



Submission to the House Committee Inquiry into school libraries and teacher librarians.

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The future potential of school libraries and librarians to contribute to improved educational and community outcomes, especially literacy.

- Teacher librarians make a difference to the quality of school's educational program. At North Sydney Demonstration School we believe that the role needs to be resourced at a level commensurate with the significant responsibilities involved. At the centre of rich educational settings is a library and librarian that ;
 1. promotes literacy within the school framework,
 2. selects resources to support the literacy needs of the school,
 3. teaches information literacy through text and digital media,
 4. provides staff with resources and information which supports their development as teachers and educators throughout their career ,
 5. facilitates student discussions and assists students to use literature to become productive and compassionate citizens,
 6. to support teachers and students in becoming information literate
 7. manages and budgets for collection development which ensures currency relevance and lack of bias.
 8. networks across communities of schools

The factors influencing recruitment and development of school librarians

- Teacher librarians have a significant role to play in the achievement of literacy outcomes within and across schools. To do so however they need to be provided with the meaningful opportunities to assist in the development and implementation of school management plans.
- Career progression beyond the management of a school library needs to be mapped and supported.

The impact and potential of digital technologies to enhance and support the role of school libraries and librarians.

The school's ICT capabilities should be part of the 21st Century library with the modern teacher librarian familiar with and driving innovative information practices.

There is sense that the advent of new technologies has driven TL professional development in recent years. The best practice teacher librarian is motivated and capable of leading new developments in resourcing and developing the digital library of the future.