

Denton High School Library Newsletter

February 2013

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Tales from the Library

With the spring semester fully underway, we have much research going on in the library. If you plan to bring your classes to the library to research, please let us know ahead of time so we can sign you up and help you help your students. We offer

database instruction as well as information from print resources. We'll also be happy to aid your students with web site evaluation.

A big, big thank you to the faculty who donated arts and crafts for our January National Craft Month display. The fine art included paintings from Genevieve McGregor; beading, corn husk dolls, sculpture and sewing projects from Valery Smith; beaded purses and a felting project from Sherry Dieterich; drawing and furniture restoration from Matt Naylor; pencil drawings from Hollye Knox; quilting and crochet from Loretta Gober; beaded jewelry from Sandra Dieckman; and an embellished frame and coaster from Mark and Lou Ann Scott. February's display will be on the U.S. presidents. Come by and see it.

We are continually getting new fiction and nonfiction books for all patrons. If you have a suggestion for a title that would be useful for you and your students, please email us. We are always open for suggestions that will help you with curriculum or professional development. We are currently developing our eBook collection. You can access these on FollettShelf through our library page, and we have reference eBooks available through our PAC. You can peruse or check them out at any time. Come by the library and we'll show you how.

We're currently taking suggestions for a faculty book club. If you are interested in joining and have good ideas on how to make it accessible to those who are bibliophiles, please let us know.

Coffee is served every morning in the library for the low price of 25¢ per cup!

"While civilization remains such that one needs distraction from time to time, 'light' literature has its appointed place." ~ George Orwell

Who is in the library?!

Jamie Pouster—Librarian

Go Broncos!! I am very happy to be working at Denton High School. I received my BS in Education from the University of Nebraska and my Masters in Library Science from Texas Woman's University in 2000.

I have worked at a middle school library, two public libraries and a community college library. It is great to be at a high school library and hope my previous experience can assist DHS students and teachers in their research.

My responsibility is the electronic side of the library....such as databases, equipment and media. Need a password or student ID? Come see me. Please do not hesitate to ask for assistance anytime!



**REMEMBER TO CHECK-
OUT THE LIBRARY
BLOG!**

**LOCATED ON THE
DHS LIBRARY WEBSITE!**

WRITE A REVIEW!

Brown Bag Lunch Group

Please join Mrs. Bason and students as they discuss and share their love of reading. See Mrs. Bason for a pass to attend.

Next Meeting:

*Thursday, February 21st and
March 7th during all lunch
periods*

Genre Blurb

Fantasy

The fantasy genre includes anything that involves magic or supernatural elements in its characters, plot, or setting. Fantasy books most often find themselves in a medieval setting, like the Middle Earth of J.R.R. Tolkien or J.K. Rowling's Hogwarts. Another strong vein of fantasy is mythology, which is seen in the immensely popular books by Rick Riordan. While our first thought about fantasy might be dragons and wizards, there is much more to this genre than meets the eye. Fantasy can be in turns hysterical (see Terry Pratchett), whimsical (see Lois Lowry), or haunting (see Darren Shan). Teens love this genre because it can be anything. While fantasy novels are a wonderful means of escape and entertainment, they can be much more. By entering worlds that are different than our own, students use critical



thinking skills to compare the two. While reading about issues such as race relations, immigration, and politics in a fantasy novel, students can then compare and contemplate those ideas to real-world issues. Readers need go no further than Amazon to see that there is a plethora of poorly written fairy stories out there, but don't write off this genre. In the right hands, fantasy can be as compelling and moving as any more realistic book.

"A great book should leave you with many experiences, and slightly exhausted at the end. You live several lives while reading it." ~ William Styron

Meet the Hub!!

Check it out!

We've created a new way for you to get your message out there!

Meet the HUB, our new purple and gold message board for students and staff, in the library.

Post information about upcoming events, items for sale, or advertisements for outside activities. We'll also have a book review highlighted as well as a place for funny jokes and pictures, if you need a moment to lift your spirits!

Posting guidelines:

- ♦ All posts must be approved by a librarian.
- ♦ Posts must be no larger than an 8x11 piece of paper.
- ♦ Poster's name must be included.

BOOK CENTS!!

The Annual PTSA Book Cents sale will take place March 21-24 at Golden Triangle Mall near Sears. The sale includes books, videos, books-on-tape and other items for pennies on the dollar.

All proceeds benefit DISD libraries.



DHS LIBRARY STATISTICS JANUARY 2013

- 📖 Circulation totals: **1,090**
- 📖 Total Student Sign-ins: **1,824**
- 📖 Classes in the library: **43**
- 📖 Items added to the library collection: **69**

Gale Databases:

What does Gale offer students and teachers for their research?

- ⇒ **Accurate & current research**
- ⇒ **Research from home**
- ⇒ **When to use Gale?**

Current Events
People in the News
English Research
History Assignments
Geography Maps
Psychology
Controversial Topics
Education Research
Spanish Assignments

- **Gale Virtual Reference Library**—collection of encyclopedias and specialized reference sources
- **Inform**—collection of Hispanic magazines with full text. Covers business, health, technology, culture, current topics, etc.
- **General OneFile**—source for news and periodical articles with topics that include: business, computers, current events, economics, education, humanities, literature and art, science, sports, etc.
- **Student Resources in Context**—information on a broad range of topics, people, places, and events.
- **InfoTrac Newsstand**—Web-based full-text newspaper database which can be searched by title, headline, date, newspaper section or other fields.

- **Opposing Viewpoints in Context**—information and opinions on hundreds of today's hottest social issues. Both sides of an argument is given in detail.
- **Academic OneFile**—source for peer-reviewed, full-text articles from the world's leading journals and reference sources
- **Educator's Reference Complete**—450 full-text academic journals, hundreds of full-text reports, and premier reference sources. Content includes educational principles, child development and psychology, and best practices in education using the ERIC database
- **Twayne's Authors**—in-depth critical introductions to the lives and works of major writers of the world. Commentary on the history and influence of literary movements.
- **Scribner Writers**—original, scholar signed essays on the lives and works of authors from around the world from all time periods. Includes concise essays, citations and biographical information.
- **Literature Resource Center**—the ability to search across several major Literature databases to find full text of literary works, journal articles, literature criticism, reviews, biographical information and overviews. 130,000 writers in all disciplines included.
- **LitFinder for Schools**—contains 150,000 full-text poems, short stories, speeches, and dramatic works.

"I call upon the intellectual community in this country and abroad to stand up for freedom of the imagination, an issue much larger than my book or indeed my life."

~ Salman Rushdie

Book Talks provide variety

Need a little something different to do in your classroom? The library may have just the thing for you.

We offer a variety of book talks for your students to engage them in reading. The latest in fiction and nonfiction are at the top of the list, but we will also incorporate classics. You tell us the topic or genre, and we'll provide our book sales pitch. The library is a good venue for this activity, but we are also open to coming to your classroom. And if you would like your students to check out the books at that point, we can accommodate that, too. The best of young adult literature can entice your students to read all types of books. If you are interested, please let us know.

Professional Library offers help

Need a book to help you with curriculum writing, classroom management, new styles of teaching or other educational needs? You may find just what you are looking for in our Professional Library. There are a myriad of subjects available to you. You may check out as many as you want for as long as you need. Here are two you might find useful.

Fires in the Bathroom: Advice for Teachers from High School Students by Kathleen Cushman (What Kids Can Do, Inc., 2003, 1-56584-802-0). Cushman with the help of 40 teens from across the country give teachers tips on how to engage, motivate, and challenge high school students. The teens offer advice on topics including what teachers need to know to better understand their students as well as how to treat them in the classroom setting. It's an easy to read, practical book for all those involved with students.

Your First Year as a High School Teacher: Making the Transition from Total Novice to Successful Professional by Lynne Rominger, Suzanne Packard Laughrea and Natalie Elkin (Prima Publishing, 2001, 0-7615-2969-1) is a helpful source for new teachers but also for veteran teachers looking for motivation. There are chapters on setting up your classroom, lesson planning, classroom management, communicating with parents and faculty, and grading. There is also a chapter on seeking support from administration and others in the school. It's a highly readable book including inspiring tales from veteran teachers.