

SMHS Library Facility Profile

October 23, 2008

The following table provides a statistical comparison of the SMHS Library between October 2007 and October 2008, following the implementation of a library improvement plan, which was presented to the School Board in June 2008. The plan “reflect[ed] the belief that school libraries play a significant role in shaping student attitudes toward information access, collaborative problem solving, and learning in general,” and that “given this assumption, it is recommended that the library floor design undergo revision and that certain equipment and furniture be replaced.” One part of the improvement plan remains unfinished: the conversion of the existing online catalog to a more user-friendly and searchable system. The targeted completion date for catalog conversion is late November 2008. The facility redesign aspect of the improvement plan has been completed. This has resulted in the creation of new specialized areas of use, such as reading areas, a reference area, and a computer collaboration area, all of which were specified in the improvement plan. In the process of redesigning and improving the overall library room, the library book collection was evaluated and a total of 2,483 books were deselected. As a result of this weeding, the average age of the nonfiction collection moved from 1987 to 1991. More details follow.

Books & Periodicals	SMHS Library, October 2007	SMHS Library, October 2008	NH Middle High Libraries Avg. (June 2008) *	Recommendations
Number of book volumes	12883	10400	7173	6000 minimum **
Avg. copyright year of nonfiction books	1987	1991	1990	70% published w/i last ten years **
Percent of book volumes published after 2000	23	32	N/A	70% published w/i last ten years **
Percent of book volumes published before 1980	22	14	N/A	70% published w/i last ten years **
Number of book volumes per student	37	30	N/A	Minimum of 20 **
Percent of book volumes fiction	35	38	N/A	13.5 – 50 **
Number of print periodical titles	36	38 (ordered Sept. 2008)	38	71 – 125 **
Space & Equipment	SMHS Library, October 2007	SMHS Library, October 2008	NH Middle High Libraries Avg. (June 2008) *	Recommendations

Approx. square feet	1964	1964	2981	2490 **
Space & Equipment	SMHS Library, October 2007	SMHS Library, October 2008	NH Middle High Libraries Avg. (June 2008) *	Recommendations
Number of dedicated computers	13	13	19	1:1 for largest class **
Seating capacity	48	52	N/A	42 – 105 ***
Specified space use	Limited “zones”	Multiple “zones”	N/A	Multiple “zones,” including specified space for laptop storage, easily-accessible equipment and supplies, a dedicated public access catalog, book returns, displays, projection and instruction, specialized seating, reference, and circulation. ***
Usage	SMHS Library, October 2007	SMHS Library, October 2008	NH Middle High Libraries Avg. (June 2008) *	Recommendations
Avg. number of study hall students per week	Unknown	270	148 (“non-instructional visits of individuals”)	N/A
Avg. number of class visits per week	Unknown	13	N/A	N/A
Avg. total number of visits of individuals per week	Unknown	433	314 (“instructional” and “non-instructional visits of individuals”)	N/A

Sources:

* *NH Public School Library Profiles* (2008), based on student enrollment of 300-599

** *Massachusetts School Library Media Program Standards for 21st Century Learning* (2003)

*** *Designing a School Library Media Program for the Future*, by Rolf Erikson & Carolyn Markuson (2007)