

Adoption Resolution April 7, 2021

Resolution in Recognition of School Library Month in New Jersey

Whereas, the month of April 2021 has been designated nationally as School Library Month by the American Association of School Librarians; and

Whereas, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes that school libraries contribute to the individual growth and development of all students, while fostering both excellence and equity in education; and

Whereas, school libraries provide open access to both print and digital collections that encompass divergent viewpoints, cultures, and experiences and teach students to take responsibility for seeking multiple points of view and a global perspective; and

Whereas, school libraries connect students and staff to ideas and knowledge by providing instruction in the information literacy skills of locating, evaluating, and using information through traditional resources and new technologies, provide literature appreciation activities, and guide and encourage content area and recreational reading to every student; and

Whereas, school libraries nurture the social and emotional growth of students by providing a collection of resources and instruction in order for students to develop knowledge, empathy, responsible decision-making and relationship skills; and

Whereas, school librarians were able to pivot their practice during a time of remote learning to provide assistance to not only their students but also their colleagues and communities as they navigated a new educational paradigm to ensure that schools had the tools necessary to be successful; and

Whereas, school libraries and certified school library media specialists are instrumental in helping schools districts to not only meet New Jersey Student Learning Standards but also prepare New Jersey students with college- and career-readiness skills; and

Whereas, it is both fitting and proper that special recognition be given to school libraries and the role of certified school library media specialists as they prepare students to become active, informed citizens and contributing members of local, state, national, and global communities; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Acting Commissioner of Education recognize April 2021 as School Library Month in New Jersey.