



REVITALIZING SCHOOL LIBRARY & MEDIA DIVISION

Task Force Recommendations

Six Core Recommendations

Phase One (2021)

1. Establish new leadership structure
2. Empower task force to host 2-3 division programming events in 2021.

Phase Two (2022)

3. Identify solutions to streamline professional development offerings to school library and media professionals
4. Rebuild relationship with GLMA

Phase Three (2023)

5. Task GLA Membership Committee with redefining and marketing GLA membership for school library and media professionals
6. Create an award to be given to a school librarian or media specialist

Phase One (2021)

1. Allow for the election of non-division members as division officers to be elected by members of the Division.
2. Chair of the division will continue to have a voting position on the board.
3. Task the Elections and Nominating Committee with recruiting candidates for this division each year until the division is strong enough to appoint a nominating committee.
4. Create two new officer positions in the Division: Georgia Library Media Association Liaison and Georgia Association for Instructional Technology Liaison
 - a. These roles will be filled by a GLA member. Individuals may be appointed by the Division Chair.
 - b. Each liaison should receive a membership to the organization for which they are a liaison.
 - c. Each liaison should have the opportunity to receive funding to attend professional events hosted by that organization. A budget of \$200 should be set aside for each liaison. Liaison will need to submit a request for funding and provide a report to division members, GLQ news, and the GLA blog.
5. Empower task force to offer 2-3 virtual networking and resource sharing opportunities targeted towards school library and media professionals in 2021

Phase Two (2022)

1. Identify solutions to streamline professional development offering to school library and media professionals in Georgia from Georgia Association for Instructional Technology, Georgia Library Media Association, and GLA.
 - a. Differentiate services between the three organizations so that school library and school media professionals have more robust opportunities for professional development.
 - b. Explore membership joint members or discounted membership options that allow individuals to join two or more of the organizations at the same time.
2. Appoint a GLA member or GLA Executive Board member to serve as an elected or temporary liaison to Georgia Library Media Association to:
 - a. Meet with leadership of Georgia Library Media Association to identify an event that GLA could develop or co-sponsor to serve the needs of school librarians and media professionals throughout Georgia.
 - b. Explore requirements and benefits of becoming a Georgia Library Media Association partner or affiliate and determine if this is something that the GLA Executive Board would like to pursue.
 - c. Review GLA's requirements for partnership and affiliate with other organizations.
 - d. Present a plan of action for developing a relationship to the GLA Executive Board for consideration.

Phase Three (2023)

1. Task GLA Membership Committee with redefining and marketing the benefits of GLA membership for school library and media professionals
 - a. Identify and create goals for how GLA and the School Library & Media Division can differentiate itself from Georgia Association for Instructional Technology and Georgia Library Media Association.
 - b. Create a marketing plan that includes:
 - i. Developing a flyer or website that can be distributed to the resource officers in every school district to present library and media center employees with a clear picture of what GLA membership means for them.
 - ii. Recruiting existing members of the School Library & Media Division to promote GLA membership at one school district meetings each year.
2. Appoint a subcommittee of the Awards Committee to identify opportunities for creating or co-sponsoring an award for a school library professional.

Rationale

The School Library & Media Division has historically found it difficult to recruit new leadership or engage members in the development of programming for the division. The division either operates without leadership for significant periods of time or is led by an individual who takes on the role until they burnout or move on to other projects.

There are several reasons why it is in GLA's interest to maintain the School Library & Media Division:

1. GLA aspires to be an umbrella organization that serves the needs of all existing and emerging library and information professionals in Georgia.
2. Serving the needs of different types of library and information professionals increases the opportunity for cross pollination, information sharing, career development, and networking across different tracks of librarianship.
3. The School Library & Media Division has 85 members, 47 of which are school librarians or media specialists who would have limited reason to join GLA without the presence of this Division. That would result in a loss of \$1645 in membership dues.
4. In many districts in Georgia, school library and media professionals are required to join a library association. While these professionals want opportunities for professional development and networking, they have limited time for leadership roles. If GLA is able to refocus the benefits of membership in this division away from leadership opportunities to the offering of programming and networking opportunities produced specifically for the needs of school library and media professionals, GLA could see an increase in membership.

Task Force Members

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