**Jenn McMahon’s Board Presentation**

**Script**

**To view my Prezi, click on the link below. The script follows the link.**

[**http://prezi.com/1jmddjuvg5an/**](http://prezi.com/1jmddjuvg5an/)

As you view the Prezi in presentation mode, this script will follow the path of the presentation.

**Title Screen: What’s Happening @ Your Library**

This will be on screen as presentation begins.

**Introduction**

The library your children use every day is not the same library you or I grew up with. Gone are the librarians that simply say Shhhhhh all day long and check out books. Today, libraries are active, involved places for students and teachers to collaborate with each other, study, work on projects, and more.

I started teaching 7th grade Language Arts and 8th grade Literature in Gillett in 1997. I taught those classes until January 2005, when I moved into the library. My move to the library was not a decision I made lightly. Instead, I visited other successful and active libraries to see what our library needed to be. I saw a real need in our district to have a certified Library Media Specialist who was going to do more than put in her time. The more I learned about what libraries are today, the more interested I became. I’m taking my grad classes through the UWSSLEC consortium at UW-Whitewater. I have never regretted my decision to go back to school and move into the library. Although I enjoyed teaching in the classroom very much, I know I have now found my true passion – collaborating and working with teachers and students throughout the district to increase student achievement.

**Student Achievement**

This is where I will include information on the Wisconsin study that shows a strong library media program increases student achievement. I would include data from our MAPS scores (Math and Reading) and our WKCE test scores.

**Collaboration**

**Collaboration** is essential in a strong library media program. Since starting this position in 2005, I’ve started several collaborative projects with teachers in the elementary, middle school, and high school. Including:

**ABC Book** – this is a project I do with the three first grade classes each year. Students use problem solving skills to devise a way to make the alphabet with their bodies. Students use digital cameras to take photographs of each other for the alphabet book. Students also use Kidspiration software, navigate the computer network, and their writing skills to create their book. At the end of the project, each student gets his/her own copy of the class book to take home and keep. I’ve brought a sample with me if anyone would like to look at it after the presentation.

**Electronic Book Talks** – This project is done in collaboration with the third grade teachers. Students each choose a book to read and write a short book talk about. A book talk is an advertisement for a book. Students use the Photo Story program to create their electronic book talk, writing their script and recording their voices to create their product. Once finished, the book talks are loaded onto our circulation software – Destiny – so they can be viewed by other students who are searching for books to read.

**Biography Project** – This is a project I do with the fifth grade teachers. I book talk various biography books that we have in our library. Students then choose a book to read and then create a puppet of the person they read about. For their final project, students “interview” their puppet about his/her life. Puppets are then put on display in the library for other students to see and admire. This is just one example of an Eleanor Roosevelt puppet.

**Creative Writing** – Each year, Mrs. Rousseau’s’ high school creative writing class uses the elementary IMC to rediscover children’s books. After using the elementary library to check out popular children’s stories, the high school students then write and illustrate their own and share them with our own elementary students. This is a popular project for the high school students and our elementary students get to enjoy the rewards of the high school students’ hard work

**Life Skills, Choose-Your-Own Adventure Stories, etc.** – There are so many other collaborative projects that I work with other teachers on. There simply isn’t enough time to discuss them all. I have brought samples of the student work that has been a result of these projects. If you would like to see any of them after the meeting, please feel free to ask.

**Programming** – Programming has become another big aspect of the role of Library Media Specialist. Since starting in the position, I’ve created a lot of new programming options for students and even their families to participate in, including:

**A Mock Election** during the presidential election

**A Storyland Museum** where students get to promote their favorite book in a “museum” in the library

**Middle School Book Club**, which is a great opportunity to connect with middle school students as we talk about literature we’ve all read.

**Camp Read-a-Lot** is an annual day-long activity that celebrates reading. Each year, for one day, our elementary school transforms itself into Camp Read-a-Lot, with morning performances by Tom Pease, a camper’s lunch, and various camp sessions in their afternoon. Every teacher in the elementary school reads different children’s books and creates fun activities surrounding the books. This is an activity students look forward to every year.

**Battle of the Books** – We affectionately refer to this program as BOB for short. In 2008, I brought a BOB program to the Gillett School District for the very first time. BOB is a nation-wide program where students form teams, read an assigned list of books, and then compete in a trivia-like competition about what they have read. Last year, we had three teams. This year, we have five. I’m hoping to continue to increase student participation each year.

**Family Read In** – This is a night during the PTO Book Fair where I do some programming and then students and their families, in their PJs, get to curl up and enjoy some family reading time.

**Read across America Day**, and an annual event sponsored by the National Education Association, is a day to promote reading for all.

**Author Visits and Writer’s Workshops** – We’ve been fortunate in the five years since I’ve taken the position to be able to have several author visits. Here, is a graduate of Gillett High School who came back to discuss his book, but also offer a writers’ workshop to students. To participate, students had to apply to attend the workshop. Students loved the opportunity to get writing advice from areal author and even discuss his literature. The local connection was also a special treat for our students.

**School Community Involvement** – Besides collaborating with students and teachers and offering many programming opportunities, I’m also a TRITON facilitator, an active member of the RtI Committee, The pronounced for our district spelling bee, this year, sending on a student to the STATE LEVEL Competition, a teacher trainer in technology, and a member of the District Technology Committee which is instrumental in developing and writing the District Technology Plan.

**Awards** – Starting in 2008, I began taking student technology projects and entering then in the WEMTA Media Fair. We have taken home top-awards every year. In 2008, we had one entry – our First Grade Alphabet book, which took first place. This year, we have 10 entries from across our district.

Also, in 2009, I was award the NORTA Award, an annual award given to one teacher in each school district in Northeast Wisconsin. I was honored last spring to receive this award which is voted on by the entire staff.

**Parent/Teacher comments** – I often receive emails or cards of thanks from parents and teachers. Here are just a few of the things people have said about the programming and collaboration I’ve offered their children. There are also comments from teachers who have taken classes I have taught on technology like Social Networking, Badgerlink, Destiny, and more.

**Stats** – This is where I would put stats about library usage, collaboration usage, and circulation. Circulation, Collaboration, and Library usage has consistently increased each year since I started in the library.

**Thank you** – Thank you for your time this evening. I hope you can see what an active place today’s library really is. I welcome you to visit anytime. Once again, I have brought projects for you to see if you would like. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them. Thank you.