

The California School Library Association (CSLA) — through its members and advocates — works to make a difference for all Californians by providing adequately funded and staffed school libraries. Information and media literacy skills are essential to thrive in an information world of accelerated change through technological advances such as Artificial Intelligence. Access to diverse, accurate information and to instruction provided by teacher librarians credentialed in information & media literacy ensures equity for all of California's students.

CSLA actively advocates for all library staff and students in California by supporting legislation that addresses the diverse informational needs of students in all areas of CA, especially those in rural and underserved populations who lack access to public libraries.

CSLA supports or initiates legislation that uplifts and protects the following:

- 1. Intellectual Freedom for Everyone in California Schools**
- 2. Equitable access to information that is diverse and inclusive**
- 3. Equitable access to qualified library personnel, including a credentialed teacher librarian and a qualified classified library assistant**

We commit to achieving these legislative goals through the following means:

1. Collaboration with state-level education policy leaders to promote and advocate for school libraries as a vehicle to accomplish key educational priorities and initiatives, including integrating media literacy and AI literacy via the California Model School Library Standards (MSLS) into content area frameworks;
2. Continued advocacy to hold California accountable to maintain current and accurate Model School Library Standards (MSLS). An update to the MSLS provides clear standards to adequately prepare students to meet the demands and challenges of the current information landscape Working with county offices of education and local public school districts to build the capacity to support excellent, fully-staffed school library programs;
3. Initiating and supporting efforts to improve literacy, learning, and libraries across the state;
4. Leading professional development to facilitate collaboration between teacher librarians and other credentialed teachers to implement the MSLS, to integrate the school library program in all curricular areas, to integrate AI and media literacy into all content areas, and to support the role of classified library staff in library programs and operations.

CSLA monitors all state legislation that may impact items on the above list or that are identified as having an impact on libraries, library funding and/or library staff, as well as working with our lobbyist at Ball/Frost Group, library advocates and California legislators to initiate legislation that supports these priorities.