

General Brock Elementary

Library Learning Commons Strategic Plan 2020

Last updated 29 Oct. 2019 by Gwen Doran, Teacher-Librarian

Purpose

This document has been developed in order to guide the Brock school library program for the next year. It is aligned with the VSB district strategic plan, Brock's school plan, as well as the BC Curriculum.

Background

About General Brock Elementary

General Brock Elementary School was founded in 1900. It has grown over the past century and now consists of three buildings providing for approximately 230 students in Kindergarten to Grade 7. Brock is a public neighbourhood school. In addition to in-catchment families attending the school, Brock also is home to a variety of district classes (Learning Support Program, Social Emotional Learning Class - SELC and Intensive French for grades 6 and 7 and two Challenge Centres) some of which Brock students attend.

[VSB Vision](#)

We inspire student success by providing an innovative, caring and responsive learning environment.

VSB Guiding Principles

- Collaboration
- Engagement
- Excellence
- Inclusion
- Transparency

VSB Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Engage our learners through innovative teaching and learning practices.

Goal 2: Build capacity in our community through strengthening collective leadership.

Goal 3: Create a culture of care and shared social responsibility.

Goal 4: Provide effective leadership, governance and stewardship.

Organizational Structure

The school library program is under the direction of the Teacher-Librarian, who reports directly to the school Principal.

The library learning commons serves as a resource for students and teachers by being a learning space focused on student-choice and inquiry, housing and making accessible high-quality learning resources, and has an instructional role through the Teacher-Librarian especially related to traditional

literacy, information literacy, digital literacy, and media literacy. The library is in a unique position having both administrative and curriculum related goals.

Brock School Mission Statement

The school will provide students with a positive, supportive and healthy environment in which to develop a strong feeling of self worth and learn the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to grow and develop to their maximum potential within a multicultural, technological society.

Canadian Library Association Standards for School Library Learning Commons

- Facilitating collaborative engagement to cultivate and empower a community of learners
- Advancing the learning community to achieve school goals
- Cultivating effective instructional design to co-plan, teach and assess learning
- Fostering literacies to empower life-long learners
- Designing learning environments to support participatory learning

International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Statement

The goal of all school libraries is to develop information literate students who are responsible and ethical participants in society. Information literate students are competent self-directed learners who are aware of their information needs and actively engage in the world of ideas. They display confidence in their ability to solve problems and know how to locate relevant and reliable information. They are able to manage technology tools to access information and to communicate what they have learned. They are able to operate comfortably in situations where there are multiple answers or no answers. They hold high standards for their work and create quality products. Information literate students are flexible, able to adapt to change, and able to function both individually and in groups.

Library Program History

Staffing – The Brock library learning commons (LLC) has had relatively stable personnel.

Systems - Two years ago the district purchased a new library management program and migrated all library records to a new system. Loss of circulation data (~10 years of data) from the previous library management system has affected collection management approaches.

Collection – The purpose of the collection is to provide learning resources to support classroom engagement as well as reading materials for enjoyment and building literacy. The collection consists of 10,423 items, of which there are 8,479 unique titles. An active and well-managed library involves typical deselection of items. The average age of the collection is 21 years. These mentioned metrics suggest that the collection needs significant attention.

Library Program Future

The school has hired a qualified Teacher-Librarian who will work to improve the library program by both managing the library's collection of resources and encouraging collective leadership of innovative instruction in the school. The Teacher-Librarian will collaborate with teachers to guide inquiry in the library and in the classroom and develop lessons to improve multiple literacies, especially digital and

informational literacies. The Teacher-Librarian will promote digital resources and tools to develop skills for the world of tomorrow throughout the school.

Goal of Brock Library Learning Commons Program

Brock 's Library Learning Commons (LLC) fosters confident lifelong learners who are enthusiastic readers, skillful inquirers and critical thinkers. The LLC is a collaborative, inclusive, and innovative learning space that cultivates responsible and ethical users of ideas and information.

SWOT Analysis Summary

For a more detailed SWOT Analysis, please see the document "[Brock LLC SWOT Analysis.](#)"

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Welcoming facilities -Good size for school population -Qualified Teacher-Librarian employed -Good VSB-wide systems for cataloguing and discarding materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facilities are aging -Mixed quality and currency of equipment -Collection is both aged (avg. 21 yrs) and worn-out -Few library policies in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strengthen library's support of students through collaboration -Refresh collection -Create and implement new library policies -Improvements to facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Time -Cost -Managing change effectively -Unpredictability of relationship building with staff

Brock's Library Program has a wonderful space with a lot of potential. There are many aspects of the program that need professional attention and care to meet provincial library learning commons standards. With time the Brock Library will be vibrant and supporting student learning fully.

Brock School Goals 2020

GOAL 1: To improve writing skills.

GOAL 2: District-Wide Aboriginal Goal: To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

Specific Objectives for Brock LLC (towards school goals)

1. Improve Writing Skills

- 1.1. To collaborate with teachers to develop students' writing skills in authentic and engaging activities.
- 1.2. To support teachers in leveraging digital tools to motivate and support students in writing.

2. District Wide Aboriginal Goal

- 2.1. To continue to develop its indigenous resource collection and promote the use of indigenous learning materials.
- 2.2. To conduct a deselection project to remove materials with offensive and outdated representations of indigenous peoples.

3. **Collaboration**

- 3.1. To focus on creating positive professional relationships in order to build a foundation for successful collaboration.
- 3.2. To weed outdated material from the collection so that it is consistent with the curriculum, to bring about collaboration.

Executive Summary

The Brock Library Learning Commons seems to have a strong physical space, good use by the school community, and good VSB-wide systems for support. An aging collection and other factors contribute to a somewhat stagnant library program. The next year for the Brock Library Learning Commons should be focused on collaboration with teachers to work towards the school goal of improving student writing skills, as well as to work towards improving the collection to be consistent with the BC Curriculum.

Relevant Legislation

[BC School Act](#)

[Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#)

[BC Curriculum](#)

Note: School libraries are managed by school districts and are outside the scope of the BC Library Act.

Relevant Guidelines

[IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto](#)

[International Federation of Library Associations \(IFLA\) School Library Guidelines](#)

[Leading Learning: Standards of Practice for School Library Learning Commons in Canada](#)

British Columbia Teacher-Librarians' Association (BCTLA):

[BCTLA: From School Library to Library Learning Commons: A Pro-Active Model for Educational Change](#)

[BCTLA: What Is A Teacher-Librarian?](#)