

The Delaware Association of School Librarians met at the Appoquinimink Community Library in Middletown on Monday, March 26.

Tim Cooper, Ronniere Robinson, and Alison Wessel from the Delaware Health and Social Services Department presented information about becoming volunteers with the Delaware Medical Reserve Corps (<https://sites.udel.edu/delawaremrc/>) and school librarians becoming hosts and experts in "Distraction Kits" housed in emergency shelter locations so that families in crisis have someone to keep their minds off the trauma they're going through. For more information, contact Alison Wessel at alison.wessel@state.de.us. The presentation and a fact sheet about the kits are attached.

Maisha Duncan and Dianna McKeller from the University of Delaware presented wonderful information about UDLib/SEARCH, pointing out features that tend to go unnoticed that will be very helpful in training teachers and students in how to use the wonderful resource available to them! To schedule a training at your school or district in-service day, visit <https://udlibsearch.lib.udel.edu/educators/training/> for contact information for your grade level. Some of our favorite tips:

- The "For Educators" page has links at the bottom that give information such as how to use Google Drive with UDLib/SEARCH databases.
- You can create and save assignments or view lesson plans from other educators by using My Britannica. The PDF explaining how to access My Britannica is attached.
- Educators looking for ways to find content at specific reading levels should refer to the research help guide on this topic.
- Standardized test preparation, including timed practice tests and Peterson's test preparation books, is offered in the UDLib/SEARCH database Testing and Education Reference Center.
- If there is no link to UDLib/SEARCH embedded in the Schoology accounts for your school district and you know the name of the Schoology representative for your district, please send the Schoology representative's contact information to Erin Daix at daix@udel.edu.

Harry Brake, the school librarian at Woodbridge High School, shared information about a book-exchange database that he's been working on with the help of student workers. He's also trained his student workers in how to apply for grants to supplement the school library's budget. They also have several international projects if other libraries would like to be involved, they'd love to discuss those possible collaborations! Woodbridge Library's latest newsletter can be found here, and the link for the book database is embedded in it: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qRTiilZVKgAk7tur_QwOdQtTydTDAggSb/view?usp=sharing. For more information about any of these, please contact Harry at harry.brake@wsd.k12.de.us.

A few additional reminders and announcements:

- Nominations for SLOTY and Administrator Award for Excellence close on March 31. For more info, visit <https://dla.lib.de.us/awards-citations/dasl-awards/>.
- Starting in May, the Executive Board will have two openings: Vice President and Treasurer. If you're interested in either position or would like to nominate someone, please contact Rachel West.
- DLA is hosting a trivia night on Friday, April 6, in Milford. The event flyer is attached. If you're attending, please register here: <https://goo.gl/forms/6DvIWKGOJZK6jvKg2>.
- Each division must offer a Silent Auction basket at the MLA/DLA Annual Conference. If you have something you'd like to contribute to our basket, please let Rachel West know ASAP.

- Our next meeting will be at the MLA/DLA Annual Conference on Friday, May 4, at 9 am. Information about our annual End of (School) Year Dinner is forthcoming.

Thanks for reading! Enjoy your spring break! And as always, please let me know if there's anything I can do for you and your district.

Rachel West