

Horseheads High School Library 2017-2018



TOTAL YEAR 2017-18

Individual Sign-Ins:

From Classes	716
From Activity/Lunch/sign-ins	18,110
From Physical Education Class	<u>734</u>

Total student sign-ins **19,560**

Classes/Available Periods 716/831

Other statistics

Book Circulation	2,625
Interlibrary Loans	145
MediaFlex database management 'hits'	535,531
Video/DVD Circulation	793
NoodleTools projects	2699



Concert in the library

The 2017-2018 school year brought about a few changes in the library. An official Library Orientation was reestablished for the 9th grade English classes. After some experimenting with the format and content in the Fall semester, the second semester saw the Orientation settle into a good introduction to student Office 365 accounts, including email etiquette, using Microsoft Word online (and naming their documents!), and controlling settings in their accounts. Students were also introduced to the physical space of the library, to encourage students to use the library confidently and independently during the year.



A couple of characters

The Fiction section of the library got a major overhaul this year. Previously, there were many individual fiction areas that students had to navigate: Fiction, which housed classical titles from the literary canon, PB (i.e. Popular Fiction), and one more section for titles in the Science Fiction and Fantasy genres. Changes to the 11th grade Regents ELA exam, (a drop of the literature knowledge requirement in favor of argumentation) has resulted in a change to the 11th grade ELA research project, and this led to a drop in the circulation numbers for classic titles. In an effort to have students discover these titles on their own as they peruse the fiction section of the library, the three fiction sections have been combined into one collection. The reviews so far have been positive from the students. An effort to replace older classic titles with newer and more attractive copies has also paid off with these copies already being checked out.

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Two more characters

Another change in the English department impacted the library. Some 9th grade ELA classes experimented with Literature Circles, replacing the old Independent Reading Project. Independent Reading Projects involved every student selecting a book from the library, based on their own interests, to read. Without classes coming to the library for individuals to learn to search for books that meet their interests and needs, we need to make sure Orientation classes introduce this skill to students.



Sometimes our students just amaze us... blind chess anyone?!?

Another item of note was the increase in the use of Turnitin's Feedback Studio features that allow for online grading of papers. The success of this tool may spur a possible professional development workshop in the fall to share the grading features with more teachers.

A final mention must be made of the Horseheads student-lead Memorial held for the Marjory Stoneman Douglas school shooting victims from Parkland, Florida, in February. The auditorium was filled to capacity with respectful, silent, even tearful, students as a spoken presentation and slide show ran in memory of lives lost. The pride and love we felt for our students was immense.



Marjory Stoneman Douglas Memorial

~Maureen Frei and Mary Ann Sheets