



# Southeast Signal

*News, Events, and Information from Around the System*

## From the Director



As many of you have been reflecting and creating new policies and operating procedures as you move toward lessening restrictions, we've decided to do the same.

As some of you have noticed – we have resumed some of our in-person meetings. These will include restrictions on how many people are in the room to allow for proper distance between attendees, requiring everyone be masked during the meeting, and to follow whatever other restrictions the host library has in place.

I am also now willing to travel to your library to meet with you and/or a small group with the above restrictions in place. An additional change will be that after a “travel day”, I will not go back on the road or into the office for a period of days to minimize chances of accidentally carrying the virus from community to community. With our new phone system in place, you can call the office number and should be able to reach Todd or I without having to guess who is in the office, working at home, or on the road.

Recently I've participated in a portion of a library board meeting via speaker phone & am trying to schedule joining one via web conference for those that want live discussion, but don't feel ready to have someone outside the community come in person.

We would be happy to extend that same opportunity to you as well.

Please don't take this as me advocating to throwing the doors wide open and pretend that there is no cause for concern. Surges are still happening in many of our communities. There are still many people who remain at risk and need library services that help minimize that risk, like being able to have no or low contact pickup of materials available. Quarantine of checked in materials before placing them back into circulation is still recommended.

On that note, please aware that we will reverse course and discontinue in-person contact if continued research suggests we can not continue to do so safely.

### In this Issue:

Page 1—From the Director

Page 2—Calendar

Page 3—CASTL Wrap-up

Pages 4-6—News Around the System

Pages 7-11—Flyers

Page 12—System Spotlight

# Calendar



September 15-October 15, National Hispanic Heritage Month

September 17, NLA Webinar: [Descalating Difficult COVID-19 Customer Behaviors](#)

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

September 19, Talk Like a Pirate Day

September 25, [CASTL, Bruun Memorial Library](#)

National Comic Book Day

September 27-October 3, [Banned Books Week](#)

September 28-October 2, [ARSL Virtual Conference](#)

September 28, National Good Neighbor Day

September 30, [Banned Websites Awareness Day](#)

October, [Teentober](#)

October 1 & 2, Viewing of ARSL Conference at Crete Public Library (please call Joy if interested)

October 4, National Taco Day

October 17, [Nebraska School Librarians Day](#) (see p. 9-11)

October 17, [AFCON Annual Meeting](#) (see p. 8)

# Photo of the Month



The expanded meeting room at the SELS office. Hopefully we will be able to invite you in soon!

# CASTL Wrap-up

## Upcoming CASTL Meetings

*In addition to the CASTL meetings listed below, SELS is also hosting bimonthly Zoom meetings.*

September 25  
Bruun Memorial Library  
Humboldt

October 23  
Crete Public Library  
“Highlights from ARSL”

On August 27th Debbie Aden hosted us for CASTL at Fairbury Public Library. The first topic was COVID-19 and the announcement that all counties in Nebraska move to phase 4 on September 14 unless hospitalizations rise substantially. The question arose, "What if anything, changes for libraries?" And from the news release, it looks like most libraries will make their decisions based on what is best for their community. The most basic guidance remains unchanged: "Regardless of county of residence, recommendations remain for all Nebraskans to continue social distancing, as well as wear face coverings, wash hands frequently, and stay home when sick to help limit COVID-19 transmission..." (<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Phase-3-and-Phase-4-Directed-Health-Measures-Extended-Until-Sept.-13.aspx>)

On the subject of COVID-19, the subject was raised of how you get people back into the library. Patrons often do not yet realize that many libraries are open. Using newspaper articles, Facebook, word of mouth, personal phone calls to those who use the library the most, and simply giving them time to make it back were all discussed as solutions.

Another librarian raised the subject of weeding. It was noted that in some situations a lot needs to be weeded. Good guidelines include CREW, condition, circulation statistics, and other methods.

The topic of library vendors was brought up. Baker and Taylor, Inghram, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Dollar General were mentioned.

ARSL was discussed, and there will be a watch party in Crete. Also, the October 23 CASTL in Crete will be a recap of important takeaways from ARSL.

# Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

To see the list of upcoming classes, [click here](#). Here's what's coming up next:

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration</u>
October 19—October 30	Management/Supervision	September 14—October 9
Nov. 2—November 13	Leadership	September 28—October 23
Nov. 30—December 11	Library Services to Children & Teens	October 26—November 20

# News Around the System

## Central City Public Library Enters Contest

*By Sara Lee, photo by library patron Erin Mankin*

Check out Central City Public Library's entry in the Nebraska State Fair's Statewide Tree Bombing Contest.....The Reading Tree!

Pictured in photo to the right: Lori Hood, Library Aide (left), Sally Bankson, Youth Services Librarian (right).



## Patron “Bombs” Beatrice Public Library

*Provided by Joanne Neemann*

Beatrice Public Library was “bombed” by patron Stacey Prybil for her entry in the “bomb a tree” Nebraska State Fair tree-decorating contest, which was open to all Nebraskans.

# News Around the System

## LPS Hosts MOSAIC Display

*Provided by Joy Harvey*

LPS is excited to share the newest and best titles in multicultural literature with you! The Lincoln Public Schools 2020 MOSAIC is now available for you to view and share. While we will have a small display at the Lincoln Public Schools District Office, we encourage you to view the digital display instead this year.

You can access the digital display at [lps.org/go/mosaic](https://lps.org/go/mosaic).

You may also download the title list [HERE](#).

Thank you for your partnership and we are looking forward to hosting the full display next year.



The poster features a large orange vertical rectangle on the left with the text "You're Invited" in a white script font. Below this, it says "View the Digital Display at [lps.org/go/mosaic](https://lps.org/go/mosaic)" and includes a QR code. To the right, the MOSAIC logo is displayed, consisting of a colorful book icon above the word "MOSAIC" in large, multi-colored letters, with "MULTICULTURAL BOOK DISPLAY" and "Lincoln Public Schools" in smaller text below. The main text of the poster reads: "Please join us in celebrating the brightest and the best titles in multicultural literature. September 21 – October 9, 2020 Lincoln Public Schools District Office 5905 O Street | 1st-3rd Floor Elevator Corridors". At the bottom of the poster is a row of colorful hands reaching up.

## New Phone System at SELS Office

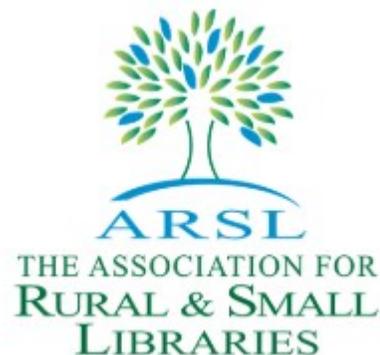
Southeast Library System has a new phone system. The old office numbers (402.467.6188 and 800.288.6063) still function, but you can also call Scott directly at 531.530.3011 and Todd at 531.530.3010. It has also now become possible for us to transfer and receive calls, even when we are out of the office.



# News Around the System

## Notes on the ARSL Virtual Conference

The ARSL conference will last an entire business week, Monday to Friday (September 28 to October 2), with events taking place from **11:00 to 3:15** each day central time. (Last month's newsletter listed the times incorrectly.) The entire conference costs only \$50 for ARSL members. For more information see <https://www.arsl.org/2020-con>. Crete Public Library will be hosting viewing parties on October 1 and 2. If you are interested in attending, please contact Joy at 402-826-3809.



**CENSORSHIP IS A DEAD END.**

**FINN D**

**YOUR FREEDOM TO READ DURING  
BANNED BOOKS WEEK!**

**September 27 - October 3, 2020**  
**[bannedbooksweek.org](http://bannedbooksweek.org)**



Twitter: @BannedBooksWeek • Facebook: @bannedbooksweek • Instagram: @banned\_books\_week

# WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?



**66%**  
Public libraries



**2%**  
Academia



**19%**  
School libraries



**1%**  
Special/prison  
libraries



**12%**  
Schools



Statistics based on  
377 responses

**CENSORSHIP**  
BY THE NUMBERS 2019 [ala.org/bbooks](http://ala.org/bbooks)

## READERS ON CENSORSHIP



Obviously, I'm a Christian, and I take my God very seriously, but if I just simply ban everything that's going to be said about my God or about my faith, then I'm living in my own little, narrow world."

*Pastor on the inclusion of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" on a school's summer reading list*



**CENSORSHIP**  
BY THE NUMBERS 2019 [ala.org/bbooks](http://ala.org/bbooks)

**AGENDA****AFCON Annual Meeting (via Zoom)****October 17, 2020****Current Topics in Intellectual Freedom in Libraries**

Register at <https://forms.gle/WpvcSbYYtQVoACpV6> by October 15 to receive a Zoom link

10:00 AM Introduction by President John Bender

10:05 AM *Public Library Programming: Achieving the Balance* with Vicki Wood.

Public Libraries strive to be inclusive in their program and event offerings. Community pushback and protests can lead to self-censoring and fear of offering programs considered controversial by some members of the community. How does the Library decide what programming to include, and how does it protect the rights of all community members to be seen, heard, and to feel safe in the library, while staying true to the ideals of Intellectual Freedom? *(Includes 10 minutes for questions)*

10:45-10:50 Presentation of Academic Freedom Award to Brenda Ealey

10:50-10:55 Break

10:55 *Balancing the Books* with Devra Dragos.

There are difficult challenges to be faced in building and maintaining a collection of popular eBooks and digital audiobooks for public libraries due to numerous, expensive, and constantly changing publisher models for selling to libraries. *(Includes 5 minutes for questions)*

11:15-11:20 Break

11:20 *The Electronic Academic Library: Licensing Resources Versus Ownership and Implications for Access* with Jim Shaw.

College and university libraries commonly spend 75% to 85% of their acquisition's budgets on electronic resources. That is how they provide access to many thousands of electronic books, research journals, historical archives, and other resources. Many may not appreciate, however, that libraries do not actually own electronic resources, but instead purchase licenses which permit use within certain parameters. For example, academic licenses typically permit off-campus use only to current faculty and students. Non-affiliated persons may usually access resources on computers at the library, but that is not guaranteed. Spending so much on electronic resources necessarily implies that when budgets are cut, some of those licenses will not be renewed and access for everyone is lost. Libraries have been able to leverage electronic resources in ways that provide more to their users than ever, but this new era could prove volatile and create further separation between the haves and have-nots. *(Includes 10 minutes for questions)*

11:50 Annual Meeting



Featured Speaker  
K.C. Boyd  
@Boss\_Librarian

Bio: <https://bit.ly/31gDauP>  
School Librarian  
D.C. Public Schools

NEBRASKA SCHOOL  
LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION  
NEBRASKA SCHOOL  
LIBRARIANS DAY 2020

## So What Are You Going to Do About It?

School libraries and the existence of the school librarian has become a point of discussion for school districts across the country. While some districts respect and support the work of these essential practitioners, other districts have opted to eliminate them. So what are you going to do about it? The time has come for school librarians to fight back with a different message unlike other messages used before. Join K.C. Boyd for a lively discussion on advocacy, activism and effectively fighting against unjust and unfair practices in K-12 education.

**Saturday Oct 17, 2020**

Register:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSLD2020>



# Nebraska School Librarians Day

Saturday  
October 17th

Register:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSLD2020>

9:00-9:30	Zoom Room Opens
9:30-9:45	Welcome & Intro
9:45-10:30	K.C. Boyd Advocacy Presentation
10:40-11:10	Choice Sessions
11:20-11:50	Choice Sessions
12:00-12:50	Lunch, NSLA Business Meeting, Updates from NDE, Giveaways
1:00-1:30	Conversations & Community Submit ?s & topics for discussion sponsored by University of Nebraska Omaha Library Sciences Program



# Nebraska School Librarians Day

Saturday

October 17th

Register:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSLD2020>

## Cost

\$30 Members/\$60 NonMembers  
 \$15 Student Members/\$30 Student NonMember  
 (all nonmember reg includes 1 yr membership)

## K.C. Boyd

So What Are You Going to Do About It?  
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## Choice Sessions

Can't decide which choice sessions to attend? No problem! All Choice sessions will be recorded and available for registrants to view.

## Choice #1

The Googl-y Librarian: What tools can you use to supercharge your library?  
 In this session you will walk away with ideas and tools that you can use in your library tomorrow! We will focus on four tools that you can leverage to increase student learning, literacy, and engagement...whether it's in the classroom or at home

## Choice #2

It'll never work: Innovative school library ideas that paid off!  
 In our ever-changing school library world, sometimes a suggestion for something new is deemed off the wall and met with responses of "It'll never work." This session will be full of innovative school library ideas that paid off for librarians across the state as well as resources to help your own "crazy" ideas come to life!

## Choice #3

How to Genrefy Your Fiction Collection:  
 Are you considering genrefying your fiction collection? This session will provide you the research and a plan to successfully genrefy your library! Easy-to-follow steps backed up by research to increase your circulation

## Choice #4

Creating a Motivating and Engaging Library Environment:  
 Hear about challenges and gains, COVID's repercussions, dancing through politics, and just plain luck

# System Spotlight

## CASTL

CASTL is a monthly meeting where public library directors can get together and learn from one another. Officially known as “Conversations Among Small Town Librarians,” each meeting has a themed discussion or presentation. There is also a round-robin discussion where everyone can share what’s going on at their library, ask questions, and talk about solutions to issues in a confidential setting. And, of course, we eat! CASTL offers you a monthly break from your library and wonderful support from your fellow directors. Normally, a CASTL counts for 4 CE credit. For information on upcoming CASTL meetings check page three of this newsletter and sign up for the CASTL email list by contacting Todd at [todd.schlechte.sels@gmail.com](mailto:todd.schlechte.sels@gmail.com). Currently we wear masks during the meetings and limit the number of attendees to remain safe. In addition, we are currently hosting bimonthly, one hour Zoom meetings.



### Southeast Library System

<http://libraries.ne.gov/SELS/>

Butler • Clay • Fillmore • Gage • Hamilton • Jefferson • Johnson • Lancaster • Merrick • Nemaha • Nuckolls •  
Otoe • Pawnee • Polk • Richardson • Saline • Saunders • Seward • Thayer • York

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