Council Minutes from May 8, 2018

Present: Mary Burns, Saragrace Friday, Holly Mullins, Julie Hengenius, Stacey Donahue, Chris Harris, Amy White, & Nicki Lerczak.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05. Minutes were approved with edits – Motion by Amy, seconded by Julie.

SLS updates and Information:
OverDrive and SLS Digital Content: Conversation about Overdrive at coordinators meeting. Commissioner of Ed wants them to use myON. Capstone books, not popular fiction. There are ways to use Overdrive well – through personalized instruction. Ebook market 17-18% of total book market, recent studies show pleasure reading is not happening through eBooks. Good opportunities for teacher-directed (to help with CBT); iReading is another. May look to shift money to audiobooks. Looking to make it regional, not spending much more than $15k.

SCORE contract/Menu/FishForInfo Contracts: Selected by SLISA to do free/SCORE membership fees waived. Wanted this so we can run our menu of database ordering. WSHWE Boces (north of Albany), wants to pay us $500 to do a database ordering menu. Other NYS school districts are also looking at us, and also looking at us for Fish 4 Info.

Great attendance at Future Ready Libraries and looking forward to Tech Camp.

Grant updates and Innovation:
LTG Application: Finishing up this 3 year cycle of Learning Tech Grant. Go ahead from Mt. Morris Elementary to be our lead school for the next cycle of the Learning Tech Grant – around personalized learning (200,000 a year for 3 years), we’re going to pay for a grant writer ($6 – 7k) for the 7/8/18 due date. We have a very strong chance of getting it. State liked our current grant and was excited to have us reapply. Probably extend out to include 12 other rural districts and include them in the consortium and then will share to the rest of the SLS as we can. Schools involved will get makerspaces, working with a publisher to get 3 of these professionally written & illustrated stories, Brian will go out to implement. The grant is designed so that we will get the money and do some work, but will outsource the rest of the work (authors – writers in residence workshops), ELA and computer science, personalized learning, etc.

Looking to next year and the client groups re: professional development. SLS will send out a survey to see what people want. The recent poverty simulation was really interesting and may help us – through Teacher Resource center. It was a very eye-opening experience. Use this to have conversation about not charging kids for overdue books. Transportation is such a problem – rural is even worse. Indigenous populations – the “res car” used by the people on the reservation. Special mention was given to the book If I Ever Get Out of Here, written by a Buffalo native. Next year is poverty, then autism, then rural populations. Chris is making good connections with people in Rochester. If next year is poverty, would it be good to include
children of migrant families – mobility and logistics perspective? Effect of ACES (adverse childhood experiences) – the trauma on the brain. Lots of good literature to read on that.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 with a motion by Holly and seconded by Stacey.