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NOV. 6 - 8, 2019 | ORLANDO, FLORIDA



Library Media Advocate or Disintegrate

Dr. Loretta Faith Harris
Instructional Materials and Media Services, Manager
Lake County Schools



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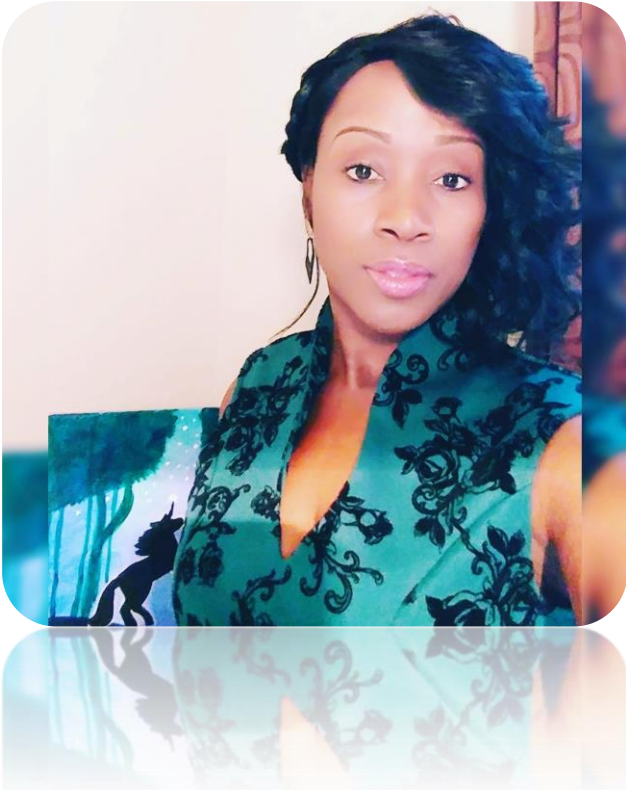
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Dr. Loretta Faith Harris is an educational leader with a passion for empowering, educating, and equipping individuals to reach their highest potential. Currently, Dr. Faith serves as the Manager of Instructional Materials and Media Services at Lake County Schools where she develops new Media Specialists, foster strong community partnerships, oversee district initiatives such as, “Makerspace Lake” and travel throughout the state to identify Florida Power-Library Schools.

As the President of Florida Association of District Instructional Materials Administrators (FADIMA), Dr. Faith works in collaboration with school district administrators to provide a unified vehicle to improve quality, selection, and funding of instructional materials for all students in the state of Florida.

Dr. Faith is the author of three books, the award-winning memoir, *The Journey Less Traveled: Choose to Turn Your Tragedy into Triumph*, *101 Reasons to Live*, and *Quotes for Triumphant Living*.





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ADVOCATE



School library media programs are critical to the learning experience. School library media specialists collaborate with teachers and integrate literature and information skills into the curriculum to impact student achievement.

School library media specialists are crucial to the teaching and learning process. We teach skills and strategies that make a positive impact on student achievement and create lifelong learners.

School library media centers are places of opportunity where students can strive for and achieve success, develop a love of reading and explore the world around them through print, electronic and other media.

Disintegrate - Break up into small parts, typically as the result of impact or decay.



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State of Florida Statistics

School Districts - 67

Elementary – 1,894

Middle - 578

High – 608

Combination – 510

Total Schools – 3,590

90% Library
Media Services





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- Florida ranks 10 in public schools that have library/media centers
- Florida has 43.9% with master's degree in library related field
- Florida has 93.4% of staff state certified



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The 2019 Florida Statutes K-20 Education Code



1006.28 Duties of district school board,
district school superintendent; and school
principal regarding K-12 instructional
materials.



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(d) *School library media services; establishment and maintenance.*—

Establish and maintain a program of school library media services for all public schools in the district, including school library media centers, or school library media centers operated in public, and, in addition such traveling or circulating libraries as may be needed for the proper operation of the district system. Upon written request, a school

district shall provide any material or book specified in the request that is maintained in a district school system library and is available for

requires no staffing



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Indiana – Requires all schools to have a media program that is an integral part of the educational program. A licensed media specialist shall supervise the media program.

Arizona - Does not require school library/media centers, but the governing board of a school district may establish, maintain, and report on its library/ media centers to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Maryland - Requires each school system to establish a library/media center program run by certified specialist for all students.

Connecticut - No regulations for school library/media center.

New York - Currently, each district is required to have a certified library/media center specialist, unless equivalent service can be provided alternatively in particular circumstances involving enrollment numbers.

Georgia - No legislation or regulations regarding school library/media centers.



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Florida Media Specialists Advocacy SURVEY 2019 - 2020



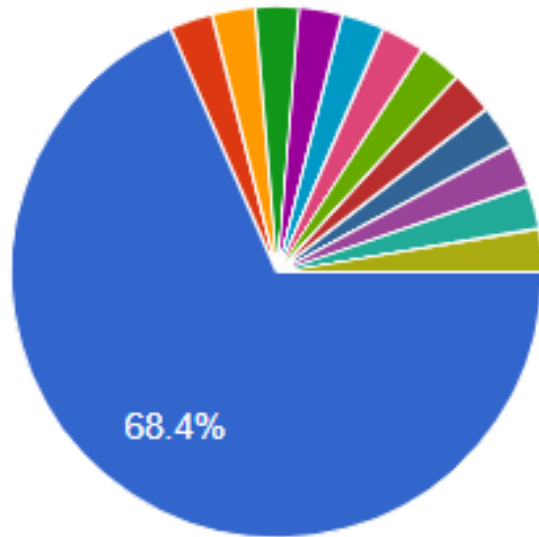
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Florida Media Specialists Advocacy SURVEY



Does your school district have Media Centers?



Yes 68.4%

No 2.6%

Other 29%

Alternative Responses

- We are reestablishing a district professional library.
- We have a media center facility that has spaces for PD groups, technology, textbook storage and management, computers for public use, production area with some items for free and other services are fee based (printing, laminating).

38 out of 67 school districts responded



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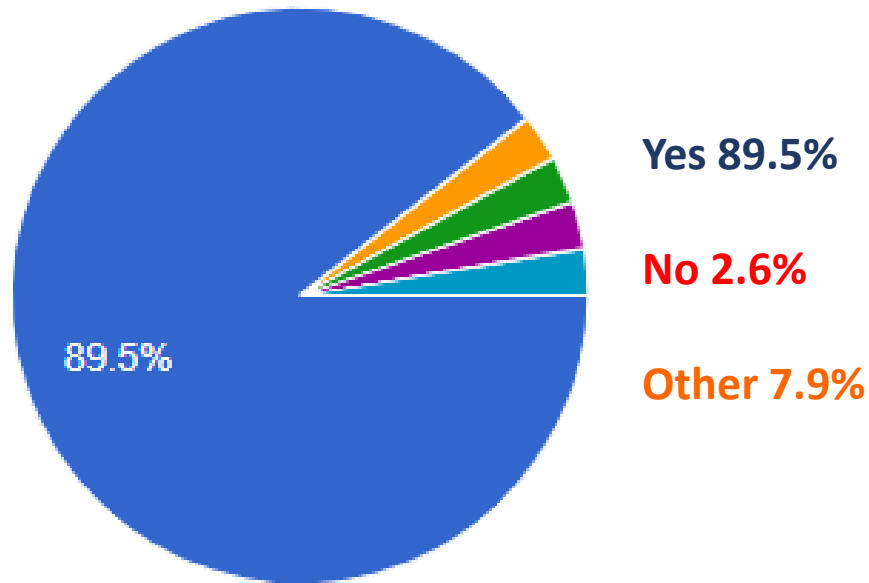
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Florida Media Specialists Advocacy SURVEY



Does your school district have Media Specialists?



Alternative Responses

- Other
- Classified aides
- Media Specialists and Innovative Learning Specialists
- Several schools use allocations for a Media Specialist

38 out of 67 school districts responded





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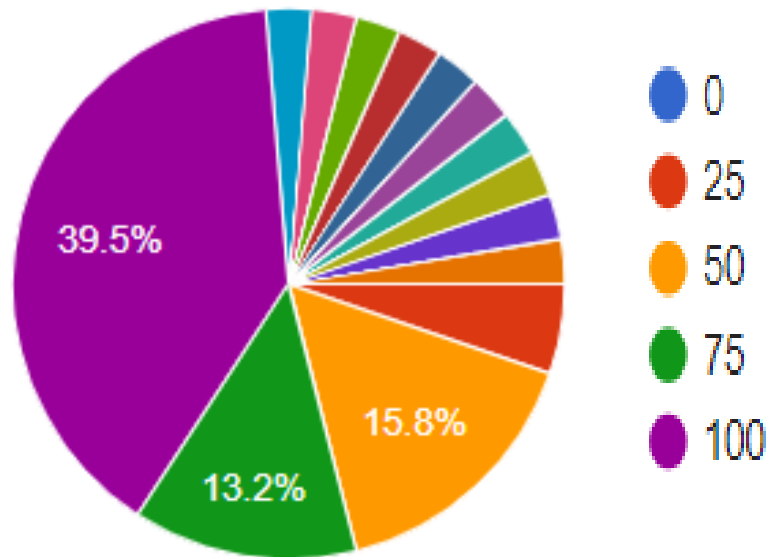
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Florida Media Specialists Advocacy SURVEY



**What percentage of time is committed to library media services?
(open library, checkouts/in, teacher collaboration)**

Alternative Responses



- Middle and High 100 % Elementary is different between school sites 25%-100%.
- There is significant variation by school. School principals have autonomy in determining how they will utilize staff. Media specialist are in school staffing plans and therefore under the control of principal. Some media specialist teach classes as part of the wheel or an elective.
- It varies here. Most of our elementary schools have media on the wheel for 30/45 minutes, while most of our secondary schools are more open media with collaborations.

38 out of 67 school districts responded





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How do you advocate for your library media program?

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 41 32 44



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SCENARIO 1

Advocate or Disintegrate?



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Anonymous District Statistics

Elementary – 23

Middle - 7

High – 8

Combination – 5

Total Schools – 43



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What advice do you have for Tom? Should he advocate for **Help Meout School District** Media Specialists/Library Programs or should he allow it to disintegrate?

Years ago, the State of Florida required schools have a Media Specialist and required that they have a master's degree from an accredited college or university. Now schools are required to have a Media Specialist. Districts are required to have a library media center at each school, but because they are not required by law, many schools opt not to have one.

Help Meout School District's Media Specialist Tom works hard with the schools that have a Media Specialist. Tom is responsible for distribution of the school library media allocation, textbook adoption process, Destiny Management system, book challenges, and technology inventories at each school. Without legislation, **Help Meout School District** will not require schools have a Media Specialist. The school district allocates a Media Specialist Unit, but schools can use the unit for other positions if they so desire. As you can imagine, this is really hurting **Help Meout School District** School Library Programs.



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Lake County Experience



Lake County District Statistics

Elementary – 22

Middle - 10

High – 8

Charter – 5

Special - 2

Total Schools – 47

Three
Florida Power-Library
Schools





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- \$3.5M Budget
- 1 Inventory Assistant
- K-12 instructional materials adoption, orders, purchase, and dissemination
- Library media services
- 47 Textbook Managers
- 47 Media Specialists
- Media and science allocations
- Destiny textbook and library manager management system
- District textbook inventory & discards
- District book challenges
- Summer Inventory Workers
- Grants

Lake County Experience

- C.I.A Leadership Team
- Professional Learning Communities
- District Communication
- Social Media presence
- Community Partnerships
- District Initiatives – Makerspace Lake
- District Calendar
- State event participation – Annual Library Month, Celebrate Literacy Week, etc.
- Professional learning and Training
- School support visits
- Tell your story!!



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Library Media Program Advocacy

Legislative

- State statute, policies, certifications
- School Board, Job description, Teacher union

Community

- National and State Organizations (ALA, FLA, FEA, FAME)
- Public libraries, Universities, Publishers, Book Clubs
Vendors, Subscriptions

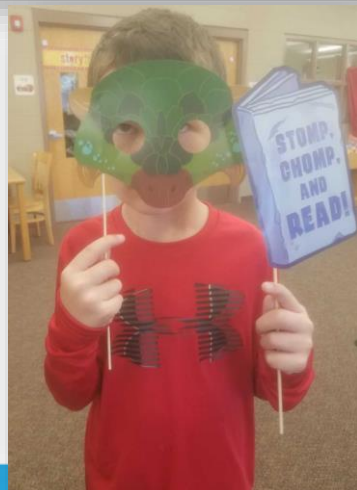
School

- Leadership team, Teacher Collaboration, Faculty meetings
- School-wide events, technology applications



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