

2010-2011
**Annual
REPORT**
Learning Resource Center

Introduction

It was another successful year in the WEGO LRC. We continue to make progress in our department focus areas: promoting reading, teaching information literacy skills, helping teachers integrate technology in their classroom and providing excellent customer service and resources to support the work of students and faculty through our LRC, school bookstore and AV departments.

This year we continued to have success partnering with classroom teachers to teach students the research and thinking skills they need for the 21st century. We provided hours of technology professional development for teachers and promoted reading through visits from NY Times bestselling authors and other efforts. Overall, it was a successful year. A summary of these efforts are in the following pages.

During the 2011-12 school year, we plan to involve our school and community in a strategic planning process to help us set long term goals that will help us serve our students and staff even more effectively.

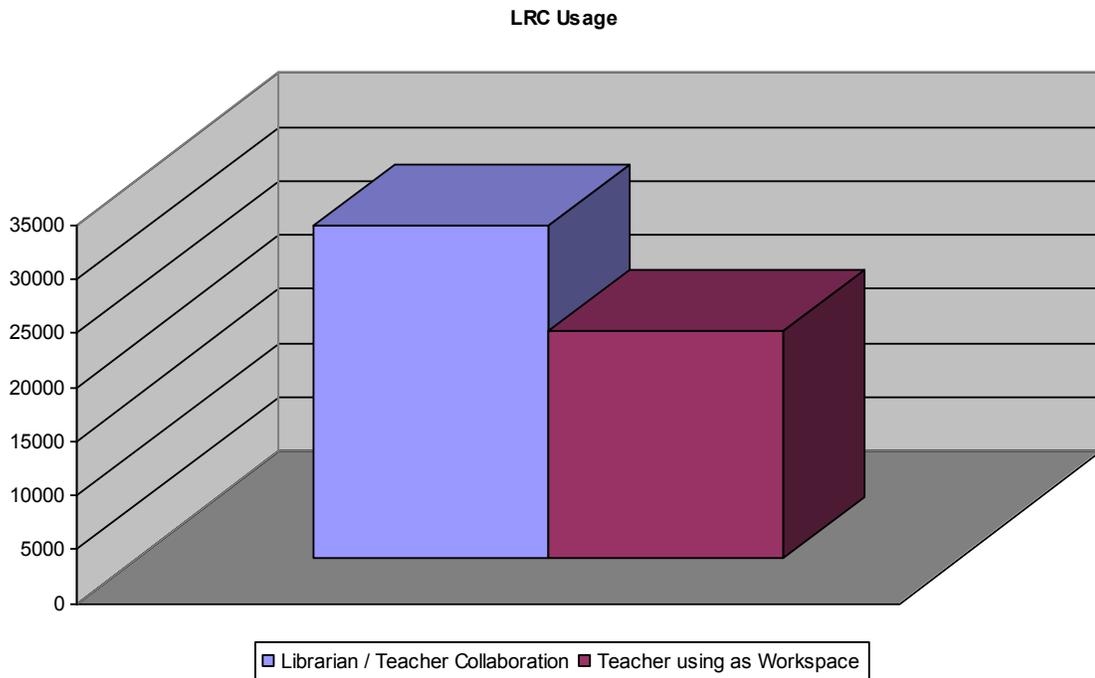
If you have any questions or comments, please send them my way at ebodwell@d94.org. You can also visit our website at <http://wegolrc.blogspot.com>. Your feedback is always appreciated.

Eric J. Bodwell

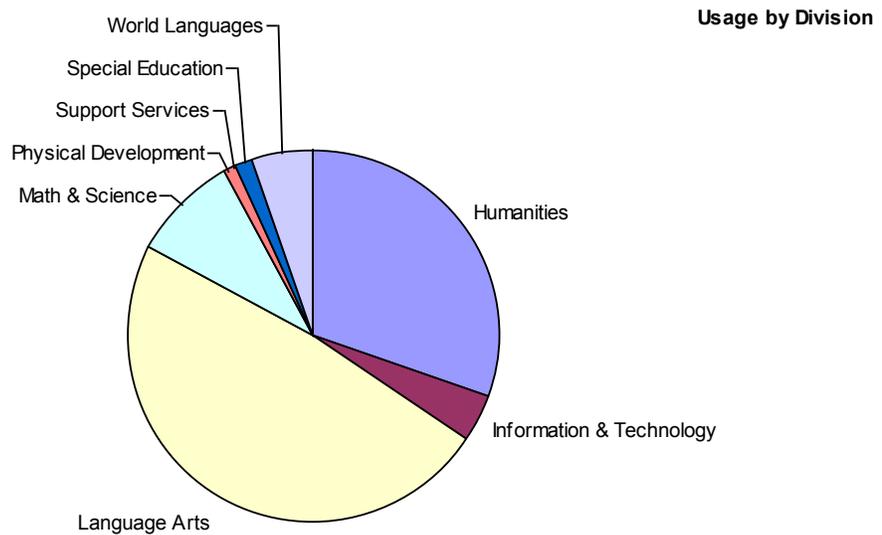
WEGO LRC Director

A snapshot of the LRC usage this year.

The LRC Usage shows how many contact hours we had with students in classes that signed up to use the LRC. The second chart shows usage of the LRC by academic division.



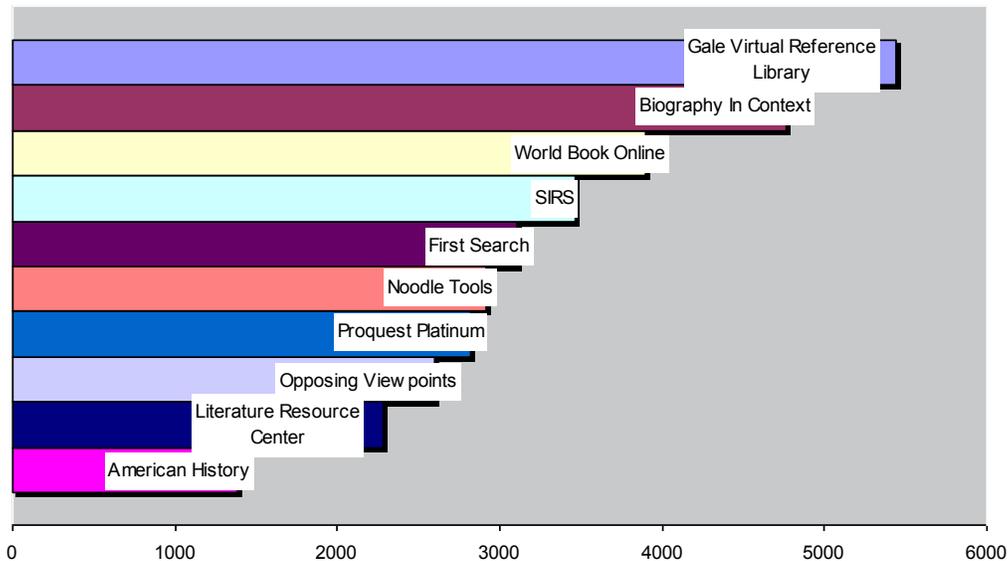
■ Librarian / Teacher Collaboration ■ Teacher using as Workspace



■ Humanities ■ Information & Technology ■ Language Arts ■ Math & Science
■ Physical Development ■ Support Services ■ Special Education ■ World Languages

Information Literacy

Top 10 Databases by Usage (Number of Logins)



Information Literacy: the skills needed to be able to effectively find, evaluate and use information in all media environments. These skills are necessary to thrive in the Information Age.

A large part of our work in the LRC involves collaborating with English teachers to teach skills from our PLAN information literacy embedded within key assignments in their curriculum. Lessons include source citation, information search skills, and website evaluation.

We also provide high quality fiction and nonfiction resources in print and electronic formats that support all school assignments. For other teachers who just need computers so their students can type, and for other assignments where teachers do not need our expertise, we provide a flexible work space with computers, work tables and a customer friendly staff to help support them.

In addition to classes, we host space for more than 100 students per day before school, during study halls, lunches, and after school through the after school tutoring program that is co-hosted by the World Languages department. Throughout the day, we strive to serve as many students as possible and do our best to keep the LRC open and available for productive student use.

For a complete list of logins and searches done this year for all of our databases, visit <http://bit.ly/wegolrc1>

Technology Integration

Web 2.0 refers to websites that allows users to create and interact with web content. For example, weblogs, wikis (like Wikipedia), and social media sites like facebook are considered Web 2.0 websites.

We help to integrate technology into the classroom in two ways. We teach technology staff development workshops on a regular basis and we collaborate and plan with teachers to implement technology enhanced projects in their curriculum.

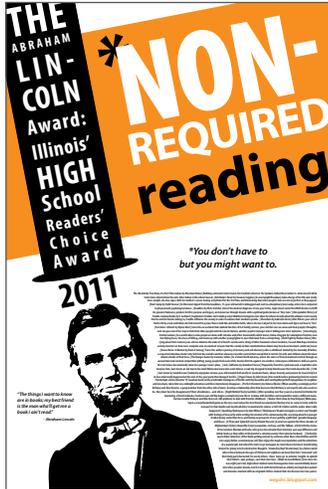
Eric worked with Chris Covino to present a series of workshops during our late start staff development days this year. They used a hands on approach to introduce teachers to Robert Marzano's 9 instructional strategies and how to implement the strategies using Web 2.0 tools. Eric also presented a workshop with Allison Baxter about using the website Wikispaces in the classroom during the November Institute days.

As a result of the workshops, a number of classroom teachers decided to explore the use of the tools from the professional development workshops, as well as other tools, in their curriculum this year. The LRC staff worked with many of these teachers and projects that included Web 2.0 tools such as Glogster, Google Apps, Prezi, Animoto, voicethread and several other tools.

Eric was asked to make a presentation to the school board about the use of technology in the classroom. He worked with several classroom teachers to create short videos where the teachers explain how they use specific web tools in the classroom. The videos will soon be available on our Web 2.0 resource website, WEGO 2.0 (<http://wego2point0.wikispaces.com>). Eric presented the videos during a Board of Education meeting.

The LRC acquired sets of handheld video cameras (Kodak Zi8) and digital audio recorders (Olympus DM-520) for teachers and students to use for classroom projects. We also purchased video/image editing software (Adobe Premiere / Photoshop Elements) for students to edit the video projects. Several teachers have started to use the equipment and software in projects. We provided support for these teachers as needed. They have reported that they have had successful experiences. In the future, we will develop workshops on using the equipment and software to help more teachers integrate this technology in their classroom.

Reading Promotion



*Abraham Lincoln Award
2011 Poster*



*Abraham Lincoln
Award 2011
Bookmark*

We use a variety of methods to promote an interest in reading throughout the year. In addition to regular reading promotions and book displays, we participate in local and national events to promote literacy.

11,050

items checked out by students and staff during this school year.

Abraham Lincoln Award

The Illinois School Library Association (ISLMA) sponsors the annual Abraham Lincoln Award. High school students statewide nominate, read and vote on their favorite book from 22 books nominated that year. This year's winner was *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins.

We developed a marketing campaign aimed at promoting awareness about the award among students and teachers. Eric's wife, graphic designer Laura Kivisto, donated her time and talent to help us develop classroom posters and bookmarks to help promote the award throughout the school.

With a grant from the school's Educational Foundation, we were able to get a number of posters and a hundreds of bookmarks printed at the beginning of the school year. In addition, we featured web based book trailers (like movie trailer, but for books) from publishers on our blog and promoted the books through classroom visits. Because of the campaign, there was a greater awareness about the award among teachers and students.

Book Displays & Book Reviews



Banned Books Week Sept 2010

We create a number of themed book displays throughout the LRC every year. Student book reviews and suggested reading lists are hosted on our website.

Breakfast Book Club

Donna Leahy also hosts the Breakfast Book Club once a month in the LRC. Check out the book club website for more information.

<http://wegobookclub.wikispaces.com/>

Read Across America 2010

Over 700 students participated in the Read Across America events on March 2nd to promote literacy.

Read Across America is an all day national event sponsored by the National Education Association. It is celebrated each year on March 2nd in honor of Dr. Suess' birthday to promote literacy.

This year Donna teamed up with the English department to host our own celebration. Close to 700 students attended the event throughout the day.

Students spent the class hour in silent reading while the last 10 minutes of class were saved for a raffle, popcorn, and open microphone readings. On stage performances included a rapper,



An open mic performer shares one of his original rap songs.



Students engrossed in good books with drinks and popcorn.

some poetry reading, and of course our very own Cat in the Hat (Mr. Begovich), who read aloud. The Transition Center got involved by popping popcorn for the event. About a dozen teachers and students dressed as their favorite literary character.



Students read in the LRC on March 2nd.



Winner of costume contest dressed as Edgar Allan Poe with a Raven puppet.



Students dressed up as characters from their favorite book series—Rick Riordan's Percy

Author Visits



Jennifer Donnelly



Carrie Ryan

For the past few years, we have been hosting visits twice a year from bestselling young adult authors. Authors that are on book tours and will be signing at Anderson's Bookshop have free time during the day. So, Anderson's partners with publishers to send authors to local schools for free. Author visits are granted on a first come first served basis, so we assertively advocate for author visits from authors that we know our students would love to see here at WEGO.

Our goal is to promote a love of reading, but there are often curricular connections as well. During 1st semester, Jennifer Donnelly, author of *Revolution*, spoke to a crowded auditorium about her historical novel that, at least in part, gives teens a glimpse of life during the French Revolution. Other times, an author just puts together a well-written story that gives students a compelling story. Carrie Ryan, author of *The Dark and Hollow Places*, was here to talk about the third book in a series about life in a post-apocalyptic, zombie ridden world.

Both authors generated a lot of enthusiastic questions and positive feedback from students and teachers about the writing process and their books.

Carrie Ryan Visit



Ryan signs books and chats with an admiring fan.

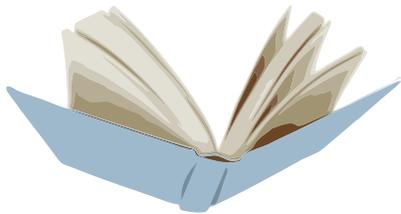


Ryan was excited to see students had checked out all the copies of her books from the LRC after her talk.



Cynthia, one of our student interns, create a great display for the visit. Mrs. Ryan loved it and asked us to send her a picture of it.

AV & Bookstore



\$32,787.80

Total Revenue from the LRC Bookstore 2010-2011

BOOKSTORE SALES SUMMARY 2010-2011

Art	\$667.50
Business	\$2,089.00
General.	\$1,423.85
Drafting	\$589.25
English	\$7,129.00
ESL	\$1,118.00
Foreign Language.....	\$13,095.00
Photography	\$6073.50
Social Studies	\$218.20
Math.....	\$384.00

AV Department



The AV department set up equipment 133 times this year for school events and 89 times for teachers who needed the equipment for a lesson.

during the course of the school year. She replaced 152 printer/toner cartridges and edited 53 student book reviews on the LRC website.

For a complete list of AV numbers, got to <http://bit.ly/avnumbers>.

Susan laminated 8948 pieces for teachers and students

Community

For the second year in a row, we worked with local librarians from local libraries to keep the LRC open later during 1st semester finals in January. Amanda Ghobrial, Young Adult Librarian at West Chicago Public Library and Katie Clark, Young Adult Librarian at Winfield Public library helped staff the LRC along with Donna and Eric. We provided food and drinks and gave students an area study for finals or finish projects. We had 178 students in attendance over 3 days. Amanda and Katie also helped staff a table along with Eric on 8th grade open house night. We introduced new students and parents to both the LRC and public library programs.

We also worked with Amanda on a project that involved having some of our students visit the middle school to promote the public library's summer reading program and other programs for teenagers to 8th graders at West Chicago Middle School. Our students also talked to the 8th grade students about new, high interest books to promote pleasure reading. This is the second year we have worked with Amanda on this program and it was a hit.

Professional Development

Our librarians regularly participate in library and technology conferences. This year Donna and Eric attended the Illinois Computing Educators Conference (ICE) in St. Charles. Eric and 5 library media specialist colleagues presented at a workshop at ICE called Igniting 21st Century Learning. The workshop was a panel discussion about using technology in school library media program.

Donna attended the International Dyslexia Association branch conference in Wisconsin. She also completed a graduate course called Teaching Students to Use Critical Thinking Skills With Technology. During the DuPage Countywide Institute day she attended a workshop at the Morton Arboretum library. Donna also took advantage of some virtual professional development opportunities in the form of webinars. She attended: Doing more with less: Training up in tough economic times presented by Polaris Library Systems, Personal Learning Network presented by Illinois Computing Educators, an Advocacy Workshop with speaker Stephanie Vance and 4T VirtualCon: Teachers teaching teachers about technology sponsored by University of Michigan.

Eric achieved his National Board of Professional Teaching Standards certification in Library Media on his first attempt. Only 40 percent of the applicants pass on the first try. He also participated in a Level 1 CRISS training offered by the district. Eric also attended the Illinois School Library Media Conference.

LRC Goal Report

Below are several goals that we set for the 2010-11 school year.
A report on the progress of each goal follows each goal statement.

■ Increase the number of booktalks, promotional videos, suggested reading lists and other targeted marketing efforts.

We used a grant from the Educational Foundation to develop marketing materials to promote the Abraham Lincoln Award. We increased the number of booktalks in classrooms as well. We still need to make a formal plan for increasing the number of reading promotion activities with all students.

■ Develop a plan for using our websites to share information about information and technology trends, promote reading, and teach technology and information skills to students and teachers. This will include, but not be limited to, use of our blog, interactive tutorials and videos.

We started to experiment with web based tutorials and blog posts related to web based classroom resources for teachers this year. We will continue to experiment with self-paced multimedia teaching tools in the future since the ones we created seemed to be a success. After a web based survey given to teachers and administrators, we decided to plan to distribute an e-newsletter starting next year that will share news, resources and other information.

■ Complete the conversion of our call numbers to reflect current standards. This will allow us to streamline our material processing, make it easier for students to find materials and for the catalog to work more efficiently.

Over the past two years, our staff worked hard to convert the majority of shelf call numbers in the electronic catalog and on our book spine labels, with the majority of the conversion having been done this

year. We have a small part of the LRC collection still to convert next year. After the completion of this project students and staff find be able to find books on our shelves easier. We will also take advantage of library processing provided by our vendors, a potentially time and money saving service.

■ Support the district's 5 year initiative by developing a collection of print, website, and video resources covering related topics.

With special district funding provided by Dr. Cheng, we acquired, cataloged and promoted the use of a collection of books and DVDs that support the districts professional development initiative. These materials allowed the trainers and participants to do more in-depth study of Understanding by Design, CRISS, SIOP and other topics addressed as part of the district initiative.

■ Continue to refine our PLAN curriculum. We will work with all teachers to implement the curriculum.

We worked with a number of English teachers to implement this curriculum as part of major research projects across grades 9 through 11. We will work with the English department to further refine the curriculum and associated lesson plans in the next year.

■ Create a collection map document that will help communicate the connection between our collection and the school curriculum.

We developed a plan we will put into effect next year that will allow us to create a collection map and plan for future development of the LRC collection.

For Next Year - During the 2011-12 school year, we will undergo a formal strategic planning process to develop long term goals for the program. We will continue our efforts to increase the information literacy of our students and staff, to promote reading, and to help to integrate technology in the school curriculum.

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