

# School Library Boot Camp 2015

Final Report

STEM in the 21st Century School Library



**26** Campers from **18** School Systems

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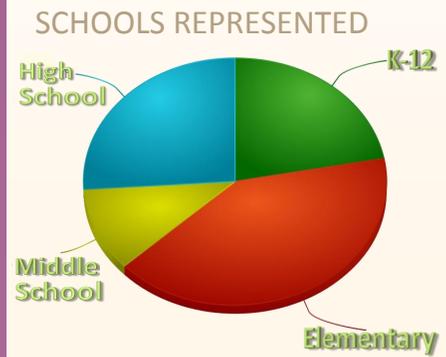
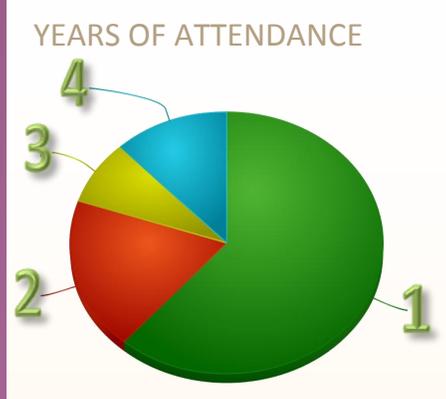
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School Library Boot Camp 2015 was held on the campus of Black Hills State University on July 19-22. The new year, brought a new partnership with BHSU to offer Boot Camp as a methods course for the undergraduate Library Media minor as well as the Masters in Curriculum and Instruction.

This was Boot Camp's fourth year of assisting educators in obtaining school library certification and providing paraprofessionals with deeper understanding of best practices in the school library. Students came from an even mix of rural and urban schools throughout South Dakota. They included school/district librarians and paraprofessionals, teachers with library assignments, content area teachers and technology integrationists.



*Added together those attending Boot Camp return to libraries and classrooms that reach 43% of the student population in South Dakota.*



# STEM in the 21st Century School Library

Boot Camp provides training on best practices in school library instruction for all situations. Each year Boot Camp focuses on a theme important to school librarians as they collaborate and co-teach with other content area teachers. The 2015 theme was “STEM in the 21st Century School Library.” Content was provided through partnerships with experts in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, including the real-world application of:

- Multiple literacies
- Research methods
- Innovation in education

The schedule included seven hands-on training sessions, two Genius Hour dinner events and a tour of the Sanford Underground Research Facility. Campers returned to their schools with skills necessary to integrate and co-teach including:

- Best practices in content instruction
- Higher order thinking skills
- Practical, ethical use of technology
- Social media in the school library

Boot Camp is a State Library training program made possible through funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

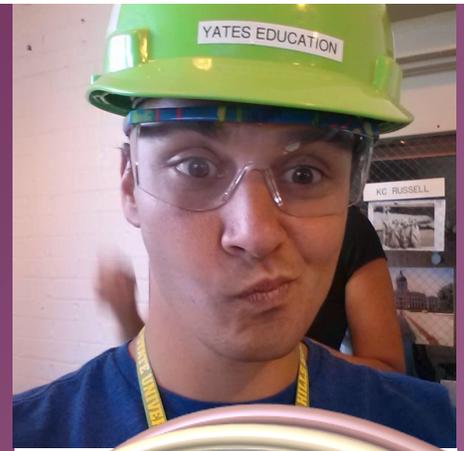
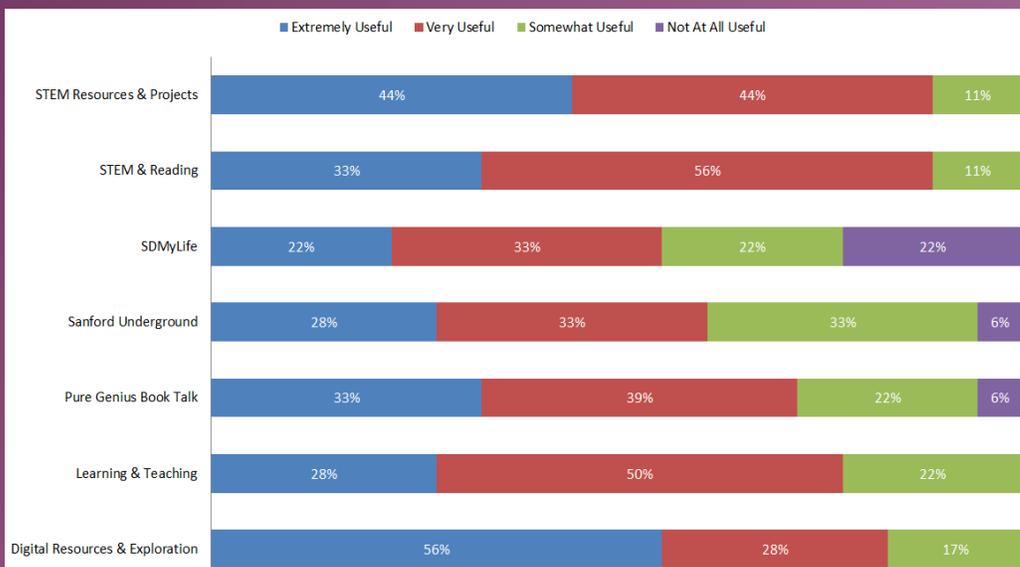
## Measuring Growth & Effectiveness

Boot Camp began and ended with online pretest and post-test assessments of all content presented during the week to gauge learning growth. Students were emailed a voluntary feedback survey with their completion certificate. The survey’s completion rate was nearly 70%.

*When asked if they would recommend Boot Camp to others, 94% of campers answered, “Yes.”*

*12% Educational Growth was Measured from Pretest to Post-Test.*

### TRAINING SESSION USEFULNESS

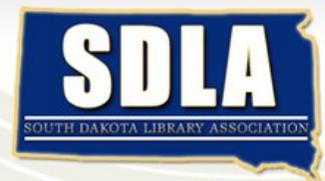


COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS



Learning that works for South Dakota

DOE Division of Career & Technical Education



the university of south dakota.  
University Libraries



## School Library Methods Framework

Students incorporated content from each session to complete a School Library Methods Framework that included:

- Standards-based lessons
- Librarian and teacher co-teaching and collaboration
- Information literacy integration
- Curation of teacher/student print and digital resource sets
- Formative and summative assessment

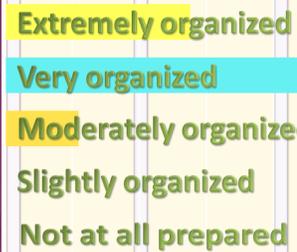
Using Don Wettrick's book, *Pure Genius*, students were challenged to design lessons that would spark higher order thinking and problem solving in students within STEM content areas. Assignments presented in the framework moved beyond traditional research papers to investigation and creation of authentic, meaningful endeavors for classroom students. Graduate students also completed an annotated bibliography of their resource sets.

*"I don't know much about anything of the library in South Dakota so I've just been trying to soak it all up. There are so many intelligent minds working on making the libraries in SD better. Pretty proud of my new home."*

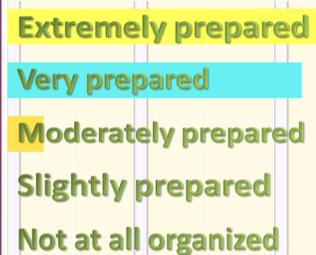
~Korey Erickson

### STUDENT FEEDBACK:

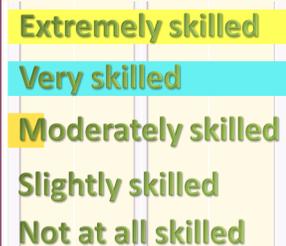
#### Instructor Organization



#### Instructor Preparation



#### Instructor Skills & Experience



#### Camper Skills Improvement



0% 20% 40% 60%

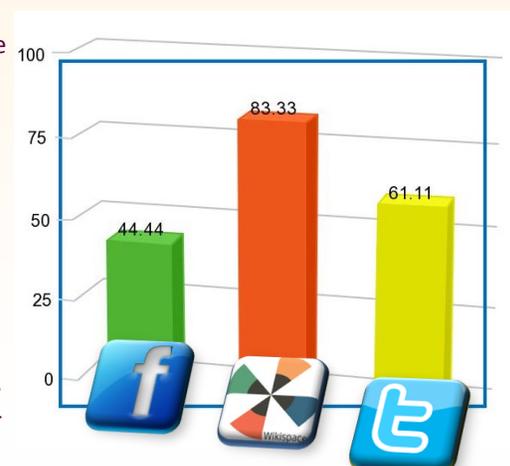
*"Because I have worked with such an effective teacher librarian, I thought I had a pretty good grasp on the librarian's role in the school. Boot Camp showed me that I have a lot to learn! This class was such a phenomenal experience because I walked away with tools to help both classroom teachers and students in my school. "*

~Brandi Swalve

## Social Media & the School Library

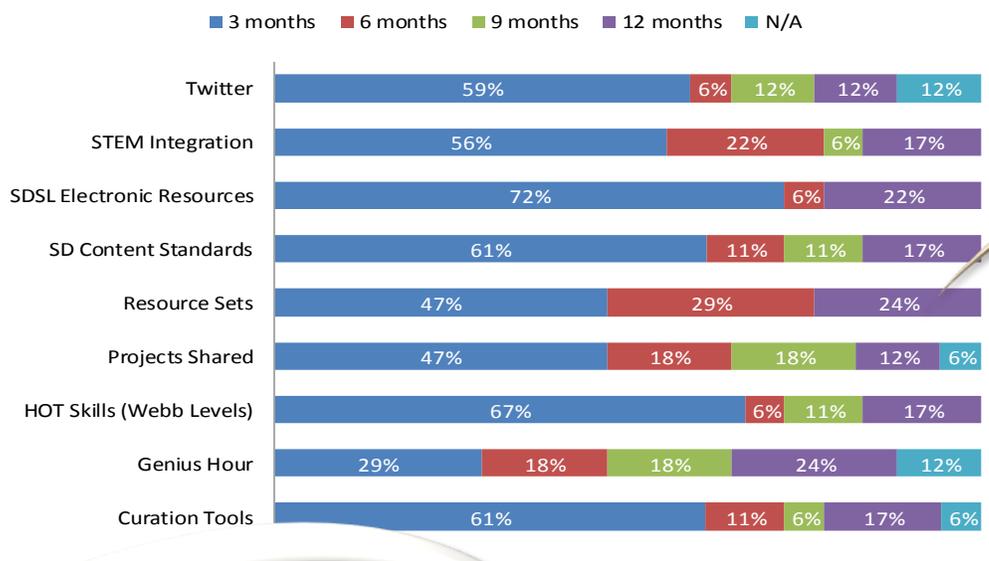
Q: Which of the following items did you find added to your overall Boot Camp experience?

- Facebook—Sharing up-to-date course details
- Wikispaces—Linking to course content and access to projects
- YouTube channels—Viewing and sharing presentations and videos
- Twitter—Using the Triangle-Square-Circle method of formative assessment
- Digital Genius Journals—making note of ideas and resources they found for their project.



# Moving Forward

Which of the following items do you feel confident you will use in your library and teaching practices in the next 3, 6, 9 and 12 months?



## HASHTAG HIGHLIGHTS

Using Twitter, campers shared 3 key points, an idea to integrate and a question still circling after each session.

Tri: No fear of failing, students take a lead, innovate  
 Squ: Student's choose  
 Cir to follow #SLBC2015

Pure Genius: ▲ create culture, collaboration, innovation ■ Mentors matter ● How will we bring about policy change? #SLBC2015

#SLBC2015...▲ Relevancy, culture, policy □ I completely squared up to (bought into) creating a culture in the classroom! ○ Policy issues!

#SLBC2015 Learning and Teaching understanding, analyzing, & making connections  
 changed teacher role  
 librarian's role in today's classroom

#SLBC2015 ▲ Interest=inquiry=spark  
 ■ Looking through NEW eyes  
 ○ Creating passion.

#SLBC2015 Examined your digital footprint lately? As an educator it is our job to help students take ownership of their digital footprint.

#SLBC2015 Need to write/update policies to allow social media

Tri: Maker spaces provide excellent opportunities for learning, don't require a ton of \$, alt them  
 Sq: library not just 4 reading  
 #slbc2015

#SLBC2015  
 STEM  
 Circling more activity at the lab.  
 Triangle 12/300 miles of tunnels  
 6000-8000 underwater  
 Square Foolproof Research Template

#SLBC2015 SDMyLife 3Keys ACT Prep; Career Research; Resume Builder. Sq. Useful tools! Cir. Working with Finance Class teacher to implement

*All students providing feedback indicated they would attend Boot Camp if it were held at an off-campus location.*

## School Library Summit 2015

At the conclusion of Boot Camp, students and other stakeholders came together for the School Library Summit to discuss issues facing school libraries. The event was co-sponsored by the South Dakota Library Association and the State Library. The discussion culminated in the development of two goals for the State Library and School Section of SDLA to focus on during the coming year. Goals for the 2015-16 academic year are:\*

- Greater inclusion and integration of educational efforts with other stakeholder groups during regional meetings.
- Expanding communications through social media; including teacher librarian experts and mentorship for new librarians working collaboratively with the School Section of SDLA.

Summit participants also discussed topics for future training opportunities. During the feedback survey, campers were asked to rank these topics by interest as potential themes and content for Boot Camp 2016.

### TOPIC RANKINGS



\*For more information and past goals visit: [www.bootcamp2015.wikispaces.com](http://www.bootcamp2015.wikispaces.com)