

Press Release / VOICE article

Written by Dr. Jessica Thompson, VAASL Scholarship & Awards Chair, 11/3/2022

VAASL School Librarian of the Year: **Rachel Grover**

School: **Rocky Run Middle School**, Fairfax County Public Schools

Region: **Potomac Region**

The Virginia Association for School Librarians is pleased to announce Virginia's School Librarian of the Year for 2023. The award was conferred upon Ms. Rachel Grover of Fairfax County Public Schools. Rachel was presented with this award on Friday, November 3rd at the VAASL Annual Conference in Chantilly. She is the school librarian at Rocky Run Middle School in Fairfax, Virginia.

Rachel is the librarian at Rocky Run Middle School in Fairfax. She completed her library coursework at Old Dominion University. Before taking her current position, Rachel was an elementary and middle school teacher. She also serves as an adjunct for ODU supervising school library student teachers and also mentors new librarians for her district.

Rachel has been a member of VAASL since 2014 and has held several leadership roles in our organization, such as regional director, and members of various committees. She serves on several school committees and has had numerous articles published in School Library Connection and Knowledge Quest, as well as the VAASL Voice and the Knowledge Quest Blog. Rachel has presented both at the state and national level.

Rachel serves as the program administrator for her school library and creates a space that encourages ownership by her students and staff. She has recently won a large grant to revamp a space with both high and low tech which is bringing students and teachers together to utilize the space, prompting critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. Rachel's principal tells us that she exemplifies the exceptional qualities of a learner, collaborator, and a leader and is highly deserving of this recognition.

Congratulations Ms. Rachel Grover, on being named Virginia's School Librarian of the Year for 2023!