THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6th

	Session Title	Session Description	Audience
Session 4 10:00am - 10:45am	Design Standards for Optimized Libraries	Not many of us have design degrees or a construction background. So when you are facing a library construction or a reorganization project what factors should you consider in the layout and furniture selections? This session will look at authentic library blueprints, collection data, and facility processes to make sure that your library's performance is optimized for peak functionality.	All Levels
	Beyond Books & Budgets: Supercharging Your Principal-Librarian Connection	Join this session with an elementary principal (2025 VAASL Administrator of the Year) and elementary librarian to learn how to elevate your principal-librarian relationship. Learn practical strategies for deeper collaboration, solving challenges, and mutual championing. Leave with a roadmap to create a partnership that helps your entire school shine. Bring your questions for open dialogue!	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Using AI to Create a Library Who-dun-it	Learn how we used AI to create an interactive who-dun-it lesson to kick off the ELA mystery unit. Students sifted through witness statements, police reports and other evidence to find the murderer using inference and logic. Using Copilot and a little creativity, we were able to build everything we needed in just two days.	Elementary School - Intermediate Grades Middle School High School
	The Path of the Pictures	Grace Lin talks about her illustration style, and how it has changed and grown over the years to reflect her life.	All Levels
	Essential Learning: How Specialists Collaborated to Increase Acquisition of Key Vocabulary	This session will detail the year-long effort pioneered at Stony Point Elementary, to collaboratively increase students' key content vocabulary through the domains of Art, Library, Music, and PE. Information shared will include: the scope and sequence created, assessments, results, photos, and lesson summaries. Highs, lows, and revision plans for 2025-26 implementation will also be shared.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades All Levels
	Supervisors Round Table	This session will provide an opportunity for Supervisors of Library Services from across the state to come together and discuss current topics trending in library administration.	All Levels
	Centers to Manage Checkout	Discover how to effectively manage elementary students by using engaging centers. This session will explore how choice-based stations promote independence and minimize disruptions during checkout. Attendees will learn practical strategies for implementing centers that support learning, foster collaboration, and keep young learners meaningfully occupied while others select books.	Elementary School - Primary Grades
	What's New in School Libraries? Voices from the Field	Join us for an interactive session where YOUR voice takes center stage. Share what's working in your library—innovative practices, new tools, creative programming, and hot authors—and hear what others are doing. What trends are emerging? Whether you're a veteran or just starting out, come collaborate, reflect, and leave inspired with fresh ideas, favorite reads, and professional connections.	All Levels
Session 5 11:00am - 11:45am	From Archives to Media Centers: Museum-School Library Collaboration Opportunities	Emily Kilgore, WWPL Museum Educator, partnered with schools to provide Librarians with professional development. This collaboration led to fun enrichment programs. We will discuss these programs and Claire Covington will talk about 'books in the library', sharing titles that link children's/YA literature to topics like WWI, animals during war, and suffrage. We hope you will partner with us!	All Levels
	Sidebars: Using Picture Book Nonfiction with Middle/High School Students	Textbook sidebars are SUPPOSED to be interesting...right? Instead, consider using picture book nonfiction in middle or high school classrooms to spark interest, illustrate concepts, introduce key personalities, or model research and writing for an audience. With the wealth of quality nonfiction picture books available today, there is something to liven up every classroom, every subject.	Middle School High School
	Set It and Engage: The Power of Passive Programming	This interactive session will equip school librarians with creative, low-prep ideas to boost student engagement. Discover passive programs that transform your library into a welcoming, dynamic space. Leave with customizable templates and activities designed to spark curiosity—even among reluctant readers—and make your library a place students want to visit again and again.	All Levels
	Meet Me Where I Am	From upbringings, to personality, to learning style, every child is different. We're talking about how to embrace that in a graceful and fun way!	All Levels
	Fixer to Fabulous: Nonfiction Edition	Nonfiction books have risen to almost 40% of my circulation, drawing in many of my reluctant readers. We'll discuss how I revamped my Nonfiction section through organization, weeding and brand new titles. I'll discuss my fundraising ideas, my system of updating sections and LOTS and LOTS of my most in-demand titles. You will leave with next steps to rejuvenating your nonfiction section. Take home new nonfiction titles that will be raffled away during the presentation.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Adopt-a-Shelf Program	Are you looking for way to help older students feel invested in your elementary school library? Adopt-a-Shelf is a great way to get intermediate patrons involved in keeping your collection organized and tidy. Learn how to start an Adopt-a-Shelf Program at your school!	Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	It's a Love Story: Curating Romance Lit for YA and MG	Romance readers are on the rise, so let's talk about curating Romance Lit for our collections! From tropes to HEAs, some favorite reads will be shared along with terms to know as curators when reading reviews and/or social media while making choices for your library collections.	Middle School High School
	15-minute Lightning Sessions		
	Once Upon a Tough Topic	Join us for Once Upon a Tough Topic, a session for librarians exploring how picture books in the elementary school library can support meaningful conversations on life's tougher moments—grief, divorce, anxiety, and more. Learn how to create a panel discussion and Q&A with school families to support students with empathy and insight. Walk away with a great list of read to use titles.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Brick by Brick: Building Research and Innovation Skills in the Library with MinecraftEDU	Discover how Minecraft EDU can transform your library into a hub of creativity and collaboration! Explore engaging project ideas for grades 3–5 that blend literacy, research, and digital citizenship. See student examples and leave with practical tips to launch your own block-based adventures. BYOD to try out Minecraft EDU. (Minecraft EDU is a paid subscription service.)	Elementary School - Intermediate Grades

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	Session Title	Session Description	Audience
Session 6 12:00pm - 12:45pm	Monthly Themes: Celebrate Multiculturalism, Promote Critical Thinking, and Build Community	Library themes can help focus your planning and spur your creativity. They can also be part of efforts to develop a library more representative of and welcoming to the diverse identities and experiences of our communities. We will explore years of monthly themes at elementary and secondary levels and share books, technology and digital resources, activities, programming ideas, and special events.	All Levels
	From Cover to Cover: 100 YA New Releases	Refresh your shelves and ignite your students' reading passions! This dynamic session will immerse you in the vibrant world of YA literature published in the past year. We'll explore approximately 100 titles across a range of genres from captivating mysteries to thrilling graphic novels. Leave with a list brimming with exciting new recommendations to bring back to your libraries.	Middle School High School
	Head, Heart, Hands, & Health: Incorporating 4H into Library Programming	Discover how school librarians and 4-H extension agents can collaborate to design dynamic programming, co-plan lessons, and share resources across rural and urban communities. This session explores innovative partnerships that support youth development, STEM learning, and community engagement through intentional collaboration and shared expertise.	All Levels
	Let's Take the "A" out of Assessments!	In this session we will go over the Guided Activities in Adobe Express to give an engaging way to assess students at all levels in all content areas!	All Levels
	Practical SEL Lesson Ideas for Elementary Librarians	This session explores practical strategies for aligning elementary library instruction with key social-emotional learning frameworks, including CASEL competencies and commonly adopted graduation or learner attributes. Attendees will examine how library time can support students' development of self-awareness, responsible decision-making, and social skills while fostering literacy and inquiry.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	15-minute Lightning Sessions		
Session 7 1:00pm - 1:45pm	Mini Museums, Major Impact: Historical Artifacts, Pop-Up Museums, and Exhibits in the Library	Discover how to transform your library into a dynamic learning space using historical artifacts, pop-up museums, and traveling poster exhibits. This session equips librarians with practical strategies to engage students in historical inquiry, foster critical thinking, and bring the past to life through hands-on, visual storytelling.	Middle School High School
	Little Learners, Big Impact: Creating a Positive Library Environment	Elementary librarians will explore routines, procedures, and behavior strategies to create a positive, structured library environment. Topics include building relationships, teaching expectations, using nonverbal cues, and reinforcing positive behavior.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Top Manga	In this session, Maddie from Manga Mania will be giving her Manga recommendations for the year! Stop by and learn about Top Manga by age group and resources to support your collection development!	All Levels
	Meet the KidLit Authors and Illustrators!	Ten Virginia and DC KidLit Authors and Illustrators will present information about their Author Visits and answer questions. One participant will win a basket of books from several of the presenting authors.	All Levels
	Reframing the High School Library	We're tired and we've narrowed down our fatigue to two things: 1) the myriad student excuses as to why reading is not a useful skill, and 2) disappearing respect. Join us as we lay out our plan to revamp our library this coming year with an overall program we're calling "Reading IRL." We want to show our students that in real life, reading, respect, and work ethic can make all the difference.	High School
	Bin There, Read That: The Power of Thematic Picture Book Browsing	Discover how elementary school librarians transformed their picture book section into a thematic, bin-based system. Learn how they used data, collaboration, and a focus on the student-experience to boost engagement. Attendees will leave with a "getting started" guide and lesson plan ideas. Perfect for librarians looking to reorganize their collection in a creative way that will spark excitement!	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Enhancing Library Media Lessons and School Climate with Video and Photography	Integrating video and photography into library media lessons transforms the learning experience by engaging students, fostering creativity, and building a positive school climate. This session will explore practical strategies for using these tools to enhance library programs, document student learning, and create meaningful connections within the school community	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	15-minute Lightning Sessions		
Session 8 2:30pm - 3:15pm	Bringing Literacy and Library to the Art Classroom	Go beyond displaying art in the library. Collaborate with the art teacher to develop student art academic vocabulary and background knowledge on art-related topics. Learn to use Project Zero Thinking Routines to pull literacy into the art classroom to support research, discussion, and the presentation process, culminating into Socratic Seminars or podcasts. Can be modified for all grade levels.	Elementary School - Intermediate Grades Middle School High School
	A Remarkable Journey: 7th Grade Cross Curricular Project!	What do you get when you combine a great book, an enthusiastic librarian, and an awesome 7th grade English teacher? A fun, cross-curricular project that brings reading to life! Join us to learn how we built an engaging unit around The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise by Dan Gemeinhart and how you can create your own unforgettable collaboration!	Middle School High School
	Diverse Books: VA READS in the Library	Come explore VA READS. Learn about our diverse picture books while we share activity suggestions and provide recommended book pairings for our 2025-2026 picture books. You will walk away ready to share these books with your elementary students.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Maximize Impact: VAASL Inspirations and Innovations	Discover how one idea can spark transformation across multiple areas of your library! From podcasting and AI tools to genrification and graduate coursework, we'll share how we've leveraged single initiatives for big results. Walk away with adaptable strategies, curated VAASL resources, and our search for pioneering technology advancements to enhance student engagement and professional growth.	All Levels
	Teaching the American Civil War: Ideas and Resources You Can Share with Your Teachers	In recent years, the Civil War has often proved problematic to teach in secondary schools. Using information and resources from the Nau Center for Civil War History at the University of Virginia, the American Civil War Museum in Richmond, and other institutions, this session will address the war's main themes and show ways librarians can partner with teachers in both the classroom and the library.	Middle School High School
	Navigating the Intersection of AI, Media Literacy, and Critical Thinking: Empowering School Communities to Inquire and Build Knowledge	This concurrent session will explore the promises and perils of AI, the nuances of community notes versus traditional fact-checking, and how these elements intersect with the AASL Shared Foundation of Inquire.	Middle School High School

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	Session Title	Session Description	Audience
	Creating a Safe and Engaging Online Learning Environment	This session invites you to explore essential resources that support student internet safety and responsible digital engagement. Join us as we develop strategies for fostering digital citizenship, empowering students to navigate the online world with confidence and security.	All Levels
	Bookmarking Success: Dynamic Lesson Planning for Librarians and Teachers	Join us for an engaging and collaborative session where librarians and teachers unite to create impactful, student-centered lessons! Discover innovative strategies to weave library resources and classroom content together, boosting student engagement and information literacy. Walk away with practical ideas, ready-to-use tools, and a renewed partnership that brings learning to life! BYOD	Middle School High School
Session 9 3:30pm - 4:15pm	Drumming Up Excitement for Your Elementary Library	How can you incorporate engaging programming into your crazy elementary library schedule without losing your mind? Join us to hear about some easy and fun ways to drum up excitement for students and staff in the heart of the school.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Spark Imagination with Book Creator	Learn how to utilize Book Creator to engage students in this hands on session. Participants will receive ready-to-use Book Creator templates. Participants will learn the basics of Book Creator and how it can used to spark your student's imagination while being aligned to instructional standards.	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Makerspace, Murder, & More	What do you get when a science teacher comes to the library with an idea? You get research, Makerspaces, ornaments, reading and murder scenes! Learn how science and library can come together for a relevant and creative experience.	Middle School High School
	School Librarianship from A to Z: Fostering Innovation and Growth for Librarians	Explore the full spectrum of school librarianship—from Advocacy to Zines—in this fast-paced session with the AASL President. Discover innovative strategies aligned with the AASL Standards that support growth, collaboration, and learner engagement. Leave inspired with practical ideas to elevate your library practice from A to Z.	All Levels
	The Power of Literature and Art: Enhancing English Language Arts through Reading and Visual Expression	Unlock the power of art-infused literacy! This session highlights how a librarian and an art teacher teamed up to create engaging, standards-based lessons that blend children's literature with visual creativity. Explore innovative ways to spark curiosity, deepen comprehension, and nurture critical thinking in K-5 students. Get ready to transform library lessons into immersive learning experiences!	Elementary School - Primary Grades Elementary School - Intermediate Grades
	Regional Directors Meeting	Regional directors will meet to plan for the 2024 Spring Regional conferences.	
	Author Visits: Getting Organized for a Fantastic Event	Author visits can be an amazing way to connect students to books. Planning them involves big picture and detailed planning. This session will help you develop your own "Standard Operating Procedures" for running an author visit smoothly. Atkins has been a part of author visits both as a librarian and as an author herself.	All Levels
	Empowering Multilingual Learners in School Libraries	Empower multilingual learners! This session provides school librarians with practical strategies across four key areas: dynamic instruction, inclusive programming, diverse resources, and welcoming library spaces. Discover actionable ideas to transform your library into a powerful, supportive hub for every ML student.	All Levels