

American Association of School Librarians Standards for the 21st-Century Learner

The American Association of School Librarians has released **Standards for the 21st-Century Learner** as a vision that can guide the school libraries of the Genesee Valley BOCES. In addition to four standards, the document sets forth nine common beliefs. The School Library System will be working with member libraries to align these standards and beliefs with New York State documents to promote inquiry-based learning throughout our schools. Research has shown that library programs funded by strong budgets and certified teacher-librarians have a positive impact on student achievement. These new standards continue that focus on success.

The Standards

1. **inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge**
2. **draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge**
3. **share knowledge and participate ethically and productively as members of our democratic society**
4. **pursue personal and aesthetic growth**



Common Beliefs

- ▶ Reading is a window to the world.
- ▶ Inquiry provides a framework for learning.
- ▶ Ethical behavior in the use of information must be taught.
- ▶ Technology skills are crucial for future employment needs.
- ▶ Equitable access is a key component for education.
- ▶ The definition of information literacy has become more complex as resources and technologies have changed.
- ▶ The continuing expansion of information demands that all individuals acquire the thinking skills that will enable them to learn on their own.
- ▶ Learning has a social context.
- ▶ School libraries are essential to the development of learning skills.

Key Skills to Promote Student Achievement

- ✓ Find, evaluate, and select appropriate sources to answer questions
- ✓ Read, view, and listen for information in order to make inferences and gather meaning
- ✓ Use strategies to draw conclusions from information and apply knowledge
- ✓ Use the writing process and technology skills to create products that express understanding
- ✓ Read widely and fluently to make connections with self, the world, and previous reading
- ✓ Organize personal knowledge in a way that can be called upon easily