



## PCHS LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS REPORT 2022

*"Yet another school year like no other"*

*Prepared by Carroll-Ann Case*

### 2021-2022 RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED - CHALLENGES MET ONCE AGAIN

The covid-19 pandemic, declared in March 2020, showed no sign of relinquishing its hold on our lives. The **PCHS Library Learning Commons (LLC)** continued to be a multi-purpose, multi-functional resource. The Student Success Homework Program took place in the LLC four days per week. Student access to the LLC was made possible with teacher reservations **only**. Whether as an alternate teacher staffroom or an alternate class space, the purpose of the LLC was "to meet the needs of the entire PCHS community's information-seeking, curricular, and leisure reading goals..." - AASL

The global pandemic meant supporting in-person or online **digital learning** including:

- multiple, weekly **Zoom** meetings and online learning
- contributing and participating in numerous **webinars and Quick PD's**
- providing an **"Ask the Librarian"** online service

The LLC is flexible and adapts. Encouraging reading for pleasure means encouraging email communication with students. Overdue fines have been eliminated. It also means "re-imagining equity & access for diverse youth" and implementing equity-informed Library selections and weeding.

### 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. This platform is not available for "work-at-home".

## TECHNOLOGY

### ONLINE DATABASES

- available at school and at home via the library webpage & [libraries.lbpearson.ca](http://libraries.lbpearson.ca)
- SSO/Mosaik/Google accounts management provided by school librarian to all students
- an average of \$1300.00 charged to the library's budget annually. + \$500 paid by ESD
- password accessible
- databases provide MLA Citations to help curb plagiarism
- Sora by Overdrive and Biblius e-books, Gale OneFile CPI.Q, Britannica, Universalis, Canadian Points of View Reference, NFB Education + so much more!

### PHOTOCOPIER

- updated Konica Minolta, black-and-white photocopies, still **to be networked**
- teachers are asked to make use of the copy room

### PCHS WEBSITE

- 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

Recommendation: A switch to the board's DNN platform and website format should be considered in order to be in line with other LBPSB high schools.

## ACQUISITIONS

- 2021-2022 budget of \$18280 for the purchase of books as per Ministry grants
- books, periodicals and periodicals database (code 421)
- specialized materials (code 420) are paid for by the school budget
- **760 books were purchased, catalogued and processed**
- limited access to accredited bookstores seriously impacted collection development
- book selection is based on the curriculum, student needs and LLC usage
- extensive weeding of the collection - discarded books were donated to students & staff
- a marked increase in cost impacted the selection of resources

### LITERACY

- curated displays and project ideas (financial, digital, media, visual...)
- library instruction & basic research methods for students
- prepared thematic reading lists (Indigenous, BIPOC, FLASH, LGBTQ+, Mental Health +)
- an "Up & Coming Black Authors" collection
- collaborated with the PCHS Community Development Agent
- collaborated in school Instagram & Twitter account posts

### BOOKSHARE + CELA + DOLPHIN EASYREADER APP FOR PRINT DISABLED

- collaborated with The Learning Centre in managing this essential service for students

## IB PERSONAL PROJECT & MENTORSHIP – JAC STAGIÈRE

- an on-going privilege to take part in IB students’ Personal Project research
- mentored John Abbott College student in Information & Library Technologies
- numerous IB Service as Action and Leadership Community Service opportunities

## DIGITAL LIBRARY

- students and staff have access to Sora by OverDrive & Biblius (e-books & audiobooks)
- details available on library webpage and <https://lbpsbqc.libraryreserve.com>
- students are encouraged to subscribe to their local public library and to the BANQ

## CLASSES BOOKED

- the LLC accommodated **339** classes compared to 186 last year
- masks and sanitizing individual work spaces were mandatory

## STATISTICS

Pandemic-related restrictions meant fewer physical loans. On-site consultations are not documented. The necessary shift towards digital consultations is evident. Statistics do not reflect database or online reading: Infotrac, OverDrive, Biblius, Bookshare, and so on.

English Fiction	742
Non-Fiction & Reference (Eng., Fr. & SPA)	405
French Fiction	282
Graphica, Bandes Dessinées, & Mangas	977
Other (non-book material & Chromebooks)	309
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2715</b>

- **23** books borrowed by students have not been returned and have been considered as lost.
- 1 Chromebook was lost

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022-2023

- continue to upgrade & increase digital resources
- pursue additional 21<sup>st</sup> Century Library concepts to enhance services to our community
- explore “Learning Lunches in the LLC” Several staff members have expressed interest!
- promote library instruction for students and staff
- encourage greater student participation in community service work in the library
- encourage student use of research databases
- continue to encourage accurate, effective research skills among students
- expand resources based on current event themes

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*PCHS has a full-time, fully trained, experienced Library Technician whose duties include:*

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- Management of the library, and of the library's annual budget; scheduling class visits
- Collection development; book, database, and magazine purchasing
- Supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the LLC
- Cataloguing and classification of new books; physical processing of new books
- Library instruction, ie. guiding students how to find and use print and online resources
- Reference services, ie. assisting students in finding appropriate resources, including effective Internet searching; promoting school board databases
- Computer and Google instruction
- Password management
- Creating a collaborative interaction between the Library Learning Commons, teachers & Resource
- Searching, co-planning, and gathering books on specific topics for teachers' class assignments
- Managing 2 student lunch-hours and animations daily (Junior & Senior)
- Developing library programs to support the curriculum, ex. Battle of the Books, Book-spine Poetry
- Planning and curating thematic bulletin board and book displays
- Library promotion programs & contests
- Circulation desk duties
- Overdue book tracking and notices
- Training student volunteers and JAC student-librarians in library duties
- Monitoring the regular functioning of the technical equipment; contacting computer technical staff as needed
- Library webpage updating and management as required
- Providing copyright advice
- Curating, and sharing appropriate resources from the Web
- Maintaining open communication with LBPSB library technicians
- Preparing Annual Reports to the PCHS community