



IMC NEWS



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Featured this month: Siskiyou After School for Everyone

Siskiyou County Office of Education's Jason Singleton and Barbara Freeman recently spent some time at Happy Camp Elementary teaching the SAFE program students how to create models that use solar energy for power. The students worked hard on their projects using K'NEX sets, while learning about alternative energy sources. Below are some of the students at work!



Students from Happy Camp SAFE program building a Sailboat and a Solar Powered Shuttle Ride using K'NEX



The Siskiyou County Office of Education Library now has the "2010 Census: It's About Us" curriculum materials available to interested high school teachers.

This program meets National Curriculum Standards for 9-12 social studies, history, geography, and civics, and includes a full-size map of the U.S. highlighting population characteristics and demographics, as well as a Quick Start teaching guide.

Lessons, worksheets, assessments, and resources to complement this curriculum are available online at www.census.gov/schools

Ten copies are available to the first who respond.



Fall Meeting Follow-Up

Thanks to all who attended our Fall Library Staff Meeting on October 12. We had a great turnout with participants from Butte Valley Elementary, Hornbrook, Montague, Sisson, Etna Elementary, Etna High School, Mount Shasta High School, Weed Elementary, Yreka Union Elementary, and Yreka High School.

One of our agenda items addressed library plans and policies, including a “Request for Reevaluation of Materials” policy that all schools should have in place in the event of a book challenge. We also explored the “Library Evaluation” tool published by the California Department of Education. This tool is helpful in evaluating your current library and establishing future goals.

All of the handouts are available on our website at:

<http://www.sisnet.ssku.k12.ca.us/users/imcftp/public.html>

Sample policies that you can edit to serve the needs of your school or district can be obtained by emailing Anne Hinchcliff at ahinchcliff@siskiyoucoe.net or by phone at 842-8430.

We know that times are hard for all of our schools and we are most grateful for principals and administrators who are working to keep staff in the library—it is our students who ultimately benefit from this support.

School Library Model Standards Update

On March 12, 2009 the California State Board of Education approved the launch of a project to develop California Model School Library Standards. A draft of the proposed standards is available on the CDE website at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/lb/>

This document is available for review until December 18, 2009. In the meantime, two focus groups consisting of County Office Library Directors, Teachers and Teacher Librarians will be convening at two sites November 5 in Sacramento and Orange County to offer suggestions and feedback. The final draft will be presented to the CDE in January.

These standards will be a valuable tool for schools in determining what library skills students should possess at each grade level to support success in all areas of information literacy. We will continue to update you as we receive more information.

"The greatest challenge facing us today is how to organize information into structured knowledge. We must rise above the obsession with quantity of information and the speed of transmission. We must focus on the fact that the key issue for us is our ability to organize the information once it has been amassed, to assimilate it, to find meaning in it and to assure its survival. And that cannot be done without librarians and libraries." ~ Vartan Gregorian