

SSLMP Report for Fall Conference of the Wyoming Library Association
Respectfully submitted by Marylou Bowles Banks, Chair
September 22, 2004

This past year has seen the School Section of Library Media Personnel (SSLMP) make some progress in meeting identified goals as well as pursuing ongoing initiatives. As a section, we have appreciated the support of the Wyoming Library Association with regard to strategic planning, conference programming, school library certification issues, and procurement of additional electronic databases through legislative funding. Our intent is to continue to make this section a vital, contributing component of WLA, to increase membership and involvement within the school library community, and to support school library media personnel in all aspects of librarianship.

The highlights of this year include beneficial SSLMP-specific sessions at the 2003 WLA fall conference and a productive meeting held jointly with the CYA Section in Dubois in May of 2004. Several schools have taken advantage of Chris Van Burgh's training on WYLD databases, and we continue to encourage and model the use of these valuable resources in all school libraries. In August 2004, Jan Segerstrom again facilitated the fifth annual Information Power class in Casper, with 27 people attending. This year the class focused on *Best Practices in Teaching Information Literacy*, and included dialog with representatives from the Professional Teaching Standards Board and UWCC relative to certification issues for aspiring Wyoming school librarians. Our section continues to support ongoing initiatives to identify and implement information literacy into the Wyoming Department of Education revised standards, to support and provide input into the Wyoming book awards, and to work toward the goal of having certified librarians in all Wyoming school libraries. We were pleased that several school librarians attended the Wyoming Library Leadership Institute, and that we have opportunities for professional development through WLA and MPLA grant programs.

Due to Mitzi Gligoria leaving the state, Mary Jayne Jordan accepted the appointment as Chair-elect. We still need to revisit our by-laws and explore marketing strategies to increase membership and involvement in SSLMP. As our network of dedicated, competent school library media personnel increases, we will be able to better serve all our patrons in Wyoming public schools and to be a strong voice in WLA.