



PCHS LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS REPORT 2018

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THE LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS DEFINED

“A **learning commons** is a whole school approach to building a participatory **learning** community. The **library learning commons (LLC)** is the physical and virtual collaborative **learning** hub of the school.” (canadianschoollibraries.ca) It promotes the personalization of deep learning, inquiry and the integration of technology. The Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School LLC strives to meet the needs of our school’s community by providing a safe and welcoming environment for all where creation, collaboration and communication are encouraged.

- serving approximately 660 students and 60 staff members
- print and digital resources
- over 18,000 books in three languages
- magazines in English and in French, in print and digital versions
- 7,500 sq. ft.

Our collection constantly changes in response to the programs offered at PCHS, the curriculum, and the vastly differing needs and abilities of our students.

REGARD DATABASE

The Library uses Regard, a GRICS product and a standard throughout the Lester B. Pearson School Board. The merged database for high schools makes it possible to share the combined knowledge of the Board's high school librarians. It also allows for inter-school loans. It is regularly updated. Contingency plans are in place when the database is inaccessible due to network failure.

TECHNOLOGY

ONLINE DATABASES

- available at school and at home via the library webpage & LBPSB Fusion/Single Sign On
- SSO/Fusion/Google accounts management provided by school librarian to all students
- an average \$1300.00 charged to the library's budget annually. \$500 paid by ESD in 2018
- password accessible
- databases provide MLA Citations to help curb plagiarism
- currently offered as encyclopedias, media, news, research & curriculum: CPI.Q Infotrac, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Universalis, Edumedia + Scoop + Overdrive + more!

SMARTBOARD & LAPTOP

- convenient permanent installation in the library
- available to teachers & students with convenient flexible-style tables = increased use!
- practical, in-demand addition to library learning commons bookings

HARDWARE & SOFTWARE

- 16 PC units equipped with Windows 7 and Google™ Apps, on built-in counters
- 12 Chromebooks + charging station. 14 new Chromebooks expected in 2018-2019
- new charging station and units on order (NTIC grant)
- free password-accessible wi-fi access available to students
- headsets & disposable hygienic covers
- IB One-to-One laptop program at all levels
- new Dell office computer equipped with Windows 10 (March 2018)
- **4754 computer sign-ins compared to 3785 last year in spite of the fact that there is a significant increase in students' use of their own devices in the LLC.**

Recommendation

- Additional Chromebooks™ to complement the LBPSB switch to Google™ and to help implement cellphone usage policy – for a total class set of computers in the LLC!
- Consistent use of Google™ Apps must be encouraged throughout the school
- Add charging stations to LLC for student personal devices (outlets/extensions)
- Upgrade outdated Lenovo, hardwired computers. LBPSB adopting Windows 10.

FUSION PORTAL, SINGLE SIGN ON (SSO) & GOOGLE™ APPS

- all students & staff members have access to g-mail and electronic resources
- Google™ Apps For Education strongly encouraged

Recommendation: A significant portion of our budget is spent on online resources. Students and teachers must be encouraged to maximize use of this valuable investment. **Teachers should consider embedding links to these resources in their assignments and projects.**

E-READERS

- 12 KOBO Touch e-readers, 150+ uploaded titles. Max capacity 1000 titles each
- exploring use by students with reading challenges
- title selection is shared among 12 high school libraries

PRINTERS

- HP LaserJet 4050 - students pay 0.10 for each black-and-white page
- HP Colour Jet M452 – students pay 0.15 for each page
- teachers do not pay for prints

We may need to re-evaluate charges for printing to better reflect the rising costs of paper and ink. Students may be encouraged to submit their Google Docs electronically.

SCANNER

- HP ScanJet allows students to upload external images directly to their documents & files

PHOTOCOPIER

- Konica Minolta black-and-white photocopies cost 0.10 each to students
- teachers are asked to make use of the copy room

PCHS WEBSITE

- coordination & uploading with webmaster was shared with Vice-Principal L. Coretti
- updated **LIBRARY WEBPAGE**...<http://pchs.lbpsb.qc.ca/>
- access to our catalogue, an assortment of databases, citation style guides and numerous useful web-links – an essential one-stop page for student homework & research needs

ACQUISITIONS

- 2017-2018 budget of \$9184 for the purchase of books as per Ministry grant
- books, periodicals and periodicals database (code 421)
- specialized materials (code 420) are paid for by the school budget
- **536 books were purchased or donated, catalogued and processed**
- 12 books were donated by ESD for the **Battle of the Books** program
- book selection is based on the curriculum, student needs and LLC usage
- extensive weeding of the collection, made necessary with annual purchases
- a marked increase in price and decrease in budgets affected the selection of resources

COMMITTEES, CLUBS & EVENTS

LITERACY

- curated displays and project ideas on expanded definition (financial, digital, media, visual...)
- **collaborated on Indigenous Library website - <http://indiglib.ca/>**
- weekly **Comic Book Club** with teacher A. Leiva. Numbers remain consistent.
- compulsory library instruction & basic research methods for all Sec. 1 students
- numerous **digital information literacy** workshops at all levels offered upon teacher request
- increased Friendship, Love & Sexual Health (FLASH) resources – LGBTQ theme
- **presenter at Provincial Conference of School Librarians. L. Coretti & A. Leiva, collaborators**
- **created “research roundup” challenge which includes web literacy challenge**

BOOKSHARE + CELA + DOLPHIN EASYREADER APP FOR PRINT DISABLED

- collaborated with The Learning Centre in establishing this essential service for students
- Recommendation: 35 students have been identified to date as eligible for this resource. A short presentation should be made to teachers early in the next school year.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2018

- annual challenge included 12 book selections with lunchtime and after school practices
- students participated in local, regional & final competitions & placed second in close races

LEGO™ + MAKERSPACES + DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS™ + GAMES CLUBS

- expanded Comic Book Club and game resources
- guest teacher-presenters invited to challenge students after school to “learn by making”
- **Crossover Comics bookstore (recently accredited) addressed students**

IB PERSONAL PROJECT & MENTORSHIP

- an on-going privilege to take part in IB mentoring, reading committee and judging process
- **involved in evening Personal Project info session for parents, IB Personal Project Studios**
- mentored 2 students in 2017-2018 and assisted in IB students’ Personal Project research
- hosted the IB Personal Project Exhibition in the LLC & MUN research
- IB and staff meetings take place in the library every Late Entry Day, once per month
- **IB Service as Action and Leadership Community Service opportunities were expanded**

VACCINATIONS

- 1 session scheduled in the Library resulted in its closure for that day

PARENT WORKSHOPS

- **a workshop for parents “Digital Resources Offered by the PCHS LLC” held in November**
- the library hosted evening workshops organized by the PPO

BIBLIOMOBILE

- **expanded collection of FSL resources available to teachers**
- due to popular demand, book bins circulated to 2 French classes in our Middle School

DIGITAL LIBRARY

- students and staff now have access to over 1200 titles in OverDrive (e-books & audiobooks). [The free SYNC Audiofile Summer Read Program is available through OverDrive on SSO.](#)
- details available on library webpage and <https://lbsbqc.libraryreserve.com>

CLASSES BOOKED

- the library accommodated **391** classes compared to 388 last year
- 2 lunch periods saw an estimated 150 students daily
- availability of bookings for classes is reduced by library closures for school-wide events

STUDENTS ON PASS

- **448** students were sent to the library by teachers during class time (increase of 20%)
- students using their Gold Pass require permission (date and signature) from their teacher
- students who do not have independent work to complete are sent back to class
- students who choose to use the Atrium while on Pass are not supervised by the librarian
Their numbers are not reflected in these statistics.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

- 1 parent volunteered an average of 1.5 hours per week to help cover new books

STATISTICS

Statistics indicate a steady increase in the use of LLC resources. **4392** books were borrowed this year. On-site consultations, while significant, are not documented. A subtle shift towards digital consultations is evident. The obvious increase in digital consultations and e-book use greatly affects the numbers. Statistics do not reflect database use: Infotrac, OverDrive, Bookshare, and so on.

English Fiction	1613
Non-Fiction & Reference (Eng., Fr. & SPA)	1247
French Fiction	433
Graphica	711
Other (non-book material)	388
TOTAL	4392

- all but 5 borrowed books have been returned & shelved
- all books purchased this year have been catalogued, processed and shelved

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018-2019

- continue to upgrade & increase technological resources
- pursue additional 21st Century Library concepts to enhance services to our community
- **explore “Learning Lunches in the LLC.” Several staff members have expressed interest!**
- offer additional workshops to staff, students and parents **ONGOING!**
- encourage greater student participation in community service work in the library **ONGOING!**
- promote Going Google™ & encourage student use of research databases **ONGOING!**
- continue to encourage accurate, effective research skills among students **ONGOING!**