# Tag Team: Teen Services Collaboration between School and Public Libraries

(Promote, Educate, Advocate, Repeat)



Rheetha Lawlor - Osbourn Park High School Rosanne North-Jack - Bull Run Regional Library

Photo Credit: http://www.freeimages.com/photo/team-1493923

### About Us

Rosanne North-Jack has been working as a "jack" of all trades in libraries since 2010. From volunteer, page, circulation, children's librarian, to her current position as Young Adult Librarian in Prince William County.

She loves Rainbow Rowell, Garth Nix, Stephen King, Tanuja Desai-Hidier, YA/Adult fiction, psychological thrillers, and a bit of strange fantasy. In her spare time she sings along to musicals, rides her bike, and plays D&D with her husband.



Rheetha Lawlor is a high school librarian in Prince William County Schools. She has also worked in a middle school as a librarian, and a teacher and technology integration specialist before that.

When she isn't busy playing games with her husband and 2 children, she can be seen flying

through the air while walking her new very big dog. She loves all YA (Gary Schmidt can do no wrong), and lots of adult books.



# Getting Started



Photo Credit: http://www.freeimages.com/photo/starting-line-1193423

### Let's Get it Started!

- 1. Initial contact Putting yourself out there
- 2. Meet to discuss the right fit for the school/library
- 3. Find common goals
- 4. Develop a plan
- 5. Small steps = Big impact

Oh, the Places You'll Go - Dr. Seuss

### OPHS Back to School Night - Fall 2015





# From the Public to the School Resources

#### Tale of Two Cities- Charles Dickens

- 1. Hand out Library Card Applications and deliver cards to librarian
- 2. Host a pop-up makerspace or other program at the school
- 3. Create a book display in a high traffic area like the cafeteria
- 4. Send flyers highlighting upcoming contests and programs for display
- 5. Attend an after school event
- 6. Give a class presentation about the public library and what we offer
- 7. Attend a Career Day or Job Fair
- 8. Demonstrate the Free Electronic Resources that public library offers
- 9. Demonstrate how to download ebooks/eaudiobooks
- 10. Appear on the Morning Announcements or newscast

### From the School to the Public

### Marketing

- 1. Recruit and promote programs, contests via word of mouth
- 2. Match appropriate audience with program
- 3. Host an **exchange of ideas** on how to best serve the same population
- 4. Investigate Professional Development Opportunities
  - NOVA Teen Book Club
  - Public Library & School Library share YA author visits
- 5. Potential Program Partnership: share authors, share budgets

"The public librarian brings the knowledge and time to the program and the school media specialist brings the marketing and access." (D. Gitta)

### **Best Fit for OPHS**

- **<u>Highlight Databases</u>** that the school may not subscribe to:
  - Citation Machine MLA, APA, Chicago, and Turabian.
  - Historic Documents, Issues & Controversies
  - **Pronunciator** Language Learning
  - Testing & Education Reference Center NEW SAT PREP
  - Literati Live Homework help in Math & Science!
  - Lynda- short how-to videos
- Community Service Hours through **Volunteering!**
- Advise Teachers how to utilize free digital resources for classrooms
- FREE access to public library resources

# Struggles



Photo Credit: http://www.freeimages.com/photo/turn-around-1244553

### At the Library

### Being the lone Teen Staff Member

Pre-established program commitments

#### Communication

Outreach commitments at other schools

Finding the niche between the two libraries (IE- show teachers their need for Public library such as ESOL, etc.)

### At the School

### Teaching schedules

Sharing the same space with other classes

#### **Snow Days**

Staffing changes Mid-Year

## Geography of School vs. Students

Getting High Schoolers involved off campus

## Successes

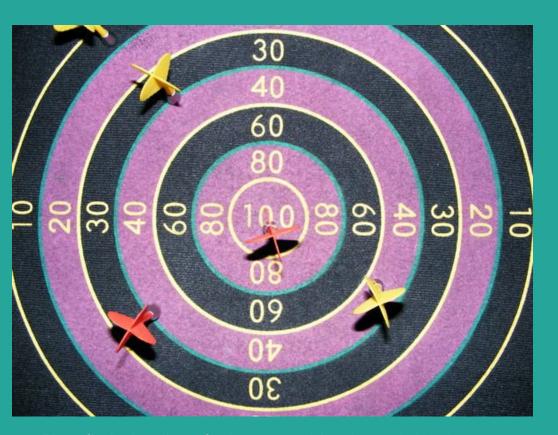


Photo Credit: <a href="http://www.freeimages.com/photo/target-1310276">http://www.freeimages.com/photo/target-1310276</a>

## Impact @ Bull Run Library

### Anime Brigade grew 4x in size between 2015 and 2016

- Starting with 6 attendees to an average of 17 per month.
  (Most ever=30)
- Rosanne kept track of attendees and found out what school they were coming from and how they found out about the program.
  - "You came to book club at my school." (OPHS)
  - "I saw you on our morning announcements." (Mayfield)
  - "You came to my school's Job Fair". (Marsteller)

### **July 2015**

6 teens (first meeting)

### October 2015

12 teens



27 teens







**Anime Brigade: A Snapshot** 



## Impact @ OPHS - Life Skills Class



## **Blended Impact**

- 1. Library is starting a strong TAG team with ideas (avg. 4-8 attendees)
- 2. Students are signing up for more library cards
- 3. Students are able to get community service hours by volunteering
- 4. Students see both libraries working together.
- 5. Students learn more about the public library's resources
- 6. Students take flyers (in school library) for public lib. programs
- 7. Library receives more feedback from students regarding programs, how to improve teen spaces
- 8. Students feel comfortable with the public library
- 9. Encouraging student views of the library as more than just books

## 2015-2016 Statshot

#### Teen Photography Contest (Bull Run)

- Best Overall winner and 2nd place category winner from OPHS
- Over half of the entries were from a high school Rosanne had never visited.

#### Summer Reading Volunteers (Bull Run)

- 22 volunteers were comprised of students from or entering OPHS
- At the east end of the county (6). The western end of the county had (13).

### **New Library Cards (OPHS)**

- o OPHS Made 20 new library cards in 2015-2016
- Even during the Summer, Rheetha encouraged seniors to sign up so they could use the databases into college.

# Looking Ahead



Photo credit: <a href="http://www.freeimages.com/photo/future-1239052">http://www.freeimages.com/photo/future-1239052</a>

### **Lessons Learned**

Communication is key

Be prepared to fail and to start over again

School visits are your lifeline

You are the face of your library

Don't reinvent the wheel

Know your limits

Patience is a virtue

Don't underestimate schools you've never visited

### Brentsville District High School

Website March 7-11, 2015



#### BRENTSVILLE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE PROGRAMME Character, Integrity and Excellence



Class Pages Staff Directory Student Activities



Administration & Advisory

Cambridge Programme I Testing Information

Counseling Center Course Requests

Discipline & Security

Library Media Center Parent Information

Parent Portal

Staff Information Student Information

ummer Assignments Tiger Alumni

Susiness Partners



Joyce Koons Go Tigers!



#### Divisionwide Announcements

Register for Summer School - Great for Second Chances and New

Reminder: Student Summer Job Fairs March 8 and 10

IMPORTANT-Revised HS Course Selection Info - Información sobre la selección de cursos de la escuela secundaria

What Every Parent Should Know about Preventing Youth Suicide

Concussion Training Information for 2015-16 School Year

School Announcements

Schedule for March 7 - 11, 2016

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	
	CIE	CIE	CIE 8	

A list of important dates and information for the year can be found here, and AN UPDATED CALENDAR GIVEN LATEST WEATHER AND CHANGE TO SENIOR EXAM DATES CAN BE FOUND here.

Behind the Wheel dates available in March Please see this fiver to get information about available Behind-the-Wheel dates in March and how to register for these dates.

March 7 - 11, 2016



#### Upcoming Events

⊕ BDH5 - Chess Club

#### Tomorrow

⊕ BDH5 - It's Academic

#### 3/10/2016

BDHS - Rising freshmen course request information night 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

#### 3/14/2016

O BDHS - Chess Club 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

#### 3/15/2016

⊕ BDHS - It's Academic

⊕ BDH5 - School Advisory Council

:30 PM - 8:00 PM

View Calendar

#### **PWCS News**

Date - March 15

2016-17 School Year to Start before Labor Day

Parent Portal Registration Information and FAQs

New Online Search Tool for School Bus Schedules Now Available

Applications Available for Families Eligible for Free and Reduced Meals



## Marketing Librarians: You matter to your community



Photo credit: http://library.appstate.edu/sites/library.appstate.edu/files/news/library-symbol1.gif

## **Future Projects**

- Tandem TAG Teen Advisory Group
  Collaborative author program
  Hosting professional development for teachers at the library
- Spread the word! Today VLA, tomorrow VAASL Annual
- Expand into more high schools. Get more teachers involved.
- Promoting teen events from other library systems/ branches
- © Create an ongoing evaluation process to see how we're doing Joint Book Club
  - After School educational program (IE SAT prep)

= Things we've accomplished so far in 2016!

### **Starting Again in 2016**

#### Major Goal: Stronger presence in more schools

- 1. Build a stronger presence in more City of Manassas of schools
- 2. Join forces with a teen librarian at a nearby branch to offer additional programs
  - a. Central now has an active TAG made up of OPHS students and some from other school districts
  - b. Bull Run and Central are hosting a Teen Murder Mystery Night in Feb. & Mar.
- 3. Attend more after school programs at area high schools
- 4. Welcome a new librarian → Emily Pincek
- 5. Create more programs featuring databases. Testing [SAT, ACT, ASVAB]
- 6. Provide access to new databases not previously owned
- 7. Represent Prince William County Libraries at NOVA Teen Book Fest 2017!

### OPHS Back to School Night - Fall 2016



## Why Should We Join Forces?

#### 1. To benefit teens

- "In a swiftly changing world, communities need schools and libraries to partner together to improve the information opportunities available to their youth so that they can be empowered to live to their fullest potential." (Gitta D., 2012)
  - Public Libraries are open longer hours.

#### 2. To benefit teachers and librarians

- Both types of libraries can "expand the kinds of programs and assistance they are able to offer [and] improve [their] quality". It also results in "increased visibility and awareness" for both libraries' patrons. (Gitta D., 2012)
  - Promoting Summer Reading Program

"In so doing, we have the power to create not only stronger institutions, but also stronger communities." (Collen, 2013)



# Questions?



Photo credit:

http://www.freeimages.com/photo/preschool-hands-on-activities-1565839

### Link to Vimeo Video @

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMPUVABv-cE