

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
ALA Annual Conference, Las Vegas  
June 27 – July 1, 2014

**Topic:** Partnerships Best Practices

**Background:** YALSA's [Future of Library Services for and with Teens](#) report highlights “partnering strategically to reach beyond the library’s walls” as one of the five fundamental elements that will need to shift in order for libraries and communities to successfully work for and with teens” (p. 21-24). Members may need additional support around best practices, strategies or resources in order to partner strategically in their community. The Board will want to discuss this topic specifically, and what, if any, additional resources are needed by members. Maureen Hartman has presented the information below for the Board’s consideration.

**Action Required:** Discussion

---

**Overview:**

YALSA's [Future of Library Services for and with Teens](#)

**Tasks already completed or in progress include:**

Futures Taskforce is creating content, presentations and examples for members, looking for opportunities to share the report with other ALA divisions and other partners beyond libraries.

YALS editor establishing both regular feature and articles focused on report.

YALSAblog has been re-focused in support of the report.

YALSA staff coordinated online discussions of report in March.

YALSA staff (with help from Continuing Education committee) offering webinars throughout 2014 focused on report

National Guidelines Committee will revisit guidelines and issue papers

Research Committee will revise Research Agenda to reflect report

**Questions to explore before taking next steps:**

- Why are successful partnerships and collaborations important to the Board, to members and to members' libraries?
- How skilled are YALSA members in initiating, developing, sustaining and evaluating partnerships or collaborations as highlighted in the report?
- What existing YALSA work is planned or underway in which partnerships could be highlighted or emphasized differently?
- What kinds of support would be helpful to members?
- What kind of support could YALSA create that libraries would purchase?

**Possible Next Steps:**

1. Incorporate partnerships and collaboration into existing advocacy efforts, including Teen Read Week™, Teen Tech Week™ and/or summer reading/learning efforts and look for other opportunities to embed or highlight partnerships in other existing YALSA projects or tasks.
2. Establish a member taskforce or standing committee to create a position paper, toolkit and/or other resource(s) on this issue
3. No additional action at this time.

**Financial Implications**

- Staff time to support a new member group, if established
- Possible expenses for designing and printing a document, if created by the new member group

**Measuring Success/Impact**

- Tracking usage statistics of any resources that are created and posted online

**YALSA Board of Directors – Annual 2014  
Partnerships Best Practices**

- Anecdotal information from members about their knowledge and skill level relating to partnership work
- A possible member survey to determine if the resources provided by YALSA led to increased partnership efforts in members' communities

**Existing YALSA resources:**

[Future of Library Services for and with Teens](#)

[Guidelines for Strategic Partnerships](#) (Guides partnering process for the organization as a whole).

[Advocacy Toolkit](#)

**Existing ALA resources:**

ALSC's [Engage With Your Community](#) section of [Everyday Advocacy](#)

**Other Resources:**

WebJunction [Partnerships and Collaboration](#) resources

California Library Association, [California Summer Reading Program Con](#)

[Partnerships, Collaboration: What is the Difference?](#) from National Coalit

Include relevant past board documents( if the issue has

Always provide a few additional resources that can help board members learn more about the issue and that can inform decision making/ Be sure to include A4#A resources( like past board documents( policies( etc/