



CARL SANDBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY SYLLABUS



CSMS Library Mission:

The Carl Sandburg MS Library strives to be the hub of the educational community by providing educational resources to enhance the curriculum, collaborating with teachers to develop lessons which will integrate information literacy skills into instruction, and by providing students with the physical and intellectual access to tools and resources that are essential to becoming a community of lifelong learners, avid readers, and global citizens.

CSMS Library Goals:

The goal of the library curriculum is to teach students to become independent researchers. This will be accomplished by reinforcing the steps of the Guided Inquiry Process, as well as introducing advanced methods of traditional and electronic research.

Statement of Purpose:

By reinforcing previously learned research skills, and learning about new resources and techniques, the students will be prepared to complete independent research assignments throughout their education.

Learning Objectives:

The students will demonstrate that they can locate library materials using a keyword, title, and an author search on the electronic catalog.

The students will identify key elements used in writing bibliographic citations using books, databases, and online sources.

The students will learn how to search the internet and databases using strategies that will narrow the number of hits and yield reliable and valid information suitable for their needs.

The students will write bibliographic citations following the MLA guidelines for books, magazines, and electronic sources, including databases and the internet.

The students will locate and properly cite library resources pertaining to a given topic.

Areas of Instruction:

Library Catalog

Topic Selection

- Selecting a topic
- Exploring Information
- Formulating a focus
- Developing a Thesis Statement

Internet

- Search strategies
- Evaluation of websites

Database Searching

- Using FCPS library databases
- Applying search strategies to locate articles
- Identifying key elements needed for MLA citations
- Determining appropriateness of articles based on topic

Citing Your Sources

- Plagiarism
- Paraphrasing
- Parenthetical Citations (In-text Citations)

Data Organization

- Note Taking
- Creating an Outline

Digital Presentation Tools

Writing bibliographic citations following MLA guidelines

- Books
- Databases
- Websites