

# ADLAI E. STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION LITERACY CURRICULUM

## **Information Literacy**

According to the American Library Association, to be information literate, a person must be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information.

## **21<sup>st</sup> Century Information Fluency**

In *Linking for Learning: Illinois School Library Media Program Guidelines* (2005), 21<sup>st</sup> Century Information Fluency refers to the combination of knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to locate, evaluate and use both print and digital information resources efficiently and effectively. This combination includes both traditional information literacy skills as well as technology literacy skills.

## **History of Information Literacy Skills Curriculum Development at SHS**

1995: Librarians developed a formal research skills program designed to teach all freshmen the research process and how to use basic library tools (catalog, magazine and newspapers indexes, etc.) in their English classes. Skills were added and reinforced as opportunities presented themselves with some classes.

2004: Research Skills Committee comprised of the Assistant Principal for Curriculum, the librarians, the directors and 2 teachers each from Communication Arts, Social Studies, Science, Health, technology staff development. The committee...

- Formed to create a district plan to ensure that students would effectively develop specific information literacy skills by graduation.
- Developed an interdisciplinary research skills scope and sequence.
- Identified core classes every student takes, with key assignments where particular information literacy skills would be taught and incorporated in an assignment, with required elements that would be part of the assessment of the assignment
- Presented the Information Literacy Curriculum to all staff

As a result of their efforts, Information Literacy Skills are taught by librarians and teachers from freshmen through junior years. This progression of information skills also integrates use of appropriate technology skills. Our Information Literacy Scope and Sequence reflects the courses and skills taught and reinforced at each grade level.

The Research Skills Committee continues to meet three times per year to focus on the evaluation and improvement of the program, update the curriculum and scope and sequence, as needed, and to maintain consistency and quality of instruction among the participating teams and teachers, and to consider new concepts and technologies regarding 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and best practices for teaching them.

## **Teaching Standards for information literacy, technology and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills**

The following guidelines and standards have been consulted for developing and evaluating the Information Literacy program:

*Linking for Learning: the Illinois School Library Media Guidelines*. The Illinois School Library Media Association, Canton, IL: 2005. <<http://www.islma.org>>

*Standards for the 21st-Century Learner*. American Association of School Librarians, Chicago, IL: 2007. <<http://www.ala.org/aasl/standards>>

*National Educational Technology Standards for Students (NETS)*. International Society for Technology in Education. Eugene, Or: 2007. <<http://www.iste.org>>