

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas  
January 20 – 24, 2012**

**Topic:** Engaging & Supporting School Library Members

**Background:** At the core of YALSA's mission is its members, and in support of the strategic plan's goal area of Member Recruitment and Engagement, it is vital that the association ensure that it is meeting the needs of all its core member groups. There are 1,221 secondary school librarian members who make up 24.6% of YALSA's total membership. YALSA provides many resources and services helpful to school librarians and their work with teens, yet some school librarians feel left out of YALSA's offerings. YALSA conducted a May 2011 survey of school librarians, and the results from 277 respondents (22.7% of total school librarian members) are the basis behind this proposal.

**Action Required:** Discussion

---

---

**Survey Findings:**

An e-newsletter was overwhelmingly identified as the most useful resource tailored for a secondary school library audience (71%).

An email message was the overwhelmingly preferred method of receiving time-sensitive information from YALSA (91%).

The respondents indicated that they would be most likely (46.8%) to take advantage of school librarian networking opportunities (meet-ups) at state conferences. There was some interest in a unique online social networking space for school librarians, with 49% indicating that they would be somewhat likely to use one.

By far, YA literature is the continuing education topic of highest interest (73.6%) followed by digital literacy, emerging technologies, and teen reading habits/trends, all higher than 50%.

Of all respondents, 23.8% indicated that they were very likely and 54.5% were somewhat likely to participate in intensive, virtual professional development activities that span more than one day.

When asked about awareness of and interest in new resources YALSA has launched in the past year, the most common choice for each example was "unaware but will check

## **YALSA Board Meeting**

