

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

Session Title	Session Description	Audience	
Session 4 10:00am - 10:45am	Unlocking Student Voice Through Poetry and Play	Poetry can feel intimidating to students, yet it's the perfect medium to express their feelings. The key is getting over the fear of the blank page. Hear about how we've used found poetry and other text manipulatives in a workshop setting to get students writing, and loving, poetry.	Middle School, High School
	Book Repair and Processing on a Dime (In Your "Free" Time)	Kids are HARD on books! Ever feel like no one showed you how to properly glue, repair, and cover books to be shelf-ready (and kid-proof)? We've learned lots of tips and tricks through our decade in the library and cannot wait to share with you! Session includes demo of covering paperbacks and hardcovers with ease, along with how to get the most from your thermal binding machine!	All Levels
	Literature and Primary Sources: The Perfect Pairing for Student Learning	Based on our book, "Literature and Primary Sources: The Perfect Pairing for Student Learning" we will explore ways for librarians to pair literature with primary sources in the library or in collaboration with language arts, English, and ELL classes. We will include ideas for selecting literature as well as finding and choosing primary sources.	All Levels
	Meet the Authors - Elementary	Ten Virginia and DC Authors who write for Elementary Readers will present information about their Author Visits and answer questions. One participant will win a free virtual author visit from one of the presenting authors.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Empowering Growth: Bridging High School and Middle School Libraries	This session explores strategies for seamless vertical alignment, enhancing student literacy, research skills, and a love for reading. This session delves into collaborative approaches, shared resources, and curriculum integration, fostering a cohesive learning journey from middle to high school.	All Levels
	Creating Together: The Intersection of Collaboration and Innovation	Join our librarian and innovative learning coach as they explore dynamic strategies for collaboration in the library. Discover how to create engaging learning environments, integrate technology, and foster a culture of innovation. Perfect for educators and library staff looking to enhance their collaborative efforts.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Passive Programming = Massive Engagement	This interactive session is designed to inspire and equip school librarians with innovative ideas to foster student engagement within the library space. We'll aim to showcase a variety of activities that can be seamlessly integrated into the school library, creating an inviting and stimulating environment for students. You will leave this session with templates to make many of these programs unique to your library space, and activities that will encourage participation amongst even the most reluctant readers. BYOD	Elementary School - Intermediate Grades, Middle School, High School
	Free Place-based, Experiential PD!	Each summer, the National Endowment for the Humanities offers one-week workshops held across the country on different historical topics. The Landmarks of American History & Culture workshops focus on "place-based" approaches to teaching history and the humanities. They offer a stipend to cover travel, food, and lodging. Come hear about my experiences in New York, Chicago, LA, Boston, Philadelphia, the Mississippi Delta and more. Get ready to prep for applying for workshops that will take place in the summer of 2025!	All Levels
	Reading Makes Cents: Featuring STEM Focused Library Lessons	Reading Makes Cents is a K-8 financial literacy program sponsored by VA529 and the Virginia Council on Economic Education that provides free books and student recognition. New titles include "Water Day", "Pa, Me, and Our Sidewalk Pantry", and "The Fabulous Fannie Farmer." Featuring lesson plans, an annotated bibliography, and door prizes.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School
Session 5 11:00am - 11:45am	Telling Your Story	Award-winning author Larry Issa, a Virginia native, shares his insights on self-expression and indie publishing, highlighting the innovative picture books he's crafting. Discover how his engaging author visits, and interactive classroom activities, bring his stories to life, inspiring young minds and fostering creativity.	All Levels
	When Creativity Met Collaboration	The author and illustrator of The When Pencil Met series will hold a session about creativity and collaboration, discussing the creation process behind When Pencil Met Eraser, When Pencil Met the Markers, and When Glitter Met Glue. They will also share some fun activities and lessons that extend the themes of the books to the library and classroom!	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Writing Elementary Science Curriculum for the Library Using the 5E Instructional Model	Finding time to co-plan instruction with teachers is close to impossible for elementary librarians. This session covers how a school division focused their summer curriculum writing time to create science lessons for the library that work with, but independently of, core classroom instruction using the inquiry-based framework of the 5E instructional model. Example units will be shared as part of the session.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Easy Advocacy for Elementary Librarians	Already overwhelmed by all the roles a librarian has to fill and think you never have time for advocacy? Think again! Easy Advocacy for Elementary Librarians will leave you feeling empowered and with easy, integrated ideas you can begin in your libraries next week!	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Science Review Rotation Stations	Learn how two librarians, one department head, three science teachers and an instructional aide worked together to review and remediate over 300 students before each unit test and the SOL. The focus will be on the review stations created by the librarians.	Middle School
	Chronicles of a Rookie Librarian: Lessons Learned in Year One	Being a first year librarian can be exciting and overwhelming! One elementary and one high school librarian will recount their first year in the library, what they wish they knew, and what they are glad to know now. Walk away with ideas and strategies for navigating your first year in the library.	All Levels
	AI Tools for Librarians, Teachers, and Students	This session will include a variety of AI driven tools and strategies.	High School
	Manga Mania!	Manga Mania!--Manga is one of the most popular genres of graphic novels being published and in schools! In this session, you will learn about the history of manga, publishing and ratings, genres of manga, and top titles and series based on grade level. Join in the Manga Mania!	All Levels
	How Google Works in 2024 - The Year of AI	Google is changing to improve search results using AI! Come learn the new features like the results filter that you allow you limit results by type. Be introduced to AI Overviews that offer quick answers and context on the search topic. Finally, learn what Google says about natural language queries.	All Levels

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New Choices for Virginia Libraries: New Circulation System, Fundraising Options, and More with Mackin!	No matter what your school library goals and budget are, Mackin is here to support you! In this session, you'll learn about a couple of brand-new options from Mackin. MackinVISION is our new, state-of-the-art whole school-library management system. Come see an alternative to your current system with the tools and reporting your library needs without all the additional fees. We will also discuss Love My Library, a new fund-raising option where 100% of the funds raised benefit your school community. Bob and Todd will also answer any Mackin questions you may have.	All Levels	
All About Podcasting!	Learn how to bring podcasting to your school as we share about equipment, funding, publishing, and marketing. We will teach you to use podcasting to promote your library, build relationships in your school community, and collaborate with colleagues from all departments. This session is for new and experienced podcasters!	High School	
Session 6			
12:00pm - 12:45pm	Elemental Cross-Curricular Connections: Overlapping Lesson Music and Children's Literature	Come to hear a veteran music teacher who is an Orff-Schulwerk specialist and a librarian who is a former classroom teacher, share the myriad ways that children's literature and music lesson can and should overlap to enhance student understanding in multiple content areas. Participants will leave with specific lesson idea, books lists, and activities to take back to their learning spaces.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Creating Collaboration	Today's school libraries are for more than just English classes. But how to get those other departments into your library? Collaboration! By communicating with all departments and collaborating on curriculum-based lessons, you will see your library grow to be the heart and hub of your school. (BYOD)	Middle School, High School
	How Can Your Librarian Help You	In this fast-paced session, we will discuss specific ways that librarians can help teachers and students with curriculum resources (Ex. Resource Lists, Websites, Activity ideas), and will demonstrate how a teacher and a librarian collaborate to develop lessons. Finally, we will have designated Q&A time with time to discuss how this can look different or be modified for all libraries. BYOD	Middle School, High School
	Blank Brain? AI to the Rescue! (Utilizing AI as an Elementary Librarian)	Are you navigating the complexities of using AI as a Librarian? Get a practical guide to understanding and integrating AI in your work. Explore how to leverage AI tools to enhance teacher efficacy, save valuable time and prevent teacher burnout, all while reducing your anxiety about this new technology. We will explore the basics of ChatGPT, Magic School AI, Diffit and Gemini. (BYOD)	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Interactive Timelines: Merging Research Skills with Artistic Expression	Transform student research into a dynamic showcase! This cross-curricular timeline project integrates research, language arts, social studies, art, and technology. Learn how to guide students in developing research skills, crafting informative slideshows, and creating artistic portraits. Showcase their work on a hallway timeline with QR codes for interactive exploration the whole school can enjoy! Perfect for meeting standards while fostering creativity!	All Levels
	What Do School Librarians Need to Know About Virginia Public Libraries?	Public libraries and schools are logical partners who can best serve their communities by working together. Collaboration is easier when school librarians have a better understanding of current topics in education. Get up to speed on what you need to know to more effectively partner with your local public library.	All Levels
	100 (or more) NEW Books for Middle and High School Readers!	This session will be full of booktalks for MG and YA literature to be added to your middle and HS libraries. All books discussed have been published within the last year, and personally read by the presenters, so come hear about some great new and upcoming titles! Favorites will be discussed and questions about any titles on the list are encouraged. We'll give you the lowdown - highlights and dirt!	Middle School, High School
	Telling the Library Story with Topics and Trends	During this fast-paced, information-filled session we will unpack ten current trends in school librarianship including from building relationships to community engagement to futurecasting to librarians as digital leaders. For each trend we'll explore at least three resources—journal articles, videos, podcasts, etc.	All Levels
	Diving Deeper into Collection Development	Have you been wading through the shallow waters? Unsure how to navigate the deep end? Together we will take the deep dive into Collection Development and Titlewise to investigate the hidden treasures that lie beneath the surface. Take off those floaties, grab a snorkel, and get ready to jump in with both feet	All Levels
	Middle School Collaboration	James Region Librarian of the Year, Crystal Hamlin, shares her favorite collaborative lessons from middle school. This session includes 13 ready to go lessons for Math, Science, History, English, Spanish, and Art. Will feature use of Book Creator, Google My Maps, Amazon Future Engineers, Canva, and plenty of makerspace goodness!	All Levels
	Rural School Library Advocacy	You've heard all the buzzwords and new programs to try, but how do you make them work with no money? Makerspaces, STEAM Labs, flexible seating, videos, and scavenger hunts can be done with very little to no money when you explore community support and become a scavenger of opportunities!	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
Session 7			
1:00pm - 1:45pm	Championing Computer Science in the Library: Practical Integration Strategies	As the demand for computer science (CS) skills grows, integrating CS into core content areas becomes increasingly essential. This session will provide practical strategies, tools, and lessons for school librarians to support CS integration into their programs, and how to incorporate computational thinking, coding, and interactive storytelling. The session will include hands-on activities with platforms like Scratch and Twine, lesson plans, learning resources, and collaborative discussions.	Elementary School - Intermediate Grades, Middle School, High School
	Achievement Unlocked: Cracking the Code to Collaboration	In this session, we will discuss the challenges to establishing and maintaining a collaborative relationship between teachers and school librarians. It wouldn't be much of a session if we didn't offer solutions for those challenges, so we'll do that, too. We've got two librarians, a teacher, and a bunch of ideas. Join us in cracking the code to collaboration!	Middle School, High School
	Transforming Your Library for Any Budget	Ready to update your space, but unsure of where to start? Want to connect with stakeholders to make data driven decisions? Feeling daunted by the work and cost? Come to this interactive session to gather ideas, get a toolkit for feedback and planning and connect with other librarians working through similar challenges!	All Levels
	AUTHOR JASON CHIN	TBD	
	Our Story in Code	This session will focus on how Librarian Jamie Symons and Katie Novinger Instructional Technology Specialist collaborate to bring coding and computer science alive in the Elementary School Library. They will share their story and model and give participants a hands-on opportunity to explore the tools and resources they use with students.	Elementary School - Primary

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Session 7 1:00pm - 1:45pm	A Book for Every Reader: How One District Succeeds with Digital	Learn everything you didn't know you needed to know about district-wide implementation of a digital reading platform. From curating content to managing budget, training staff and promoting across the district, you'll get an inside look at successful strategies to get students reading ebooks and audiobooks at every grade level.	All Levels
	Adventures in AI	Let's talk about our adventures with AI for library planning and instruction! This session will present lessons learned with using AI over the past school year, highlight different types of AI tools for planning and instruction and discuss ways to support student learning about and with AI.	Middle School, High School
	Great Digital Resources	Looking for great digital resources to share with students, peer educators, and fellow librarians? Then this is the session for you. Spend time learning about online tools and resources, bring your devices to play along, and come ready to share ideas in discussion.	All Levels
	So Many Books, So Little Time	Join me for a fast paced, exciting journey through a treasure chest of great titles. During the session I will share some of the most recently published as well as soon to be published titles. The session will include books for all grade levels, a list of books that were shared as well as some book giveaways straight from the publishers! Don't miss out on a fun session all about books!	All Levels
	Diverse Literature: 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. You will walk away ready to share these books with your K-6 students.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate, Middle School
	Designing Learning for Adults: The Elements of Effective Professional Development	Want to provide effective professional development for the staff in your school? Interested in presenting at a conference but wonder how to convey your experience to colleagues? Come to this session to learn the tenets of adult learning theory and some practical ideas to make your PD lasting and effective.	All Levels
Session 8 2:30pm - 3:15pm	Canva for Librarians: Do All the Things	I will be go over all the ways Canva can be used to beautify your library and promote/advocate for the library and also how to incorporate it into instruction. All levels are welcome! BYOD	All Levels
	Game Changers for the Elementary Library	Working daily to create the best library program that supports students, staff, and caregivers? Dynamic programming is Active, Beneficial, Captivating...Xhausting! Join together to discuss these ABC's of an exciting library along with game changing strategies and methods to keep stakeholders engaged. Examples and ideas from our elementary school program will be presented with opportunities for experienced colleagues to share successful ideas.	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Makerspace Fun	Maker activities connect students to books and curriculum, all the while providing fun while learning. This session includes samples of affordable fun activities while highlighting some terrific literature. Come prepared to share some of your favorite literature and activities, too.	All Levels
	Dynamic Diverse Books for Your Library	Step into the world of diverse books with the founders of VA READS! Join us and walk away with a wish list of over 75 book titles! We will share all the amazing diverse middle grade (upper elementary and middle school) titles we read over the past year. We'll share our faves as well as those that miss the mark.	Elementary School - Intermediate Grades, Middle School
	Club Connections	I will share how before school clubs have impacted attendance at our school, how we have connected them to literacy, and also how to collaborate with teachers in new ways to share your passions with students!	Elementary School - Primary, Elementary School - Intermediate
	Planning 2024 Spring Regionals	Regional directors will meet to plan for the 2024 Spring Regional conferences.	
	Station Rotation for Social Studies 7	In collaboration with our 7th grade social studies (U.S. history after 1865) teachers, we have had great success designing learning stations that support the teachers' summative assessments. Our teachers create the essential question and a writing task, and we design posters and puzzles so that students synthesize information and complete a notescatcher. Session participants will leave with activities that cover immigration in the early 1900s and life in the 1920s and 1930s.	Middle School
	Simple Ways to Promote Reading Everyday	As librarians, one of our most important jobs is to promote a love of reading. In this session, we will discuss a variety of simple and effective ways that you can promote reading in your library. We will also learn ideas that you can share with your teachers to encourage them to promote a love of reading with their individual students. Please bring your devices (BYOD) so we can explore some links and websites.	All Levels
	Everyone Belongs @ Our Book Club (Teachers Too!)	Our book clubs (both student & staff clubs) have been continuously improving over the last decade+ and we would love to share our strategies with you! Please come to the session to learn about forming a student and/or staff book club AND get new ideas to increase participation, acquire books and engage your readers!	Middle School, High School