Pebblebrook Library Media Center: A Teacher’s Guide

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Library Paraprofessional: Heidi Packer
Hours: Monday—Friday: 7:30 a.m.—4:15 p.m.

Library Resources
The library provides an assortment of print and electronic information sources. Students and teachers are encouraged to use these for research, instruction, and personal enrichment. We also provide instructional equipment for short-term use.

Print Resources
- Over 15,000 fiction, non-fiction, and reference books
- Approximately 1000 instructional videos
- Over 30 print magazines
- Three daily newspapers (Marietta Daily Journal, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, and USA Today)

Electronic Resources
- 33 networked computers provide access to the following resources:
  - Reference databases (including encyclopedias and subject specific research sources) *
  - Periodical databases (offering full-text access to hundreds of newspapers and thousands of magazines and journals) *
  - Destiny Book Search, a computerized “card catalog” of the media center’s books and audiovisuals **
  - Internet access
  - Microsoft Office Professional 2007 (Word, PowerPoint, & Excel)
- One computer is reserved for “card catalog” use.
- Two computers are available for staff use; one is housed in the AV Room and the other is in the media specialists’ office.
- All media center computers offer black and white laser printing. Color printing is available to teachers upon request.

* These subscription databases are available on any internet-connected computer. See a library staff member for addresses and passwords.
** The library catalog is available from any campus computer on the Novell network. Ask a library staff member how you can search for videos or books from your classroom!
Pebblebrook Virtual Library

Our library website provides convenient links to the resources most often used by our teachers and students. Teacher links include GroupWise, Pinnacle, PICASSO, GPB Video Streaming, Georgia Performance Standards and a special GALILEO link for education journals. If you are using a computer on campus with a recent version of Internet Explorer, you can access this resource by simply double-clicking the Internet Explorer icon on your application launcher menu or by going directly to http://www.cobbk12.org/pebblebrook/mediacenter/indexpvl.htm

Instructional Equipment
The following equipment is available for short-term (1-3 days) check-out:

- LCD Projector
- Beyond Question
- Laptop (PC)
- Digital Camera
- Digital Camcorders
- Portable tripods
- Tripod on Dolly
- Scan Converter (Computer to TV)
- Overhead Projector & Cart
- Opaque Projector & Cart
- Projection Screen
- CD/Cassette Boombox
- Cassette Recorder
- Book Cart
- AV Cart

The library does not purchase equipment for permanent placement in the classroom. If you need an overhead projector, VCR, television or other equipment for long-term use in your classroom, let us know so it can be purchased with school equipment funds. This same restriction also applies to supplies and spare parts for equipment. Overhead bulbs are available from the media center (purchased with school funds).

Library Services
The most important service offered by the library is information literacy instruction. Our primary purpose is to help students become savvy “information consumers.” We accomplish this goal through both group and individual instruction.
Group Instruction (Bringing Your Class to the Media Center)
Teachers are encouraged to bring their classes to the library for research-based assignments. The library staff is always happy to provide instruction on finding, evaluating, and using information. However, class visits such as this require a degree of collaboration between the classroom teacher and the library staff. If you would like to schedule a class visit to the library, please follow these steps:

1. Formulate a mental “rough draft” of your assignment, including objectives to be met and products to be produced.
2. Come to the library and discuss your assignment with one of the library media specialists. We may offer some suggestions for “fine-tuning” your assignment based on the resources that we have available.
3. At this time you can also check the library schedule to see which days/periods are available. (We are sometimes booked weeks in advance, so plan ahead!) After deciding when you want to come to the library, ask a library staff member to add your name to the schedule. Do not add your name to the calendar without consulting one of the media specialists!
4. Take a “Cooperative Planning Form” with you when you leave the library. (You might want to fill in the dates & class periods on the form before leaving.) Fill out the form and return it at least one full day before your scheduled visit. Be sure to include any materials (handouts, topic lists, etc.) that will help us prepare for your visit.
5. When your class comes to the library, we will direct the students to sit at the tables or at the computers, depending on the assignment. We may provide some general orientation, but we will usually direct most of our instruction toward the skills & resources needed to complete your specific assignment. After providing instruction to the class as a whole, we will work with you as needed to help individual students. We ask that you stay engaged with your class during their visit to answer questions about the assignment and help maintain productivity.

When All Does NOT Go as Planned...
- Substitute teachers are not allowed to bring classes to the media center. If you have to be absent on the day of your scheduled visit, please make alternate plans for your class. See one of the librarians when you return, and we will reschedule your visit.
- If you need to postpone or cancel your class visit to the library, we understand; just let us know as soon as possible. (Even if you decide to cancel at the very last minute, we can use our time more productively if we know not to expect you.)

Individual Instruction (Sending Students to the Media Center)
- Students are welcome in the library all day, but we believe that your instruction should take first priority. Students are encouraged to use the
library before school (7:30-8:25) and after school (3:25-4:15) to avoid missing instructional time in your classroom.

- Students may also visit the library during the school day, but only with permission (and a hall pass) from their classroom teacher for that period. If you wish to send a student to the library during the school day, please write a pass for that student. Do not send more than five students at a time, and do not send students without a clear assignment.
- Students who wish to visit the library during their lunch period must have a pass from the media center. Students can get passes before school and during class changes.
- Minimum-day students who wish to visit the library during their unscheduled time must obtain a pass from the administration.

Please be aware that classes in the library for group instruction have “dibs” on the library resources, so some resources (especially internet access) might not be available to individual students during class periods.

**Other Library Services**

- **Lamination:** The school laminator is housed in the professional room of the library. Be sure to write your name and room number on the item. (We cannot laminate items over 27” wide, items more than 3 pages thick, or items with staples, glitter, or other irregularities.) If you have a large or “custom” laminating job, bring your materials to the library during your planning period. We will give you the “laminator inservice” and turn you loose!
- **Professional Collection:** We maintain a small collection of professional books, but the most current information on education trends and teaching practices can be found in the GALILEO periodical databases. From the Pebblebrook Virtual Library, click on “Academic Search Premier.” If you don’t find what you need there, ask one of the library media specialists for other information sources.
- **“Spring-Break” Collection:** The library also houses a collection of “pulp” fiction in the Professional Room for your enjoyment. This collection is supported and maintained entirely by teachers. If you have an item you would like to donate, come and swap it for a book in the collection.
- **Career Center:** The career collection is housed at the entrance to the media center. If you need assistance, see a media specialist or a guidance counselor.
- **AV Consulting:** If you have a question about purchasing, installing, or troubleshooting audiovisual equipment, contact one of the library media specialists.