Support Alaska's School Libraries

Alaska's school libraries continue to grow and change to support the needs of our diverse learners.

Removing certified school librarians makes it harder for schools to close the digital and socioeconomic achievement gap because it denies schools the opportunity for a curated collection of diverse books and online resources to support student's reading and academic growth; qualified personnel to instruct students in skills critical to academic and career success; and a safe and inclusive space that meets the needs of the entire school community.

(c) AkASL, 2019. The mission of the Alaska Association of School Librarians is to advance a high standard for the school librarian profession and the library information program in the schools of Alaska. Find us at akasl.org.
Certified school librarians curate a diverse collection of books that meet the academic and personal needs of learners. They foster a lifelong love of reading and help connect families to literacy resources.

When school librarians collaborate with classroom teachers, student academic success and teacher self-efficacy increase (Johnston & Green, 2018).

School librarians help learners develop the skills employers are looking for through inquiry-based personalized learning including academic, technical, and soft skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, and perseverance (Gray & Koncz, 2017).

School libraries are sometimes the only space in a school that services all the users of the community. They provide a safe and inclusive environment for all learners, and foster community and family partnerships through library events and programs.

Certified school librarians provide instruction to learners and training to staff in the ethical use of information, evaluating information, and news literacy to ensure that all students become good digital citizens and stay safe online.

School libraries bridge the digital and socioeconomic divides by ensuring that all students have access to information 24/7 through curated collections of print and online materials that learners can use in school and at home.