

Dear Colleagues and fellow Librarians throughout CT;

My name is Audra Good and I am a current graduate student in the Master's in Library and Information Science program at Southern Connecticut State University working on my final project. My research focuses on current library staffing in Connecticut and considers what if any support and professional development opportunities exist for both certified and non-certified primary staff in CT Public School Libraries. I invite you to participate in this project and to share this opportunity with your colleagues. Before you participate it is important that you understand the purpose of this study.

Title of the Study: Empower from Within: Library Staffing and Professional Development opportunities in CT School Libraries

This study will identify current staffing in CT School Libraries and current support and professional development provided for certified and non-certified staff. Results will identify areas in need of further advocacy.

The research questions of this study are as follows:

- What professional development opportunities and support are in place for School Library staff across districts in CT?
- Do non-certified library staff members have the same opportunities for training, district support and professional learning networks that certified staff do?
- Are all library staff members aware of the Professional Development opportunities available to them?
- What barriers and challenges to Professional Development exist for both certified and non-certified Library Staff?

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete and will be open for 3 weeks.

I am asking primary staff members in Connecticut Public School Libraries to take this survey. For the purpose of this study Primary Staff members refers to the lead staff member whether or not they are certified. For example: In libraries that have both a Library Media Specialist and a Library Assistant I am asking the Library Media Specialist to take the survey. For libraries that do not have a certified Library Media Specialist on staff but have a Library Assistant or Clerk (Non-Certified) in the primary role I would like the non-certified staff member to take the survey.

Survey results will be completely confidential. Any potential Identifying information such as names, email addresses, school or district names of participating libraries and staff will not be shared and will be removed from data during analysis. Data will be analyzed using Google Data Analytics and Excel and stored for 3 years. Survey results may be used for advocacy in the field of Library Information Science.

Participation is voluntary. You have the right to withdraw at any time without consequence. If you are willing to participate please provide your consent at the beginning of the survey. If you have any questions you can contact the researcher at the contact information listed below. Thank you for your consideration!

[SURVEY LINK - https://tinyurl.com/CTLMSSurvey](https://tinyurl.com/CTLMSSurvey)

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