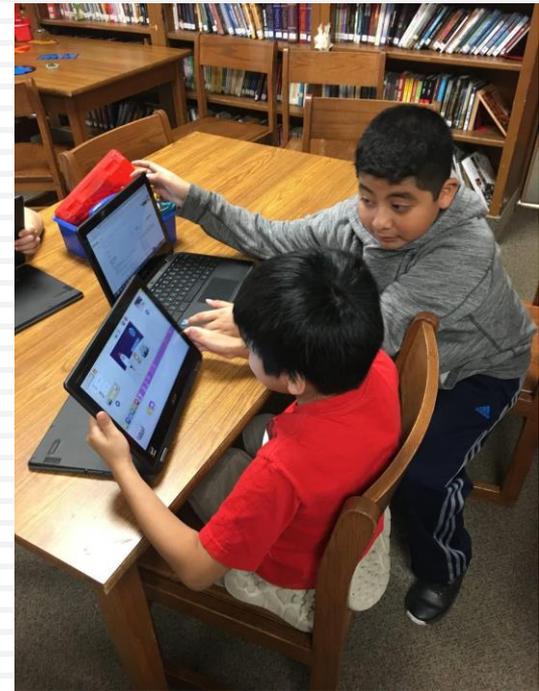


# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Libraries: Critical Partners for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners



# Agenda for today

- ❖ Who we are
- ❖ Library 101
- ❖ Libraries as partners
- ❖ Select policy issues
- ❖ Discussion



# Who we are:

## The American Library Association

For more than 140 years, ALA has been the trusted voice of libraries, advocating for the profession and the library's role in enhancing learning and ensuring access to information for all.

- ❖ Larra Clark, Deputy Director, PLA and Public Policy,
- ❖ Marijke Visser, Associate Director, Public Policy



# Library 101

- ❖ Libraries then and now
- ❖ Fun facts
- ❖ E's of libraries
- ❖ School libraries
- ❖ Digital inclusion



# Library 101

- ❖ **Libraries then and now**
  - ❖ What do *YOU* think of when you hear the word library?
  - ❖ Fundamentally, libraries have always been about equitable access to information and resources for all
  - ❖ Formats & tools change—mission stays same
  - ❖ Libraries are LOCAL and develop/offer resources based on needs of communities they serve

# Library 101

## ❖ Fun Facts

- ❖ There are more public libraries than Starbucks locations in the United States
- ❖ There are more than 120,000 *total* US libraries (including K-12 school, military, and public)
- ❖ Americans go to school, public and academic libraries more than three times as frequently as they go to the movies.

# Library 101

## ❖ E's of Libraries

- ❖ Education—early learning, summer reading, homework help, GED prep and testing
- ❖ Employment—online certifications, help with resumes and online job searches
- ❖ Entrepreneurship—“maker” spaces, market research
- ❖ Empowerment—digital literacy, accessibility
- ❖ Engagement—community partnerships

# Library 101

## ❖ School libraries

- ❖ Cuts to school librarians may be hurting college and work readiness. Recent Stanford University study found that more than 80% of middle schoolers can't tell the difference between sponsored content and a real news article.
- ❖ School librarians work with teachers to support learning tied to curriculum and standards
- ❖ School libraries support critical thinking and research skills + promote reading

# Library 101

## ❖ Digital Inclusion

- ❖ “Triple play:” broadband access, devices, expert staff to guide, teach and train
- ❖ Needed technology skills continue to shift— from mouse skills to Office applications to social media to coding. Libraries are places of lifelong learning!

# Libraries Transform

## More on the E's of Libraries

- ❖ [An overview video](#)
- ❖ [Education](#)
- ❖ [Employment](#)
- ❖ [Entrepreneurship](#)
- ❖ [Engagement](#)
- ❖ [Empowerment](#)

# Libraries serve your constituents...

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Through technology access, robust collections, and trained staff

- ❖ Digital collections
- ❖ Wi-fi lending
- ❖ Military libraries
- ❖ ConnectHome
- ❖ Tribal libraries

# Our issues (a selection for today)

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- ❖ Equitable access to fast, affordable, open broadband
- ❖ Tribal Connect Act
- ❖ STEM and Computational Thinking
- ❖ Census 2020

# Questions and discussion



# Five takeaways

- ❖ Reading is fundamental! Support school libraries and librarians; connect with public library summer reading programs
- ❖ Help students get Ready to Code (next slide)
- ❖ Check out your libraries' "virtual branch" (web site) of digital resources
- ❖ Get your students public library cards!
- ❖ Check out [digitallearn.org](https://digitallearn.org) if you need free digital literacy lessons (esp for parents/caregivers)

# Find out more

## ❖ Resources

- ❖ [Digital Empowerment in America's Libraries](#)
- ❖ [Careers for Youth in the Digital Age](#)
- ❖ [Libraries Help and Honor our Veterans](#)
- ❖ [Libraries and E-rate](#)
- ❖ [Libraries Ready to Code](#) (video)
- ❖ [Ready to Code: Connecting Youth to CS Opportunity through Libraries](#)

## ❖ Follow us

- ❖ Our blog [District Dispatch](#)
- ❖ On Twitter [@alalibrary](#)
- ❖ On Facebook [@AmericanLibraryAssociation](#)

# Thank you!

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- ❖ Larra Clark [lclark@alawash.org](mailto:lclark@alawash.org)
- ❖ Marijke Visser [mvisser@alawash.org](mailto:mvisser@alawash.org)