

21st Century Learners

What Goes on in the School Library? The American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has created a framework in which school librarians and teachers help students move beyond decoding and comprehending to interpreting and developing new understanding. The following ideas are from that framework:

Most of us would agree that reading is a window to the world. To what degree students can read and understand is an indicator of success at school and later in life.



Inquiry provides a framework for learning. Students strive to become independent learners. We live in a complex information environment. Students have to gain skills, use those skills, and self-assess those skills.



Students will be learning ethical behavior in the use of technology. Students must be able to gather information ethically and use that information responsibly and safely. Technology skills are crucial for their future employment.



All children deserve equitable access to books and reading, information, and information technology. This is a key component for education. Sierra Linda students have access to over 20,000 books, more than a dozen prescription magazines and newspapers, and a plethora of databases provided by the district as well as city and county libraries.



Information literacy is getting harder to define. Crucial skills have been added to simply teaching students to use reference resources. Librarians teach students and teachers multiple literacies, including digital, visual, textual, and technological. Information demands are continually expanding and librarians are on the forefront making sure students have the skills to select, evaluate, and use information appropriately and effectively.

School libraries collaborate with others to not only provide instruction but the environment to practice those skills. Students have opportunities in the library to share knowledge and learn with others.

