Other School Library Impact Studies

For more information about recent research on the impact of school library information programs on academic achievement, visit the Library Research Service web site, http://www.lrs.org. Links are provided to:

- The Impact of School Library Media Centers on Academic Achievement (the original 1993 Colorado study),
- Information Empowered: The School Librarian as an Agent of Academic Achievement in Alaska (1999), and

Contact Information

Direct questions and comments about the Pennsylvania study and requests for a speaker on this topic to:

Keith Curry Lance or Marcia J. Rodney
Library Research Service
201 E. Colfax Ave., Suite 309
Denver, CO 80203-1799
Tel.: 303-866-6737
Fax: 303-866-6940
E-mail: klance@sni.net or mrodney@du.edu

Measuring Up to Standards

The Role of Library Information Programs & Information Literacy in Pennsylvania Schools

Keith Curry Lance
Marcia J. Rodney
Christine Hamilton-Pennell

Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries
Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) reading scores increase with increases in:

**Staffing**
- School librarian staff hours
- Support staff hours

**Information Technology**
- Networked computers linking library & classrooms
  - with ACCESS PENNSYLVANIA Database
  - with licensed databases
  - with Internet/World Wide Web

**Integration of Information Literacy with the Curriculum**
- Time spent by school librarians...
  - Teaching cooperatively with teachers
  - Teaching information literacy independently
  - Providing in-service training to teachers
  - Serving on standards committee
  - Serving on curriculum committee
  - Managing information technology

With increases in staffing—especially LIS staffing—there are corresponding increases in:
- Expenditures
- Information Resources
- Information Technology
- Integration of Information Literacy with Curriculum

In addition, increased integration of information literacy is associated with:
- Higher levels of staffing,
- Larger collections of information resources, and
- Information technology that takes the LI program closer to teachers and students

Our library has become a "kid magnet" where students are engaged in active, authentic learning. *Patricia Kolencik, North Clarion High School*

Teachers say to students when faced with a need for information: "have you asked the librarian, have you been to the library,?" Teachers and librarians work together. *Lois McNicol, Garnet Valley High School*

These predictors of academic achievement cannot be explained away by:

**School Differences**
- School expenditures per pupil
- Teacher characteristics (education, experience, salaries)
- Teacher/pupil ratio
- Student characteristics (poverty, race/ethnicity)

**Community Differences**
- Adult educational attainment
- Families in poverty
- Racial/ethnic demographics

When we open before school, students are poring over leisure reading. They've even asked if I would set up a cappucino bar. *Paul Scaer, JR Masterman School*

A computer center ...a library ... teaching -- the result is a student body with good skills. *Annabel Grote, Upper Moreland High School*