

In the Bear's Den

A Showcase and Vision for Bartlett's Library by Tom Grenier



<https://snowcitygirl.files.wordpress.com/2012/05/apu-graduation-spring-2012-002.jpg>



<https://images.app.goo.gl/sLN37Fa1qRzomkVq6>

Bartlett's Library and Community

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Bartlett's Community and its Library

Bartlett High School serves approximately 1400 students in an ethnically diverse section of Anchorage, Alaska. The ethnic distribution of the student body is 30% Asian or Pacific Islander, 20% Caucasian, 15% multi-ethnic, 12% African-American, 12% Hispanic, and 11% Alaskan Native or Native American. Bartlett is a Title I school and receives federal aid for educational support programs, nutrition, and other enrichment activities (ASD 2018).

As many of our students are multi-lingual, first-generation US citizens, or new immigrants to the country, the school provides a variety of educational and other services to support our diverse community. In addition to these programs, the school supports ongoing initiatives to promote and increase ethnic diversity in Honors and Advanced Placement classes. The School also supports a host of sports teams and other after-school activities.

(continued on page 2)

Bartlett's Community and its Library (continued from page 1)

The Bartlett School Library is centrally located in the school and a social center of student activity during lunch and before and after school. The library hosts tutoring and other educational support activities after school along with Battle of the Books, Poetry Out Loud, and other literacy based activities. The library is also the venue of choice for scholarship signings and other community celebrations throughout the year. The Bartlett School Librarian and staff maintain a current catalogue of Young Adult literature and other media are maintained for student use as well as professional resources for faculty and staff. The Bartlett High School Librarian and staff are focused on maintaining and developing the school library as a center of community and academic activity within the school.

The Bartlett Library Mission

The Bartlett High School Library provides students with the resources, guidance, and technology needed to support their classroom instruction and journey towards becoming life-long learners and engaged citizens in our information-age society. To achieve these ends, the library operates as a center for academic development and exploration, community interaction, cultural and media literacy, and venue for the celebration of literacy, achievement, and the exchange and sharing of ideas for all students in the Bartlett High School community.

The Role of the Bartlett High School Librarian

The Bartlett High School Librarian will work to secure and update resources, foster an environment conducive to learning and critical thinking, and facilitate access to an information base that enriches the life experiences of all members of the campus community.

The librarian will be an advocate for connecting library resources to school curriculum and a provider of resources that enrich the critical thinking skills and media literacy of all school community members. These ends will be achieved by maintaining strong communication channels with faculty and providing a welcoming environment and contemporary catalogue of library resources to all users in the community.

All students in the Bartlett community are entitled to access a library that welcomes their identity, validates their perspective, and expands their understanding of and ability to access and evaluate a wide variety of information sources.

Long and Short-term Plans

To keep pace with the diverse interest and needs of our students, and to maintain an updated and dynamic atmosphere, the appearance and available resources in our library must be constantly maintained and updated. The library should also increasingly become a center of literacy and social events as well as a source of narratives and other works that reflect the varied ethnicities, cultures, and experiences of our school community.

In the next year, students entering the library should see the beginnings of a renovation of the furniture and computer workstations. The improvement in furnishings and replacement of aging electronics with more functional and fashionable computers will enhance the usability of the library and spark enthusiasm among students as they notice the updates and technology improvements. This will increase the attraction of the library as a center for work and recreation.

In addition to the furniture and equipment updates, the library will more so become a center of events as the schedule of community and literacy celebration activities increases. Battle of the Books and Poetry Out Loud competitions, some after school, others using the presentation area during lunch, will contribute to the increased vivaciousness of the space. Poetry slams, open mic, and cultural dance demonstrations will increase the sense of inclusion in the school community. College scholarship signings and other celebrations of academic and athletic achievement will continue to take place in the library as well.

In the stacks and the new title promotion displays, students will begin noticing titles that reflect their ethnicity, perspective, and life experiences. These diversifications in catalogue selection and promotion will increase interest in recreational reading and in turn compliment critical thinking and other skills associated with increased literacy activities.

The next three years should be exciting ones at the library. With ongoing updates to furniture and technology, an upswing in literary events, and continuing updates and diversification of the titles catalogue, the library should become even more of an academic and social heart of the Bartlett school community.

Bartlett Library Short and Long-term Development Plans

<p><u>3 Year Goal 1:</u></p> <p>By Fall 2023 the Bartlett Library will have updated 75 percent of our group tables and lounge seating to reflect current trends and student behaviors.</p>	<p><u>3 Year Goal 2:</u></p> <p>By Fall 2023 the Bartlett High School Library will have begun hosting monthly activities hosted and sponsored in the library to foster student interests and promote engagement and critical thinking. The library will become the hub for E-sports, virtual Poetry Out Loud, Battle of the Books and other programs.</p>	<p><u>3 Year Goal 3:</u></p> <p>By Fall 2023 the Bartlett High School Library will have added no less than 50 fiction and 50 non-fiction titles that reflect our school ethnic make up with 30% drawing from Northern European perspective, 20% African American, 15% Latin American, 15% Native American, 10% Hmong, and 10% Tongan.</p>
<p><u>1-year Goal:</u></p> <p>By Fall 2021 the BHS Library will have two class sets of updated computer tables and chairs, CPU's and printers.</p>	<p><u>1-year Goal:</u></p> <p>By Fall 2021 the BHS Library will have hosted at least one after-school literacy event that has not been held at the school before..</p>	<p><u>1-year Goal:</u></p> <p>By Fall 2021 the BHS Library will have at least five new titles reflecting school ethnicity in the three sections most needing expansion or updating.</p>
<p><u>Objective:</u></p> <p>By Spring 2020 library furniture showing stains or signs of wear or failure will be identified for updating and removal.</p>	<p><u>Objective:</u></p> <p>By Spring 2020 library staff will have identified and investigated at least two new programs that the library can host as lunchtime or after school activities.</p>	<p><u>Objective:</u></p> <p>By Spring 2020 outdated titles and those underutilized and failing to reflect school ethnic demographics will be identified and scheduled for removal.</p>

Case Study Library Floor Plan

Libraries are crucial to youth in order for them to successfully transition from adolescence to adulthood according to the Young Adult Library Services Association. In order to best serve this user group, libraries need to be “comfortable, inviting, open and have a vibrant and teen-friendly look and feel.” In addition, libraries need to accommodate both individual and group activities to best facilitate a variety of young adult socializing and learning modes. (YALSA 2012)

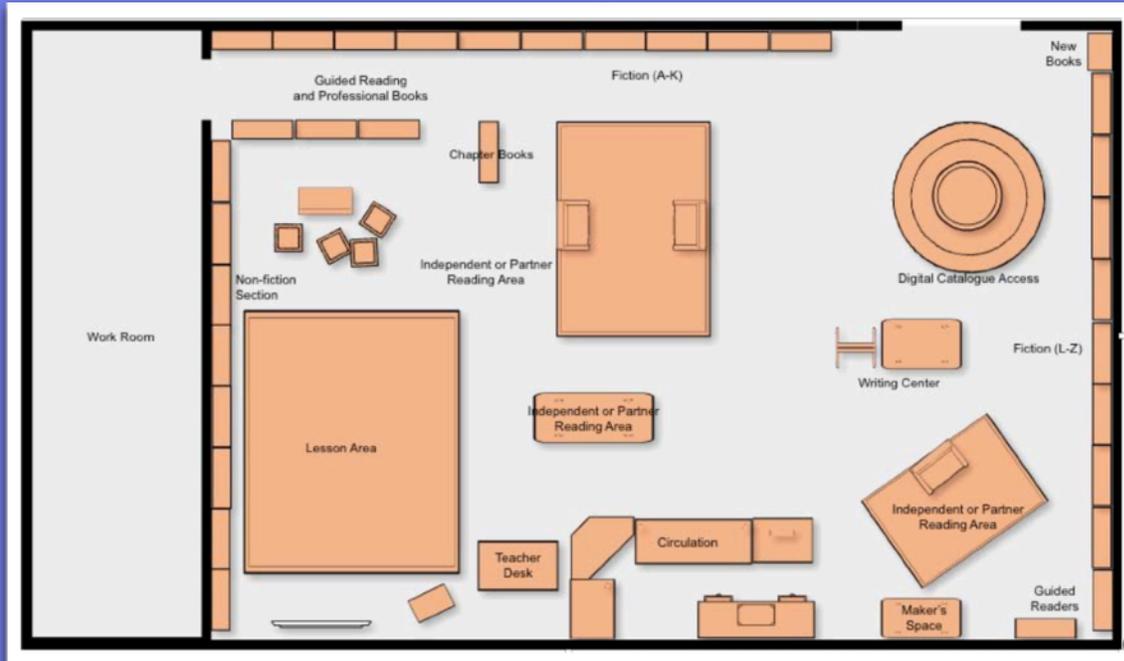
In renovating the floor plan of the case study library, I chose to focus on creating an arrangement that allowed staff to easily greet users upon their entering the library and also check materials out to them as they left. In conjunction with the addition of the internet work stations, staff can also easily keep a casual watch on most of the computers for appropriate use. The more distant monitors, although farther away, are visible to the general public and so might inspire users to self-police their internet browsing content.

Relocation of the circulation desk also facilitated the staff’s ability to monitor new private and semi-private areas created so users could operate in a variety of individual or group modes. The lounge area, Maker’s Space corner, and isolated group table allow for small meetings and study groups while individual chairs and stools placed among the book cases provide for individual and almost private experiences that can still be monitored from the circulation desk. Throughout the library are moveable small tables and chairs that can be arranged to facilitate spontaneous small group and individual needs.

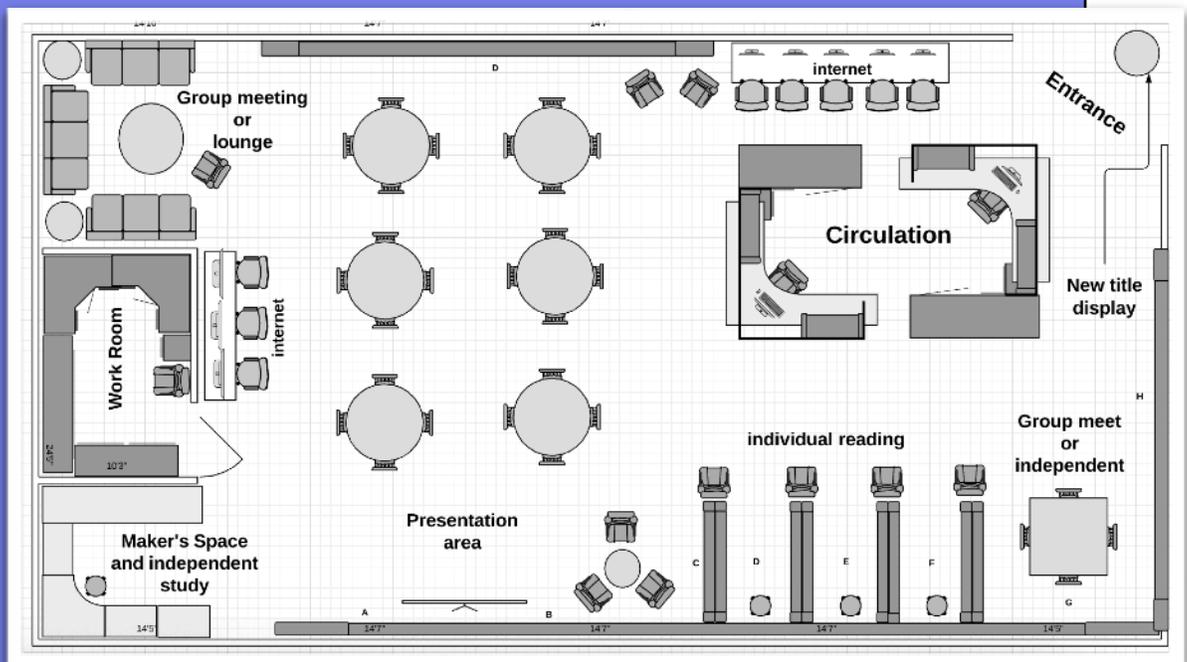
The original floor plan suffered from an unappealing and limiting entrance as well as an excess of “work” space that could only turn into a storage or dumping ground. Expanding the entrance to improve the visibility of the library for those passing in the hall as well as easing traffic flow past the circulation desk, help make the library more inviting. The addition of a New Titles informational kiosk that is visible from the hall also makes the facility more interesting to those passing by. Reducing the area of the staff work room and adding counter surfaces increased its functionality and created two new spaces for both group and individual activities and helps address a wider variety of young adult socializing and learning modes.

The center of the library can support a visit from a class, unstructured small groups or individual traffic. The round tables can serve as audience space for the presentation area or be folded away to create more formal seating. Funding will come from dedicated school district bonds, community donations, and ongoing corporate

Sample Floor Plan



Revised Floor Plan



Technology Acceptable Use Policies

Bartlett High School and Library Acceptable Online Conduct Policy

Whether on ASD provided equipment or a personal computing or communication device, all users of the ASD network are expected to engage in socially responsible behavior.

All communications and data that transmitted across the district network should be considered public and all district rules regarding civil and appropriate behavior apply there.

Violations of these policies can result in loss of network privileges, disciplinary action, or in extreme cases, criminal charges.

Access to the ASD network is a privilege, not a right and therefore entails responsibilities.

Network storage areas should be considered to be public space. Files there may be reviewed by ASD officials at anytime and should related to education in nature.

Within reason, access to information and freedom of speech will be honored by ASD personnel. For more information see the ASD Student Rights document and school board policies.

The following behaviors and activities are not permitted on ASD school and library equipment and networks:

1. Transmitting or receiving offensive messages or pictures.
2. Using language inappropriate for a school setting.
3. Harassing, insulting, or attacking others.
4. Violating copyright laws.
5. Pursuing unauthorized access to folders, work or files other than your own.
6. Employing the network for personal or financial gain.
7. Deliberate damage or interference with hardware or software.
8. Use of ASD computers or networks for illegal activities.
9. Using a password other than your own.

Violation of these policies may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal actions.

See the ASD School Board Policies and the Student Rights and Responsibilities document for more information on these standards (ASD 2012).

Operational Policies

Library Hours:

Monday through Friday
7am - 3pm



These policies are designed for the Bartlett High School Library. The rules are presented in poster form that can be displayed throughout the library or t school. The posters could also be used as the video portion of a presentation on library policies.



**DON'T YOU
BE
OVERDUE!**

**LIBRARY MATERIALS
MUST BE RETURNED
OR RENEWED AFTER
TEN SCHOOL DAYS.**

Remember:

STUDENTS MAY CHECK UP TO

THREE ITEMS

AT A TIME



To best insure equal library access for all...

Classes may reserve library computers or meeting areas for no more than three consecutive class meetings each week.

Please reserve library computers and sections on the online reservation system.

Please cancel reservations one school day before your scheduled visit.



REMEMBER!

Don't let our books go missing

Check out all materials at the circulation desk before taking them from the library!

Staff Check Out Policy

All Library materials must be checked out through the circulation desk before leaving the library.

Materials checked out to staff are to be checked in at the end of the school year or must be checked out over the summer.

Replacement cost of lost or damaged materials will be charged to the department of the faculty they are checked out to.

Staff may be held personally responsible for lost or damaged materials check out to them.



So We Can All Enjoy
Eating in the Library...

Eat Carefully and Properly Dispose of Trash

by Your Library Staff



MIND YOUR BUBBLE!

Please manage your noise and activity so that others around you can think, read, and enjoy the library too.

Please Remember to check out or return materials to the resolving cart, leave your area clean, and push in your chairs.

Thanks from Your Library Staff!



STUDENTS:

**REFERENCE
MATERIALS,
PERIODICALS,
AND MEDIA
MAY NOT LEAVE
THE LIBRARY**

BY YOUR LIBRARIAN

TRAVELING ALONE?



**YOU'LL NEED ONE
OF THESE TO
SCOOT PAST THE
CIRCULATION DESK
AND USE THE
LIBRARY:**

- A SIGNED PASS FROM A TEACHER
- PROOF OF LATE ARRIVAL OR EARLY DISMISSAL
- PROOF OF CAREER CENTER REGISTRATION

Censorship Statement

The freedom to read is guaranteed under our constitution and essential to the health of our democracy. It is our duty as educators to provide high-quality books and media that enrich the variety of ideas and perspectives available to our readers. The public interest is best served by our providing equal access to the diversity of views and expressions that represent the vast spectrum of beliefs and perspectives manifested in our society. An open communication and sharing of ideas that respects all cogent perspectives present in our culture is essential to the vitality of our free and just society (ALA 1996/2004).

Works Cited

Anchorage School District. (2018) *Bartlett High School*. <https://www.asdk12.org/domain/3584>

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