

# 2015-2016 Annual Report

## Sterling USD #376 Library Media Centers

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*Amy Brownlee, K-12 District Media Specialist & Library Director*  
*Sherilyn McPherson, Library Assistant*  
*Kristin Robson, Library Aide      Tracy Mims, Volunteer (fall only)*

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**Our K-12 libraries checked out nearly 32,000 items to students and staff during the 2015-2016 school year. K-8 students passed over 20,000 AR tests.**

**\*\*Our libraries received over \$4,300 in grant funding this year.**  
**\*\*We received \$4,700 in free books from Scholastic Book Fairs.**  
**Total of \$9,000 in library funding from outside sources.**

### **Grant programs / Memorials -- Grants written and administered by Amy Brownlee.**

- SCKLS Programming Grant -- \$500 for books, games, and prizes for *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* activities
- SCKLS Ebook Grant -- \$3,000 for ebooks for our district FollettShelf 2015.
- Midwest Energy Community Fund Grant -- \$500 to purchase high-interest books for SHS, SJH students 2015.
- SCCF (South Central Community Foundation) Teacher Grant -- \$100 to purchase student-requested books for Silent Sustained Reading 2015.
- SCKLS Continuing Education Grant -- \$150 for registration for Kansas Library Conference 2015.

### **Teaching & Collaborating with teachers & community members**

- Taught **library orientation classes** for grades 7-12 students. Taught ebook lessons for grades 7-8 to teach ebook access on iPads, including configuring required apps.
- Taught **daily 60-minute 6th-grade reading literature circles class**. Lead teacher.
- Taught weekly **library skills classes** for grades K-5 focusing on library use, information literacy skills, digital citizenship, and literature enrichment. Completed the **Digital Passport** (digital citizenship) online program with 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- At request of Mary Nielsen, **taught 6<sup>th</sup> graders to create a bibliography** entry for a book, encyclopedia and Web site. Taught 6<sup>th</sup> graders to **search using online periodical databases**.
- Collaborated with Shirley Kenyon to coordinate **public library visits** for grades K-6 to introduce students to the summer reading program and encourage them to read and visit the public library over the summer.
- Hosted **education students from Sterling College** who gave two separate presentations to 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the library. Facilitated author study and poetry presentations.
- Coordinated **Rotary Club dictionary project** for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.
- **Partnered with Sandy Skucius, Food Service Director**, to provide a book cart and reading materials (books and magazines) made available during the summer lunch program.
- Partnered with **Stacy Clark of Main Street Sterling** to bring **local historian Jerry Bourgain** in to speak to 5<sup>th</sup> graders about the history of Sterling Ice Cream.

### **Special events at Sterling Grade School**

- Organized special **Mr. Lemoncello's Library events** for 54 students in grades 4-6.
- Implemented the school's first-ever **Battle of the Books** program for 20 voluntary participants in grades 5-6.
- Organized **Read Across America** celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday. Week-long celebration including literacy activities, dress-up days, a take-home "reading bingo" activity, and a special "green eggs and ham" lunch.
- Two **Scholastic Book Fairs** coordinated by Sherilyn McPherson resulting in over \$5,100 worth of free books and media for the school library.
- **William Allen White Children's Book Award voting** (grades 3-6) and ice cream party for 64 qualified students.

### **Professional presentations**

- **Elementary Library Lessons: My Favorites.** Presented at KASL Annual State Conference, Oct. 1, 2015, Manhattan, KS. Resources available [online](http://librarylessonsks.wikispaces.com/).  
<http://librarylessonsks.wikispaces.com/>
- **Online Literacy and Research Sources.** Presented at Sterling Grade School Learning Communities, Oct. 21, 2015, Sterling, KS. Resources available [online](http://tinyurl.com/nktnhxp).  
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### **Special projects**

- Utilized **parent volunteer** Tracy Mim at SGS during the fall to give Amy time to work on administrative tasks. Library run by volunteer 9 mornings, the equivalent of 4.5 days. Result: cataloging new items, grant projects, updating library web pages and wikis, exploring and promoting State Library resources, etc.
- **Ipad projects** with grades 2-4 students. Used iPad app Audioboo to create photo/audio projects. Also used iPad to view ebooks.
- 5th graders used chromebooks and Animoto to create **book trailer videos**.
- Continued to promote **ebooks through FollettShelf, MackinVIA, Tumblebooks, Scholastic BookFlix, and Britannica estax**. Configured accounts, downloaded and installed iPad apps, prepared access instructions, presented lessons, and shared info with students, staff, and parents through handouts, emails, web page, and district newsletter articles.
- Created **Kansas Library Card** accounts for interested students, staff, and parents. Provided information on benefits of this program, including online access to databases, ebooks, and other materials.
- Trained selected **sixth-grade students as library aides** to help circulate books in the SGS library. Trained and managed Sterling College aides and community volunteers.
- Provided SGS students and parents with **Summer Literacy Activities** resources through newsletter article and wiki page.

### **Other Services**

- Book repair for library and teachers' classroom books provided by Sherilyn McPherson.
- High school laptop cart supervision and checkout.
- Coordination of audio-visual and technology equipment, including video cameras, tripods, TVs, VCRs, DVDs, etc.
- Provide staff with blank media and batteries for classroom and athletic use.

#### **Ebook use statistics for FollettShelf:**

Ebooks read **885** times at SGS

Ebooks read **273** times at SHS/SJH