

SCHOOL LIBRARY TALKING POINTS

The Michigan library community recommends that funds be allocated by the Michigan Legislature to support school libraries staffed by certified school librarians.

Michigan ranks 31st in the nation in 4th grade reading achievement. In addition, a key finding of the recent Michigan State University Read by Grade Three Law Study is that there is a disparity across school districts in the availability of library resources.

We believe that all students in Michigan deserve equitable access to effective school libraries staffed by certified school librarians who:

- Increase student achievement with focus on reading achievement by supporting and teaching reading and inquiry learning
- Provide equitable access to diverse resources in their schools
- Teach media literacy, research, and digital citizenship skills to prepare students for college and career
- Lead and support technology integration in their schools

The library community and supporters ask that the legislature work toward creating and supporting specific funding for school libraries. We also ask that you support the school library bills.

EMAIL TEMPLATE

Dear Representative or Senator [Last Name],

I am writing to ask you to support libraries across Michigan. In particular, I hope that you will support equitable access to effective school libraries staffed by certified school librarians for all students in our state.

Currently, Michigan ranks 31st in the nation in 4th grade reading achievement. In addition, a key finding of the recent Michigan State University Read by Grade Three Law Study is that there is a disparity across school districts in the availability of library resources --

It is important that our state provide our students with all of the resources they need to succeed. Thus, it is important that all students in Michigan have equitable access to effective school libraries staffed by certified school librarians who:

- Increase student achievement with focus on reading achievement by supporting and teaching reading and inquiry learning
- Provide equitable access to diverse resources in their schools
- Teach media literacy, research, and digital citizenship skills to prepare students for college and career
- Lead and support technology integration in their schools

I ask that the legislature work toward creating and supporting specific funding for school libraries. I also ask that you support the school library bills.

Sincerely,

[name]
Organization
[email]
[phone]

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

MI is 47th in U.S. in supporting school libraries. We can do better! Support student achievement & access to diverse resources for all students in MI by supporting equitable access to school libraries staffed by certified school librarians. #MISchoolLibrary #MILibrariesDay

All of Michigan's students need school librarians who provide access to diverse resources, improve student achievement, prepare students for college and career, and support technology integration. #MISchoolLibrary #MILibrariesDay

THANK YOU / FOLLOW-UP EMAIL

Dear Representative or Senator [Last Name],

Thank you for meeting with me and other supporters of strong libraries in our state. Attached to this email you will find the additional information you requested on [whatever that was]. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

I appreciate your time and interest and hope you will promote and support the library issues that we brought to your attention. [Repeat the ask]. We look forward to staying in touch with your office and working with you on library issues.

Sincerely,

[name]
[Organization]
[email]
[phone]