

Friday, November 3rd

Session Title	Session Description	
Session 5 (8:00am - 8:45am)	Lights, Camera, Oculus! A collaborative tool you can trust.	This session will provide an overview of how Oculus VR has enhanced learning activities, helped initiate collaboration, and added excitement and real world experiences for students. Along with gaining tips for set up and ideas from past endeavors (lessons, special events, etc.), participants will be promoted to devise new ways of incorporating VR into their libraries and schools. Time for hands-on Oculus usage will be provided also.
	Play in Library: Connection and Engagement For Elementary	Need more engagement and enthusiasm for library class? Want to strengthen social emotional connections? This session will explore read aloud extensions with activities that let students play. Ideas to connect senses, interaction, exploration and communication. It won't look like learning and it won't be quiet! Play is a powerful learning tool! Let's explore together.
	Find UNITY in Community...One Book at a Time!	Are you looking for a way to entice more readers in your school? Do you want to build a better sense of community through literacy and technology? Attend this session to learn how to ignite an excitement for reading using one book, one Google Form, and one unified staff!
	It's a Sign: Amp Up Read-Aloud Engagement with ASL!	Are you interested in engaging your students while beefing up their vocabulary? In this presentation, I will share lesson ideas and tie-in for newer read alouds for grades K-2. Each lesson will incorporate a sign from American Sign Language and a post-reading activity. You will leave with ready-to-use lessons!
	Ignite In Elementary	Creating an Ignite Project in elementary school can be difficult with master schedules. Come find out more about this year's first winning elementary project and meet the students who participated.
	Audiobooks in the Classroom: A Fun Way to Learn!	Human-read audiobooks provide readers with equitable access to content. We are seeing it around the library world, "Audiobooks are NOT cheating". This presentation highlights using audiobooks to help students meet reading proficiency and support a love for reading. Did you know that the brain goes through the same processes listening to an audiobook as when reading off of paper, so why do audiobooks have such poor public relations? We will discuss the reading process as well as look at some free sources, selection strategies, and popular titles during the session. Resources such as Libro.fm; Libro ALC Program; Sora (Overdrive); Hoopla and Netgalley will be showcased.
	Google Advanced Web Searching	Learn to search with Google's advanced search syntaxes. Develop refined queries with Boolean operators. Find resources with specific words in the title and results from a single top-level domain; for example, results from only .edu sites. Learn how to limit the results to a single site; for example, ERIC.
	Reading Makes Cents: Ten Years in and Going Strong	Reading Makes Cents is a K-8 financial literacy program sponsored by Virginia 529 and the Virginia Council on Economic Education that provides free books, instructional content, and student recognition. Learn about the new titles, instructional content, and student recognition. Door prizes included.
	An Inquiry into the Bravery of Upstanders: A Pilot Project for Holocaust Curriculum in Virginia Schools	Librarians hold keys that unlock doors to unimagined, and sometimes unthinkable worlds. Such is the case of the Holocaust. Learn how one author, collaborating with teachers and librarians, offers a way for students to become "upstanders," instead of bystanders, in the face of bullying, discrimination, and antisemitism.
	Meet the Authors - For Middle School and High School Librarians	Meet Virginia authors, members of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) and learn about their author visits. One free, virtual, 30-minute author visit will be raffled off at the end of the presentation. [1]
Session 6 (11:00am - 11:45pm)	Virginia Readers' Choice from a Librarian's Perspective	Book talks and ways to use the 23-24 VRC books in your library.
	Strategic Goals	How to write and implement a five year strategic plan for your library.
	Essential Collaborations: Empowering Learning Across the Curriculum	In this session, two middle school librarians will share our collaborative process, helpful resources we use for lesson development, and a wide range of instructional ideas across the curriculum, many of which can be leveled for elementary and high school. You will leave our session with concrete ways you can support all of the students and teachers in your building.
	Our Cup Overfloweth: VLA Cardinal Cup Award	The Cardinal Cup (nee Jefferson) Book Award is given each year to a work of outstanding history writing for young people. With content including biography, history, and historical fiction; this year's entries proved that there are some amazing books available for our students. Come and learn what this year's committee members consider to be their personal favorites. Attendees will also learn about being part of the Cardinal Cup Committee.
	5 Fun Projects	Looking to spark student creativity? Join this session to learn how to facilitate 5 fun projects: Green Screen Animal Documentaries; 3D Simile Portraits; Video Cassette Innovation Challenge; Mo Willems and Jory John Fanfiction; and Book Jacket Purses.
	Reader's Theatre in the Elementary Library	Looking for a way to liven up your lessons in the library? Infuse a bit of the arts and bring stories to life by using reader's theatre! From a simple repetitive reading of a script to a full-out theatrical performance, learn how you can create an engaging experience for your students!
	VAASL Supervisors' Round Table	Come and discuss current trends of school librarianship and how we as school library supervisors can support our school librarians.
	How Google Works in 2023	Google is always updating the factors that determine results. Learn the factors in 2023 that you can exploit to return the most relevant results; i.e., searching for words in the webpage title. Most importantly – learn a query that proves that the first Google result is not the best result.
	Achieving a Dream: Sports Heroes Overcoming Adversity	Featuring picture books, interdisciplinary lessons, and connections to current events, this session explores how Jackie Robinson, Jim Thorpe, Wilma Rudolph, Lucile Godbold and others can be used to teach students about choices, incentives, and unintended consequences. Includes door prizes.
	The Case for True Crime: Solving the Mystery of How to Get Students to Care about Research Skills	Have you ever struggled to keep kids interested in databases and citations? Tired of the same old research topics? True crime is the answer to creating student engagement while still teaching research skills. We'll share a tried-and-true introductory project, an in-depth unit including criminal podcasting, and book lists to feed your students' obsession.
	Punk Rock Poetry with Author/Illustrator Jarrett Lerner	Join author-illustrator Jarrett Lerner for an engaging, interactive workshop using his new book, A Work in Progress, that will leave you with a plethora of practical ideas, techniques, and resources to help you turn EVERY kid into a lifelong reader AND writer. During the session, Jarrett will discuss tools and techniques to link a student's love and reading to writing. He will explore the uses and particular strengths of using poetry, especially free verse, to make writing more accessible for kids. He will share strategies for implementing these "teachable" skills and resources in the crunched time of a classroom period. Finally, if time permits, Jarrett will facilitate a brief discussion in which these topics and others can be further explored, questions can be asked, and ideas can be generated for the immediate implementation of this workshop's shared ideas, techniques, and resources.
An Exploration of Best Practices in Virginia School Libraries	Researchers interviewed 2019 to 2022 regional school librarians of the year to describe their programs, activities, and traits and to compare findings to expectations for librarians in the National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries. Attend this session to discover how their findings can inform your daily practice.	
Throw Away the Labels and Concentrate on the History	We label students by race, ethnicity, religion, ability, gender preference and identity, but those labels erase the student's individuality. In this presentation we will explore the importance of reaching beyond labels understand individual students' histories, the scaffolding that makes them who they are as a person and as a learner.	

Session 7 (1:00pm - 1:45pm)	Engaging Evening Family Events	Looking for an enjoyable, inexpensive way to engage your school community? Join us as we discuss how to plan and host a fun evening tied to some great books. We will share how to make a hedgehog from a book, how to make a snowman and a giant snowflake, how to build forts with different materials, host a poetry slam, and so much more!
	Telling Your Story: What Would you Hang on Your Tree	Two Virginia authors, Kitty McCarthy and Larry Issa, discuss getting your story out there through self expression and indie publishing. Learn about their marvelous picture books, and get a taste of their interactive author visits, and creative classroom group activities.
	There's An "AI" For That! Using Artificial Intelligence in the Elementary School Library	Explore the groundbreaking potential of artificial intelligence in elementary school libraries. Discover how AI-driven tools enhance learning experiences, personalize recommendations, and foster digital literacy. Join us to discuss strategies for integrating AI technologies that empower students to become lifelong learners in the digital era.
	First Year Experiences	What exactly will that first year as a school librarian be like? Did you professors in library school really tell you everything? What is the good, the bad, and hopefully no ugly about starting your career in school librarianship. Join a panel of school librarians as they answer questions about their first year experiences. Time will be saved for questions from the audience, too.
	Digital Media Tools to Level Up Students' Media Literacy	This session will utilize eMediaVA's media literacy content to improve students' ability to analyze news and media and evaluate online resources. We'll discuss the what, why, and how of media literacy, including simple shifts in lesson planning to center media literacy in the secondary classroom across all content areas.
	Do You Have Anime Books?: What Does it All Mean?	This session will focus on Manga. This includes what is manga, why should librarians care and a better way to select age appropriate manga for student consumption.
	Eye Appealing Displays on a Budget	If creating displays gives you the chills, then this session is for you! Learn how you can purchase items at the Dollar Store or on sale to create visually pleasing displays. Pinterest and other sources will be showcased for ideas. BYOD is optional for accessing these sites.
	Online Resources for Graduate Students	Are you or your colleagues attending graduate school? Learn about peer-reviewed open access resources that augment library databases; i.e., Semantic Scholar and others. Learn about an exceptional source of education research - the National Library of Medicine PUBMED database. Learn the Google site: limited syntax to search only a one database.
	The Evolving Landscape of Digital Citizenship	This timely session will spotlight the importance of digital citizenship and its critical role in shaping responsible and ethical online behavior. Join us as we share the processes and resources we're using to support a comprehensive and consistent division wide rollout plan to create safer and more empowering digital environments.
	You're Welcome: More Than Just an Open Door	In this session, we will discuss doing more than simply opening doors to new readers. We will share strategies for attracting diverse students and engaging them once they begin interacting with the library.
How Novels in Verse Aid in Social Emotional Learning	Lisa Fipps will share the impact of novels in verse and how they can affectively be used to support students' SEL needs.	
Igniting Students' Passions for Service-Learning	Holy smokes! We won the IGNITE Award! In this session, we will share how we ignited students' passions for service-learning by partnering with local non-profits to make a real impact in the community. We will share how we connected with five different organizations and facilitated a variety of tasks that benefited each organization. Join us to see how creating authentic learning experiences for students boosts engagement.	

Session 8 (3:15pm - 4:00pm)	Fun & Futuristic: Exploring Innovative Technologies in the Library	This session will focus on innovative technologies involving renewable energy sources such as solar energy, wind energy, and hydroponic farming. Attendees will have access to step-by-step instructions for creating a DIY, solar oven, wind turbine, and a hydroponic system which may become the farms of the future. An emphasis will be on fostering students' critical thinking and ethical, global citizenship. Related texts will be shared in the presentation.
	Book Battles: Start Your Own Academic Competition	Interested in starting a program like battle of the books at your school or with a group of schools? Or maybe you'd like to put a little more substance in your book clubs? Either way, we'll provide some tips to get started, including timelines, sample questions, book lists, and sponsor responsibilities.
	23-24 VRC Middle and High School Titles and More	Learn about the most captivating books recognized by VRC specifically curated for middle and high school students, promoting them in the library, and how you may become a VRC committee member.
	Harness the Power of ChatGPT	ChatGPT is a cutting-edge language model with potential to enhance our roles as school librarians. Participants will engage in interactive demonstrations and discussions of how ChatGPT can be leveraged to serve our schools effectively. This session will focus on adult, not student use, of ChatGPT.
	Ditching Dewey in Nonfiction for Real	Two secondary librarians will share how they reorganized the Nonfiction section in their schools. Two different systems will be discussed, and attendees will leave with ideas & resources!
	If You Feed Them, They Will Come: Engage Reluctant Readers in the Library with Books & Bites	Books & Bites targets students in reading support classes: pair a book theme with activities and an associated snack to fully immerse readers into the genre. Introduce your students to a variety of exciting books, learn about engaging activities, and leave with book lists and lessons to bring back to your school.
	Designing Staff Community Reading Experiences	This session will focus on different models of community reading experiences to engage staff in discussions centered on historically marginalized communities. We will talk about curating texts and how to facilitate conversations with our adult learners about identity, instruction and building relationships with students.
	Engineering for Tomorrow in Your Library	Interested in FREE hands-on engineering labs for your library programming? ET offers 19 virtual STEM labs developed and delivered by engineers. Included are free student kits and workbooks, teacher guides, and live ZOOM sessions run by actual engineers. In this workshop, we will show you how we used ET to engage our patrons and help inspire future engineers!
	Change Your Shelves, Change Your (library) Life	We are all busy librarians! Come to this session to learn how updating your shelving system, by generifying your collection or implementing dynamic shelving, can save you time and increase circulation, accessibility, and student autonomy.
Preparing for Book Challenges and Evaluations	This is NOT a session about student learning. If only we could just focus on that, right? But this is a practical session to help you cover your backside in regards to book challenges and the new legislative evaluation requirements. You will walk out of this session with an arsenal of language and policy recommendations to help prepare and protect you, your patrons, and your library.	