Services to Libraries: Congressional District 8

The Washington State Library (WSL) is the only agency in Washington that is specifically designated by law to assist libraries and to ensure that residents of the entire state have access to library and information services. WSL achieves these goals using federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds, offering projects, consulting services, grants, subsidies and training to improve libraries.

Examples of services include support for digital literacy programming, Microsoft Office training and industryrecognized certification, early literacy programming, professional grants, specialized training for library administration, circulating STEM kits, group cost-sharing for online databases, and 24/7 online reference support for college students and other residents of the state.



Office of the Secretary of State Washington State Library

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SERVICE

Impact of LSTA Library Funding on District 8

Spanaway Middle School received a "Future STEMs from Reading" award, which gave the library a non-fiction collection of books. Several students immediately asked for them. More than 30 of the Career Technical Ed students checked out books that first week. Their librarian then enlisted these students to help promote the books to their peers. They wrote a brief review/recommendation of the book and created a QR code to their review. For five consecutive weeks they made posters using the QR codes for other students to scan and find out which books had been read and recommended. This generated more traffic as students brought their friends to the library to scan the QR codes and read the reviews. The result was that these books were constantly being checked out and enjoyed by the students at the school.

- "It would be a tragic loss to the blind and visually impaired to lose the library."
- "There are economies of scale when the State Library is able to negotiate with vendors for package deals on electronic database subscriptions, for example. The State Library coordinates training opportunities for librarians and support staff across the state."
- "The State Library is an important resource to me as a small-town librarian. Through them, my patrons have access to much more than I can provide. Also, the state librarians have been an invaluable resource to me personally as I try to keep up with technology. Without the services that the state offers, we would not be able to offer a lot of this technology to our patrons."



Enumclaw High School