

Regional Leaders Academy for PA School Librarians Overview

The **Regional Leaders Academy (RLA)**, a prototype collaboration between the **Pennsylvania School Librarians Association (PSLA)** and the **University of Pittsburgh School Library Certification Program (SLCP)**, is funded through a **grant from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) by Commonwealth Libraries, Pennsylvania Department of Education**. RLA is an **innovative, immersive professional development experience** designed to strengthen and support librarians in PA schools and in PSLA, to assure that Pennsylvania students will have strong and effective school library programs led by librarians who are leaders in their schools, their regions, and their professional associations. Participants are charged with spreading an awareness among stakeholders of the essential role school libraries play in K-12 student learning and achievement.

RLA, based on the successful models of the Emerging and Sustaining Leaders Academies, will create and implement the inaugural Key Communicators Network across three PA regions (East, Central, and West) encompassing nine PA districts, 29 Intermediate Units, and 67 counties. These leaders will serve as a two-way **conduit of information between the librarians in their designated area and PSLA**. They'll communicate the needs and concerns of these librarians to PSLA leadership and communicate information and professional development from PSLA to these librarians. Participants--selected competitively from a **robust pool of applicants** from across Pennsylvania--will learn from a team of like-minded, energetic librarians and experienced mentors to vitalize and update the leadership competencies they need to communicate, collaborate, develop, and sustain working relationships with multiple constituencies with differing priorities in changing environments.

Regional Leaders will:

- Meet and plan with their fellow participants and their mentors at **Orientation** during the PSLA Annual Conference in Hershey, PA, on March 30, 2017.
- Participate in the three-day **Immersion Experience in Leadership** on June 19-20-21, 2017, in Chambersburg, PA.
- Launch the **Key Communicators Network** at the PSLA Leadership meeting on July 11-12, 2017 in Hershey, PA.
- Participate in the **Virtual Academy**, a series of monthly competency-refining experiences and communications offered through interactive video conferencing provided by the University of Pittsburgh from April 2017 through April 2018.
- Present a **conference session** on the Key Communicators Network and participate in the graduation ceremony at the 2018 PSLA Conference on May 5, 2018.

School librarians can lead from the middle as effective **“teacher leaders”** within their schools and their districts and serve as leaders in their professional associations as well. Most importantly, they can speak as part of this education community for the right of all PA students to have access to an effective school library program to help them meet *PA Core Standards* and succeed academically. Pennsylvania needs school library leaders who can accomplish all three challenges.

Mary K. Biagini, PhD
Project Director, Regional Leaders Academy

Regional Leaders Academy for PA School Librarians

Regional Leaders, 2017-2018

Regional Leader	School	School District	IU
Catherine Beatty	Waynesboro Area Middle School	Waynesboro Area	12
Jessica Brecht	Jeannette McKee Elementary School	Jeannette City	7
Liz Brobst	Warrior Run High School	Warrior Run	16
Philip Burrell	Bloomsburg Area High School	Bloomsburg Area	16
Emily Calaman	Schuylkill Valley Middle School	Schuylkill	14
Megan Callaway	Springton Manor Elementary School	Dowingtown Area	24
Pam Dilanni	Montour High School	Montour	3
Jayne M. Downing	Penn Alexander School	School District of Philadelphia	26
Lillian Hobbs	Pottsville Area High School	Pottsville Area	29
Deborah Hoover	Northeastern Middle School	Northeastern	12
Catherine Horan	Radnor Middle School	Radnor Township	25
Samantha Hull	Ephrata High School	Ephrata	13
Dolores Jordan	Fox Twp., Bennetts Valley, & South St. Marys Ele	Saint Marys Area	9
Whitney Kern	Palmerton Area Junior/Senior High School	Palmerton Area	21
Nicole Lash	Hopewell Memorial Junior High School	Hopewell Area	27
Denise Mancuso	Big Spring High School	Big Spring	15
Sarah Peterson	Punxsutawney Middle School	Punxsutawney	6
Katherine Kauffman Roth	Norwin High School	Norwin	7
Ashley Rudock	Hershey Middle School	Derry Township	15
Amber Sams	Saucon Valley High School	Saucon Valley	20
Vicki Shroyer	Chestnut Ridge Middle School	Chestnut Ridge	8
Penny Starr-Ashton	Pennsylvania School for the Deaf	School District of Philadelphia	26
Katie Stouden	Peters Township Middle School	Peters Township	1
Angela Tarr	Fort LeBoeuf Middle & High Schools	Fort LeBoeuf	5
Stormy Vogel	North Penn High School	North Penn	23
Krystle-Dawn Willing-Tideman	Northern Lehigh Middle & High Schools	Northern Lehigh	21
Jeff Weiss	Bradford Area High School	Bradford Area	9
Michelle Wells	Mahanoy Area Elementary & Middle Schools	Mahanoy Area	29
Cindy Welsh	K-12 Librarian	Jersey Shore	17
Lauren Zucker	Willow Dale Elementary	Centennial	22

2017-18 Regional Leaders Academy for PA School Librarians

RLA Staff

Steering Group

<p>Mary Kay Biagini PhD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Director ▪ Project Director: Sustaining Leaders Academy, Emerging Leaders Academy 1 & 2 ▪ Associate Professor & Director, School Library Certification Program, School of Information Sciences, University of Pittsburgh ▪ PSLA Outstanding Contributor, 2007
<p>Deb Kachel MS in LS SupvCert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mentor, Coach, Instructor, and Team Leader ▪ Mentor and Instructor, Sustaining Leaders Academy ▪ Mentor, Emerging Leaders Academy 2 ▪ Instructor, Antioch University, WA ▪ Instructor, School Library & Information Technologies Graduate Program, Mansfield University, 2000-15 ▪ American Association of School Librarians Distinguished Service Award, 2014 ▪ PSLA Outstanding Contributor, 2001 ▪ Librarian, Ephrata High School (Retired) ▪ PSLA Outstanding School Library District, Ephrata School District, 2007
<p>Cindy Keller MLS SupvCert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mentor, Coach, Instructor, and Team Leader ▪ Mentor, Sustaining Leaders Academy and Emerging Leaders Academy 2 ▪ Instructor, MS in School Librarianship, McDaniel College, MD ▪ Instructor, School Library & Information Technologies graduate Program, Mansfield University, 2000-15 ▪ PSLA Outstanding Contributor, 2003 ▪ Library Supervisor, Chambersburg Area School District
<p>Nancy Latanision MLS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mentor, Coach, Instructor, and Team Leader ▪ Instructor, Libraries and Learning Technologies, Kutztown University ▪ Regional Trainer, Educator Effectiveness System ▪ Co-author, <i>Possible Examples of How the Framework for Teaching Could Apply to School Librarians</i> ▪ PSLA President, 2008-2010 ▪ Librarian, Susquehanna Twp. School District
<p>D'nis Lynch MLS SupvCert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assistant Director, Mentor, Coach, and Team Leader ▪ Mentor and Team Leader, Sustaining Leaders Academy and Emerging Leaders Academy 1 & 2 ▪ Practicum Supervisor, School Library Certification Program, University of Pittsburgh ▪ Library Curriculum Leader K-12 and International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme Coordinator ▪ Upper St. Clair High School, Upper St. Clair School District (Retired) ▪ Upper St. Clair High School Academics Hall of Fame, 2003 ▪ PSLA Outstanding School Library District Program, Upper St. Clair School District, 1995

Regional Coordinators

<p>Sue Dahlstrom MLIS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ East Region Co-Coordinator ▪ Emerging Leader 2014 ▪ Librarian, Wayne Elementary School, Radnor Area School District
<p>Aimee Emerson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Region Co-Coordinator ▪ Sustaining Leader, 2016 ▪ Librarian, Floyd C. Fretz Middle School, Bradford Area School District
<p>Jane Farrell MLIS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Region Co-Coordinator ▪ Assistant Coach, Sustaining Leaders Academy ▪ Emerging Leader 2014 ▪ Librarian, Dallastown Area Intermediate School, Dallastown Area School District
<p>Leah Lindemann MLIS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ West Region Co-Coordinator ▪ Sustaining Leader, 2016 ▪ Librarian, Blackhawk High School, Blackhawk School District
<p>Kristen Rowe MLIS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ West Region Co-Coordinator ▪ Emerging Leader 2014 ▪ Librarian, Plum Borough High School, Plum Borough School District
<p>Rita Saylor MLIS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ East Region Co-Coordinator ▪ Sustaining Leader, 2016 ▪ Librarian, Wallenpaupack High School, Wallenpaupack Area School District

Mentors, Coaches, and Team Leaders

John Emerick MLS SupvCert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mentor, Coach, and Team Leader ▪ Mentor and Team Leader, Sustaining Leaders Academy and Emerging Leaders Academy 1 & 2 ▪ PSLA Outstanding Contributor, 1999 ▪ Director of School Library Services, Commonwealth Libraries, PA Department of Education (Retired)
Carol Heinsdorf MS in LS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mentor, Coach, and Team Leader ▪ Mentor and Team Leader, Sustaining Leaders Academy and Emerging Leaders Academy 1 & 2 ▪ National Board Certified Librarian, School District of Philadelphia (Retired)
Sue Long MLS, PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coach and Team Leader ▪ Coach, Sustaining Leaders Academy and Emerging Leaders Academy 2 ▪ Consultant, Ohio Department of Education State Support Team 9, Stark County (OH) Educational Service Center ▪ Assistant Superintendent, Akron (OH) Public Schools (Retired)
Bob McConnell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mentor, Coach, and Team Leader ▪ Mentor and Team Leader, Sustaining Leaders Academy and Emerging Leaders Academy 1 & 2 ▪ PSLA Outstanding Contributor, 2015 ▪ Past Member, Board of Directors, PSLA ▪ Librarian, Grove City High School, Grove City School District (Retired)

2/24/2017 10:50 AM