

## Keeping the Connection to Collaboration

Open doors to collaborating with your school and public library through key ideas:

- Student Book Groups
- School Study Workshops
- Special Reading Events
- Library Staff Book Talks
- Teacher Programs
- Regional Library Network
- Professional Development
- Teen Advisory Boards



## COMMUNICATE AND COLLABORATE!

School and Public Libraries can host a number of collaborative programs, and it all starts with communicating,

Ways that worked for us:

- ❖ Meet/email regularly, to plan needs around school projects
- ❖ Have a 'meet your Public Librarian' Day at school, for students & staff
- ❖ Do conferences, committees, library workshops together, as a team
- ❖ Refer students to Public Library for help and materials
- ❖ Tell teachers about library resources, inter-library loan, network databases
- ❖ Plan fundraisers together, and help at each other's event

**Collaboratively Co-hosted by Book Group Co-Leaders:**

**Patsy Diver**, Library Teacher &  
**Maria Neville**, Library Aide,  
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Librarian, Millis Public Library

**Millis Middle/High School Library:**

[http://www.millis.k12.ma.us/  
programs/library/middlehigh](http://www.millis.k12.ma.us/programs/library/middlehigh)

**Millis Public Library:**

[www.millislibrary.org](http://www.millislibrary.org)

## School/Public Library Collaboration Works!

**Millis Middle/High School Library**

**& Millis Public Library**

**WORKING TOGETHER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS!**



# School Library + Public Library = Student Success!



## Collaboration Connects!

In any school or town, collaboration between the public library and the school library is an effective means for bettering programs and services for students. State studies connect student achievement with school libraries. Even greater is the opportunity for student success when the school and town libraries work collaboratively.

How to start? Use the school's calendar. At the start of school, meet with the Public Library Youth Services staff to plan and share ideas for the year. Invite the staff to come greet students and faculty, too. Then set dates on a regular basis to assess student-based needs.

Plan a school visit to the Public Library or have the Youth Services librarian visit your school.

"Student Study Sessions" at the Public Library can involve teachers, display resources, and emphasize the school/public library connection.

## Book Groups

Millis has been able to offer a number of after-school reading activities for students, including Middle School Book Groups and "Drop-in" book talks for high school students. These groups can include students from a variety of school situations.

## Professional Programs

To connect the Millis School and Public Libraries professionally, the library staff includes each other in membership for committees, programs, and projects.

Each staff participates in areas such as MLS and MSLA conferences, committees to support the School and Public Libraries, and reading-focused programming.

In addition, the library staff members meet informally for book discussion and reviews, as well as brainstorming for programs and grant possibilities.

The "Millis Reads" program is an annual community book read event, initiated by the School and Public Library staff.

## Special Events

The School Library and Public Library can share literary events, such as Poetry Nights or Author Talks. In addition, the Public Library can offer presentation space. Multimedia Student Projects, Film Festivals, Study Groups and Art Shows are examples of this interaction. The library may also include review sessions and testing for AP or SAT exams.

## Summer Reading

Summer Reading provides an opportunity for the Public and School Libraries to discuss new titles, share materials, and assist teachers in creating interesting book lists for students.

Drop-in book discussions, pre-release parties for book-based movies, and "Movie Night" events connect the school and public library throughout the summer.

**Collaboration:  
Working Together**