

# GKCASL NEWSLETTER

Greater Kansas City  
Association of School  
Librarians

Spring Issue  
June 2007

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

WOW! What a whirlwind of a year! New challenges and experiences all around for many GKCASL members! But, we've made it-we're strong! Isn't it satisfying to look back at the successes of the year? Let's count some blessings-

\*Our wonderful KC3 Committee and their hard work bringing the best of the best to our kids!

\*Our Awards Committee seeking out and validating super programs and people in our region!

\*Our terrific officers and committee members who do so much to help this organization!

\*A super-yummy banquet, coordinated by Dana Kepler with help from Jessica Vandenbose!

\*The best membership group ever who are always there to lend a hand, heart, or shoulder!

\*A great MASL spring conference, with something for everybody!

At the time of this writing, the outcome of House Bill SS/HB265 has not been decided. But I want to extend a sincere THANK YOU to those of you who took the time to voice your thoughts to your representatives. I know the response was strong, and it is organizations such as ours that help get the word out. Without GKCASL and MASL, the information about 265 and the subsequent response would not have been nearly as fluid. Regardless of the outcome, I know we made a difference!

As we head into summer please keep in touch! Relax, rejuvenate, and refresh your mind, body and spirits. August will come soon enough! Thank you to all who have made my first year as president a successful one. Stay safe!

With MUCH admiration,  
Susan Schank

## **KC3 Awards**

by Helen Bugh, KC3 Chair

KC3 Award Winner for 2006-07 was announced at Spring Banquet:

**Shredderman: Secret Identity by Wendelin Van Draanen.**

2<sup>nd</sup> place was SOS Files by Betsy Byars

3<sup>rd</sup> place was Say What? by Margaret Haddix

Thanks to the elementary librarians in 38 schools (18 school districts) who participated with 2,886 third grade students!

The following additional information is being sent via district rep's email:

Lacie Griffin's powerpoint of 07-08 nominees (thanks Lacie!!)

KC3 Brochure for 07-08

Curriculum connections for 07-08 nominees

Order form for KC3 statue

## Raytown School District

By Lacie Griffin

Raytown C-2 Schools had a busy spring:

James Baker, Raytown High School graduate (1957), and author of October Promise: The Gatorade Game, visited Westridge to talk to the 4th and 5th grades. :)

Gayla Strack and Betty Sproul did a lovely job of presenting the awards program at the GKC Banquet. Next year in GKC, the LMS award is for an elementary school LMC program.

Lacie Griffin will be Chair of the KC-3's next year. She is looking for more committee members and readers interested in working on the 2008-09 nominee list. You can contact her at [lacie.griffin@raytownschools.org](mailto:lacie.griffin@raytownschools.org)

## Legislative News

By Trish Barnard

The two recent legislative alerts that were issued got results! HB265 was defeated. SB64 did pass, but without the alternative ABCTE certification amendment. Thank you so much for your support concerning these issues.

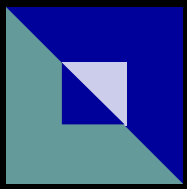
The first bill was Senate Substitute for House Bill 265 introduced originally by Jane Cunningham. A number of amendments were added to the original bill. Senator Matt Bartle of the 8th Senate District added an amendment that would remove the requirement of a ratio of school librarians and counselors to student population in the MSIP standards. School Districts would be able to reduce the number of counselors and librarians with no regard to the number of students served.

Here's the detail on SB 64. What started out as a simple bill to set school opening dates has had several things added to it. The added piece that MASL objects to is an attempt to create an alternative teacher certification through the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE). At least with the Praxis, those who take the library test are already teachers. With the ABCTE, only an undergraduate degree is required, not necessarily one in education.

## **Belton School District**

By Carol Hambrecht

Students at Hillcrest Elementary in Belton have reached their goal of reading over 10 million words this year. Librarian Melissa McConnell will now have to suffer the consequences of their actions—she will be duct taped to a wall on the last day of school! For every 25 Reading Counts points earned, students will receive one piece of tape. Some students will have over 12 pieces! It has been an exciting year for the staff as we watched the children read and helped celebrate their achievements. Students also will be spending their points at the Points Store—profits from the spring book fair were taken entirely in books for these children. Those with 25 points or more will be able to purchase a variety of hardback and paperback books for the summer.



**Meet New  
Friends@Your  
Library**



**Compiled by Jane Pettman,  
GKCASL reporter**