

LEADING FROM THE LIBRARY BY EMPOWERING LEARNERS, ADVANCING LITERACIES, AND PROTECTING THE FREEDOM TO READ



Future Ready Librarians® lead, teach, and support educational transformation through their professional practice, programs, and spaces. Aligned with the Future Ready Schools® (FRS) framework, this guide identifies how school librarians can serve as catalysts for learning, innovation, and equity across the school community.

By leveraging their unique position at the intersection of curriculum, technology, and student engagement, Future Ready Librarians build instructional partnerships, promote essential literacies—including media, digital, and AI—and create inclusive, flexible environments that foster inquiry, well-being, and lifelong learning.

The actions outlined in this framework position school librarians as vital leaders in designing inclusive, future-ready learning experiences that prepare students for life, learning, and work. The actions outlined in this framework position school librarians as vital leaders in designing inclusive, future-ready learning experiences that prepare students for life, learning, and work.



LITERACIES

Promotes Multiple Literacies

Develops students' skills to access, evaluate, and create content across print and digital formats while promoting critical thinking and literacies skills including media, information, digital, news, financial, health, and AI.

Protects the Freedom to Read

Ensures all students can freely access diverse, inclusive, and outstanding print and digital resources that reflect their identities, expand worldviews, and uphold their right to read.



CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT

Curates Print and Digital Resources

Selects, organizes, and shares high-quality, diverse resources to support instruction, equitable access, and intellectual freedom

Builds Instructional Partnerships

Collaborates with educators to design lessons and curriculum that promote critical thinking, multiple literacies, creativity, research, and responsible technology use.

Empowers Students as Creators

Encourages students to "ethically" create digital products that showcase critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and authentic problem solving.

Guides Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence

Helps educators and students understand, integrate, and use AI ethically, creatively, transparently, and safely.



PERSONALIZED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Facilitates Personalized Professional Learning

Leads and curates learning experiences that build educator capacity in multiple literacies, critical thinking, and instructional technology.



ROBUST INFRASTRUCTURE

Ensures Equitable Digital Access

Advocates for equitable access to print and digital resources transforming the library into a hub for student-centered learning.



BUDGET AND RESOURCES

Invests Strategically in Resources and Learning Spaces

Champions funding and equity by investing in inclusive collections, technologies, and spaces that reflect student needs and interests.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Builds Meaningful Partnerships with Families and Community Organizations

Collaborates to advocate for the library, share its impact, and showcase the value it adds to student learning, school improvement, and the broader community.



DATA AND PRIVACY

Advocates for Student Data Privacy

Promotes and protects student data privacy by modeling responsible practices and advocating for policies that safeguard student information to create safe, inclusive learning environments.

Promotes the Ethical Use of Research, AI, & Literacies

Teaches ethical use of information, technology, and media, guiding students to be responsible and respectful digital citizens.



USE OF SPACE AND TIME

Designs Collaborative Spaces

Creates flexible, inclusive environments that support collaboration, well-being, and inquiry for students, staff, and the community.



COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

Leads Beyond the Library

Aligns library goals with district priorities, driving collaboration and innovation across the learning community.