

A GUIDE FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

Reflect and Refresh



Getting Started with the *National School Library Standards*



What Should I Know?

- The *National School Library Standards* reflect an evolution of AASL learning standards and program guidelines, now referred to as “standards” for learners, school librarians and school libraries.
- Familiar elements from previous AASL Standards are retained, including the Domains—**Think, Create, Share, and Grow**—for interdisciplinary thinking and learning.
- Three parallel sets of standards articulate Competencies for the **learner** and the **school librarian** and form a framework that includes Alignments for **school libraries**.
- The Shared Foundations of your practice—**Inquire, Include, Collaborate, Curate, Explore, and Engage**—anchor the standards frameworks and are elaborated through statements of Key Commitment.
- The learner Competencies and a variety of multimedia materials—videos, infographics, flyers, social media content, messaging tools, and performance tasks—are available on the AASL Standards web portal.



What Should I Do?

- **Reflect.** Before you open the book or look at the AASL Standards, reflect on what works in your school library and with your students’ learning, as well as on areas or skills that may need improvement.
- **Read and explore.** Read the *National School Library Standards*, explore the supporting materials on the AASL Standards web portal, and keep your reflections in mind.
- **Prioritize.** Identify which standards will help you address the areas for improvement that you identified before exploring the new material. Determine which standards will help you see new opportunities for growth. Prioritize one or two standards goals to tackle first.
- **Reflect.** Determine how manageable your priorities are. Assess how the standards align with the priorities you identified. Be sure to outline any additional strengths or areas for further development that you noted while exploring the standards.



What Should I Share?

- **Invite your librarian colleagues** to learn about the AASL Standards and start collaborating on your local priorities via the AASL Standards web portal.
- **Share the web portal with your administrator** in your next meeting, and begin a conversation about how your school library’s goals align with school and district priorities.
- **Talk with a key teaching colleague** about which of the Shared Foundations will speak most to your faculty and staff.
- **Include a link to AASL’s parent flyer** in your next school library newsletter social media post, and on your school library website.

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