

NDLA RESOLUTIONS

Resolution from the Executive Board:

WHEREAS, the meetings and events of the 2008 NDLA Annual Conference were organized by Phyllis Bratton, conference chair; the local issues committee; and other Mandan/Bismarck area librarians and friends, and

WHEREAS, the facility and staff of the Best Western Seven Seas Hotel and the staff of the Morton Mandan Public Library contributed to the success of the conference,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the North Dakota Library Association expresses its appreciation and extends its thanks to the conference chair, members of the local issues committee, conference facility staff, speakers, program presenters and exhibitors for the 2008 NDLA Annual Conference “Librarians Under Construction: A Life of Continuous Education”.

Two Resolutions from the Public Library Section:

WHEREAS: The State Library is requesting an additional \$300,000 in its 2009-2011 budget for state aid to public libraries, and

WHEREAS: local public libraries, especially in rural communities, find meeting costs of collection development, of maintenance, of staff, and of computer access difficult, and

WHEREAS: per capita spending in public libraries when compared to surrounding states and the nation shows North Dakota lagging significantly behind,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the NDLA membership actively support the State Library’s efforts during 2009 legislative session to secure the additional \$300,000 for state aid to public libraries to ensure that all North Dakota citizens have access to needed information.

WHEREAS: The State Library is requesting an additional \$200,000 in its 2009-2011 budget for online databases for North Dakota citizens, and

WHEREAS: Local public libraries, cannot afford on their own the cost of these databases,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the NDLA membership actively support the State Library’s efforts during 2009 legislative session to secure the additional \$200,000 for online databases to ensure that all North Dakota citizens have access to needed information.

Resolution from the Health Sciences Information Section:

WHEREAS, NDLA’s purpose is to “provide leadership and to promote library services” to the residents of North Dakota, and

WHEREAS, the availability of reliable and authoritative health information is a critical part of library services and enables the safety and well-being of the residents of North Dakota,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that NDLA recognize a new health information resource, Go Local North Dakota [www.medlineplus/golocalnd](http://www.medlineplus.gov/golocalnd) which is designed specifically for North Dakota residents, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that NDLA members acknowledge the efforts of the staff of the Harley E. French Library, University of North Dakota, <http://undmedicallibrary.org/> with the support of the National Library of Medicine <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/> for creating this resource and join the members of the Health Sciences Information Section in endorsing and promoting to all library users “Go Local North Dakota: Discover Health Services Near You!” [www.medlineplus/golocalnd](http://www.medlineplus.gov/golocalnd)

Three Resolutions from the New Members Roundtable:

WHEREAS, during the 2008 NDLA annual conference, continuing education credits were offered to participants

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: we thank Donna James, Phyllis Bratton, Kirsten Baesler and Kathy Berg for their hard work in arranging and executing this new continuing education track. We encourage the continuance of this practice at future conferences.

WHEREAS, statewide educational resources are vital to the continuation of preparing North Dakotans for information literate world

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the North Dakota legislature continue and increase its level of funding for statewide electronic resources. The North Dakota Library Association stands firmly resolved in its support of the additional \$200,000 funding initiative.

WHEREAS, the Executive Board promoted environmental stewardship by posting minutes, agendas and other notices to the NDLA web site rather than printing copies for distribution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that this practice of “going green” be continued for future conferences and other NDLA communication and business.

Three Resolutions from the School Library and Youth Services Section:

WHEREAS, the SKILLS (Strengthening Kids Interest in Learning and Libraries) Act was introduced to Congress in 2007.

WHEREAS, the SKILLS Act guarantees students across America will be served by state-certified school library media specialists,

WHEREAS, the SKILLS Act ensures that students will have the library resources they need to succeed,

WHEREAS, the SKILLS Act requires school districts, to the extent feasible, to ensure that every school within the district employs at least one state-certified school library media specialist in each school library,

WHEREAS, the SKILLS Act establishes as a state goal that there be at least one highly qualified school library media specialist in every public school,

WHEREAS, the SKILLS Act broadens the focus of training, professional development, and recruitment activities to include school library media specialists,

WHEREAS, the SKILLS Act ensures that funds will serve elementary, middle and high school students,

WHEREAS, the SKILLS Act requires books and materials to be appropriate for and engage the interest of students in all grade levels and students with special learning needs, including English language learners,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that NDLA request that Senator Conrad and Senator Dorgan support the SKILLS Act in S.B. 1699 and Representative Pomeroy support the SKILLS Act in H.R. 2864 with their votes.

WHEREAS, the Governor's Commission for Education Improvement was established to study the adequacy of North Dakota's public education system,

WHEREAS, the Commission hired the outside consulting firm of Lawrence Picus and Associates to define adequacy

WHEREAS, Lawrence Picus and Associates consult regularly with groups to determine what it takes to provide an adequate education,

WHEREAS, their recommendations regarding Media Specialists concluded that in order for an adequate education to occur there must be a minimum of 1.0 library media specialist in every elementary and middle school, and a minimum of 1.0 library media specialist with 1.0 aide at every high school,

WHEREAS, the Picus recommendation supports the research that has consistently proven a library media program with a full-time library media specialist increases students achievement,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that NDLA requests the Governor's Commission strongly consider the recommendations made by the Lawrence Picus and Associates consulting firm as it establishes its standards for adequacy in the ND public education system.

WHEREAS, a nation wide poll reveals that Americans are deeply concerned that the United States is not equipping young people with skills they need to compete in the global economy,

WHEREAS, there is universal agreement that teaching 21st century skills is important to our country's future economic success,

WHEREAS, we are living in a different era that requires new thinking in our approach to educating youth and the things students need to learn today are different than 20 years ago,

WHEREAS, skills such as problem solving, innovation, and creativity have become critical in the 21st century

WHEREAS, Accelerating Technological advances, a rapidly changing knowledge base, an interconnected workforce,, and an increasingly global society have all combined to make 21st century skills – global literacy, problem solving, innovation and creativity – essential for every student's success,

WHEREAS, we can and should be doing more to prepare our young people to succeed in the 21st century,

WHEREAS, The Partnership for 21st Century Skills serves as a catalyst to position 21st century skills at the center of education by building collaborative partnerships among education, business, community and government leaders,

WHEREAS, The Partnership for 21st Century Skills brings together the business community, education leaders and policymakers to define a powerful vision for 21st century education to ensure every child's success as citizens and workers in the 21st century,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that NDLA work with other organizations such as the Educational Technology Council and the ND Association of Technology Leaders to inform our state leaders and educators of the importance of using 21st Century Learning Standards and becoming part of The Partnership for 21st Century Skills.