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**May 19, 2022**

## **RAILS Board Committee Reports**

### ***Advocacy Committee Report- Chair Robin Helenthal***

The committee met on May 12, 2022/The next meeting is on June 9, 2022.

The members reported on materials challenges. School librarian standards and Illinois School Code requirements were discussed and compared with the requirements in other states. The next step is to look at the states with legislation that works and how we can use it for our purposes.

Walsh led a discussion on the media literacy unit requirement for the public high school curriculum. The requirements are the same as the library standards taught in Illinois. Teachers have reported districts are unclear on who will teach the unit. CPS will have many departments and librarians incorporate or adapt lessons to fulfill the requirement. This is an opportunity for school librarians to educate administrators, school staff, and colleges of education about what a library media specialist is trained to teach.

Members voted to adopt the FY23 meeting schedule, held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 4pm.

Next steps:

The topics for the May meeting agenda are:

1. Legislative updates
2. School librarian standards
2. Materials challenges
3. Media literacy curriculum unit requirement for public high school curriculum

### ***Consortia Committee Report-Chair Paul Mills***

The next meeting is Monday, June 18, 2022

### ***EDI Committee Report - Chair Dianne Hollister***

The committee met on Thursday, May 10, 2022 The next meeting is on Tuesday, August 30, 2022

EDI Consultant, Biz Lindsay-Ryan, gave the committee a training titled, *Understanding Relationships with an Equity Lens*. There was active participation with the group, leading to a productive conversation. Monica Harris spoke about training opportunities from RAILS and also a variety of organizations for committee members and their staff to join. The RAILS Climate team is in the process of recruiting RAILS staff to volunteer on a list of EDI projects. The list of projects came out of the Climate Team meetings as well as projects identified by the EDI Board Subcommittees. Rosie Camargo, EDI Committee member, was appointed to the RAILS Board at the April board meeting. Camargo fills a vacant board seat. The RAILS Board elections began on May 4<sup>th</sup> and will continue through May 20, 2022. The election process was recently updated to reflect a more inclusive process. There are three members that are cycling off the committee with their terms ending on June 30, 2022: Sarah McHone-Chase,

Michelle Nielsen-Ott, and Leora Siegel. The fiscal year 2023 meeting schedule was approved and will focus on committee business only with additional EDI trainings added if needed. RAILS Data Coordinator and Research Analyst, Grant Halter presented an overview of data collected on the demographics of the RAILS service area. The [Illinois Census Quick Facts dashboard](#) can be found on the RAILS website on the Data in Libraries pulse page. The report features four sections, State vs RAILS Summary, IHLS vs RAILS Summary, Location Overview and Race/Ethnicity Overview. Monica Harris thanked the members that filled out the I AM Survey that was created by a request from the committee to identify the identities of the committee members. After reviewing the data, members would like to see representation from a rural library and also black library staff on the EDI Committee in the future.

### ***Executive Committee Report - Chair Thomas Stagg***

The Executive Committee met on May 19, 2022.  
A memo is included in the packet.

### ***Nominating Committee Report - Chair Alice Creason***

The next meeting is TBD (May 26-June 9)

The nominating committee will meet again after the election to verify the election results and propose a slate of officers for RAILS Board for FY23.

### ***Resource Sharing Committee Report - Chair Charm Ruhnke***

The committee met on May 9, 2022/Next Meeting is on August 8, 2022

Monica Harris thanked the three committee members who are ending their terms on the Resource Sharing committee, Kristine Kenney, Ryan Livergood, and Michelle Roubal. Harris discussed a new online resource, ConsortiaManager (CM), which is designed specifically to help RAILS with member communications related to our group purchases. The vendor has made several modifications to accommodate the RAILS environment; the build will continue through the spring. Anne Slaughter gave an overview and highlights on Find More Illinois (FMI). Significant financial incentives were developed; waiving the setup fees and also no annual fees will be billed for any participants until July 1, 2023. The incentives have been successful and will continue until March 2023. RAILS is working on two future projects for FMI: a limited-service consortial implementation software at no charge to those libraries that are nonautomated or under-automated; and the implementation of Auto-Graphics' Interstate Sharing Initiative (ISSI). The committee approved the FY2023 meeting schedule. The priorities for the upcoming year will focus on the RAILS new strategic plan and the four objectives under Strategic Goal #1: RAILS provides leadership in ensuring sustainable, equitable resource sharing for all member libraries. Monica Harris discussed the current environment of materials challenges and reviewed the resources on the new pulse page on the RAILS website titled Materials Challenges. The committee had a robust conversation on the issue of materials challenges that libraries are facing in this current political climate.

### ***Universal Service Committee Report - Chair Susan Busenbark***

Next meeting Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 1 p.m.