



ArLA's Summer Conference for School Librarians by COSLLE (an ArLA Community of School Librarians and Library Educators)

July 26, 2025 8am - 3pm

ASU Three Rivers College Grand Hall One College Circle Malvern, AR 72104

8:45-9:00 Sign in with name and email to receive the PD credit of 6 hours

9:00-9:10 Welcome and Introductions Rachel Shankles, Co-Chair of COSLLE

9:10-10:10 **Just 1 Summer Separates a High School Senior from a College Freshman**

Presenter: Cassandra Barnett, Library Program Coordinator at DESE

This session will establish the background for an initiative designed to build partnerships between academic librarians and high school media specialists to better prepare students for college. Key outcomes from a summer unconference and actionable next steps for advancing these partnerships will be shared. The participants will be given an opportunity to provide feedback and offer suggestions for strengthening this partnership.

10:15-11:15 **The K-16 Continuum: Working Together for College Readiness:**

Panel Discussion

Participants: Prof Britt Murphy, Library Director Hendrix College; Jean Waldrop, Library Director Harding University; Alan Robinette, ASU Three Rivers Library Director; and Karen Haggard, retired TN school librarian and UA Fort Smith Student Success Librarian

This panel will discuss the need of alliances across the state and what progress is being made. They will talk about the inception and plans to develop meetings and alliances to teach digital literacy with components on copywrite, plagiarism, AI, essay writing. The lessons to come out of the alliances will help junior and senior high librarians prepare secondary students for college Comp 1 and ensure success for those students. They will take Q&A at the end,

11:15-12:00 **Organizing Alliances and First Steps**

Speakers: Prof Britt Murphy, Library Director Hendrix College, and Alan Robinette, ASU Three Rivers Library Director

These two have been on this project since the beginning and have engaged many organizations and schools to endorse the College Preparedness initiative. Britt has been meeting with school librarians from Conway public and private schools for several years to promote alliances, sharing of e-book databases the schools can't afford; providing professional guidance on new library laws, and mainly expanding the Professional Learning Communities of school librarians in her area. Alan has been a proponent of the initiative and helped in setting up meetings in different areas of the state.

12-12:45 **Lunch** catered and provided with help of ArLA

Quanta Wyatt, Co-Chair of COSLLE, of Earle School District is in charge of lunch arrangements



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12:50-1:45 How ArLA is Advocating for You Concerning the New Library Laws

Speaker: Adam Webb, Pres Elect of ArLA

In this session Adam, who is director of Garland County Library and President-elect of ArLA, will go over the progress of the law suits over the Censorship Laws enacted last year; he has been to the legislature many, many times and is following any proposed legislation concerning libraries of any type. He is active in several organizations that fight for the freedom to read. He is a good source to add to your PLC. Adam will tell you what to do if a book is challenged and how to avoid challenges. He will take questions at the end.

1:45-1:55 Benefits of Arkansas Library Association Membership

Speaker: 2025 ArLA President Lynn Valetutti

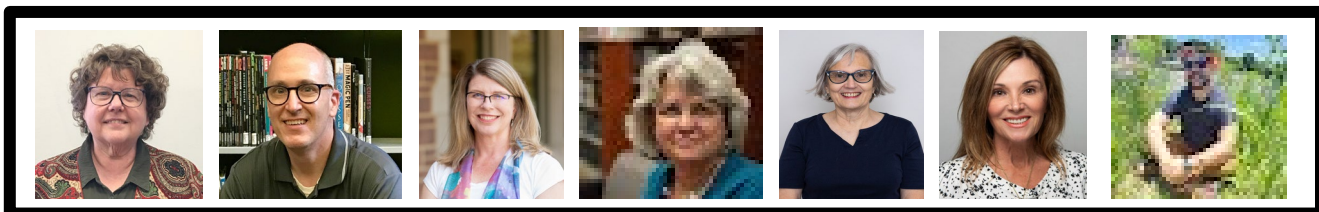
1:55- 2:45 Keeping School Librarians in the Loop: Updates, Resources, and More

Presenter: Cassandra Barnett, Library Programs Coordinator at DESE

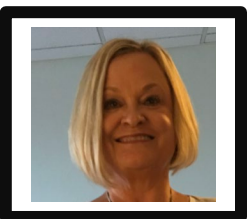
This session will cover the final results of the legislative session impacting school libraries, updates on the Choice Book Awards, the America250 Initiative. Stay for book giveaways.

2:45-3:00 Evaluation link given out to attendees with a few minutes to fill it out using cell phones or tablets they might have.

*** Certificates will be emailed and the DESE (ADE) number on them is very important; turn these into your boss or enter this conference with it's number into your Professional Development hours program for 6 hours of PD credit.



Speakers: LtoR Cassandra Barnett, Alan Robinette, Britt Murphy, Jean Waldrop, Karen Haggard, Lynn Valetutti, Adam Webb



Rachel Shankles, Conference and COSLLE Co Chair with Quanta Wyatt