

The Library as a Resource Hub

The library can be thought of as the resource hub for the school.

A variety of learning activities take place in the library. Students come to the library to read, to check out books, to learn library skills, to use the computers and to complete research projects.

Please do not think of the library as a place to send students with no educational purpose.

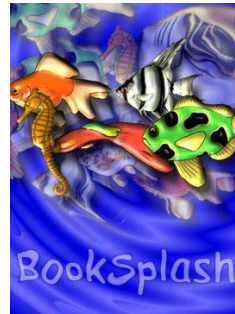
The library has an educational purpose, and so should each of the students coming to the library. Fortunately, given our high expectations here at Graham High School and the high quality of our students, it's a rare moment when the students don't have an educational purpose, so you won't find it difficult to meet this requirement.

Professional Resources

The library is also a resource for your continuing education.

In the Teachers' Resource Room off the library you will find professional journals, books and videotapes.

We have some on-line access to professional journals through our county subscription to GaleNet. Check the school web site Professional Resources page at tazewell.k12.va.us/schools/ghs/ to access GaleNet. I can also provide you a password to access GaleNet from home. Just ask.



BookSplash

BookSplash is the reading promotional program based out of the library. Research supports the intuitively obvious fact that students become more adept at reading by extensively practicing reading at or just below grade level.

A separate flyer on the BookSplash program is included in this package. I hope that you will encourage your students to take part in BookSplash. Students will perform better in your class if they do increase their reading expertise and decrease their fear or dislike of reading through BookSplash participation.

Technology and the Library

You may have been wondering what is meant by my second title of Instructional Technologist. This field is a relatively new one requiring a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with specialization in instructional methods and how they can be supported by technology.

In practice, I serve as your first line of technology support. If you need to borrow equipment for use in your classroom,

you'll find it in the library. We have available a DVD player, an LCD projector, VCRs, CD and Cassette players, overhead projectors, and all of the older equipment from the pre-VCR era.

If you have computer problems, want to install a new program, or need help using a piece of software or equipment I can help you.

I am your point of contact with the Technology Team in Tazewell. Unless the authorities in Tazewell have told you to contact someone else directly you should go through me for all technology repair requests. I can either handle your requests personally or post your them to the Technology Support Board where they not only get the attention of the appropriate technician quickly, but are more certain to receive prompt service thanks to the system of checks and balances that ensure that each member of the team knows what has and hasn't been done.

I also attend and have input for our school at the meetings where decisions are made concerning what equipment will be purchased each year, so requests for new equipment should come to me or to members of my Technology Advisory Committee (Want to get involved? That's one of the committees you could serve on!)

Finally, I provide formal technology instruction for students and teachers. I hope that you and your classes will call on my expertise.

Collaboration and Communication

One of my chief responsibilities is to be there to collaborate with you on planning, teaching and providing guidance for student learning when that learning involves either the print materials or the on-line resources available through the library. You will find forms in this packet for requesting library time and my collaboration. Please use them.

I will also be scheduling an individual appointment with you to meet during your planning or another convenient time in the first weeks of the school year. I'd like to spend that meeting discussing how the library can serve you and giving you a tour of the library.

Please feel free to come by the library and talk to me also. To easily learn whether I am busy at a particular time, you can access the library schedule on-line by clicking the Library Schedule icon found on each teacher's computer desktop.

I also encourage you to communicate with me through notes and especially through e-mail (See the handout in this package on Internet and E-Mail Certification for Tazewell County Schools to learn more about how to get your school e-mail account.)

You're also welcome to visit with me during my lunch. I eat either in the Teachers' Resource Room or in the main library so that I can keep the library open during that time.

Some Other Miscellaneous Services From the Library

GNN²

Our morning announcements and news show are broadcast from the library. Please send me any information you would like to have included, such as times of club meetings, info on special events, reminders for students, and congratulations messages to award winners. Please send announcements to me as early as possible. If you have a class that would like to perform in some way on GNN2 that is also welcome. And with enough lead time I can prepare advertisements for fund raisers being conducted by your clubs.

Graham High School On-Line

I also coordinate the school web site which is found at <http://tazewell.k12.va.us/schools/ghs>

Please submit schedules of events, award winners, and other information you would like to have featured on the web site to me by the fifteenth of each month to have the information included in the next monthly update to the web site.

Other Info in this Package

You'll find several other handouts in this package that will give you information you need in more depth. I hope they will be helpful to you as you join the faculty of Graham High School.

Welcome!

Library Matters

Volume 1A, 2003/2004

Special Welcome Edition for Our New Faculty



Deb Waugh, Librarian and Instructional Technologist

(Fashion Note: My hair is brown now.)

Welcome to Graham High School! It's great to have you on board. This newsletter is designed to familiarize you with the library and what services it has to offer you.

Keep in mind that you can play an active role in the purchase of materials and scheduling of time and facilities for the library. I hope that you will volunteer to serve on one of the library advisory committees.

*Thanks,
Deb Waugh,
Librarian and
Instructional Technologist*