Lit Lunch
- So popular, continued programming
- Alternate funding monthly between school and public library
- First come first serve-started with 20 kits per school, now up to 30



**SEPTEMBER TAKE & MAKE**

Pick up a take & make kit and work on the activity on your own.

What: Materials and instructions to make one rubber band helicopter

Where: Pickup will be in the media center-**supplies are limited; first come, first serve**

When: Pickup begins the week of September 20th

Questions? Send a message to your Media Specialist

Sponsored by  
Lake Orion Middle Schools & Orion Township Library

- Slime
- Paracord bracelets
- Book Page Glitter Leaves
- Magazine Silhouette Art
- Seasonal
- DIY Lava Lamp



# CHALLENGES



## Pre-Covid

### Think Link After School

- Middle school students
- School provided buses; library provided space and activity
- Result- phenomenal response

## Post-Covid

### 2022-2023 School Year

- Think Link 5
- After school; monthly
- Goal: to promote and grow Think Link with 5th graders and bring back Think Link After School in 2023-2024.
- Result-no interest.



# Areas to Improve/What we've Learned

- Start small and build
- Remember your "WHY"
- If something doesn't work, pivot.
- Communication is key
- Scheduling is hard around reference desk schedules.



# Thank you



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## Orion Township Public Library