

GRADE BAND RESOURCE CONSORTIUM FOR LIBRARY INSTRUCTION IN SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1. Background



Seattle Public Schools is a large school district currently facing a \$54M deficit for the upcoming school year. With limited resources and an increasing demand for standards-based learning, cross-curricular collaboration has become increasingly difficult.



We set out to create a tool that would help make collaboration between classroom teachers and school librarians easier.

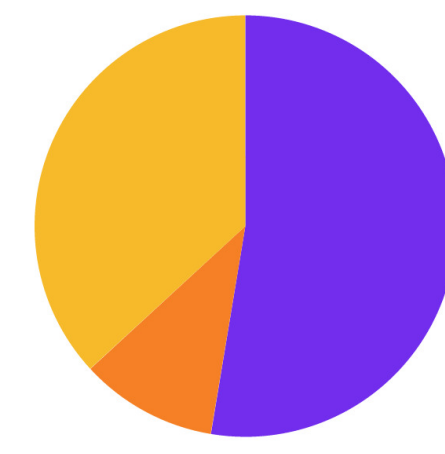
4. Impact

- Librarians: Access to professional development and resources at any time. Easier than ever to share and collaborate with classroom teachers.
- Teachers: Easier to connect, collaborate, plan, and teach with school librarians, maximizing resources for classroom learning.
- Students: Pooled resources from educators across the district improve overall lessons and curriculum.
- District: Increased efficiency of librarian staffing ensures that funds are maximized and ideally more resources are allocated toward materials and staffing.
- Parents/Community: Resource sharing and standards-based grading helps ensure equitable instruction across the district.

2. Research

To figure out what teacher librarians really need, we surveyed public school librarians in the area. All the information below is from a survey conducted by Megan Andrews, Winter 2017.

The majority of librarians consulted searched for lessons through websites such as Common Sense Media, Teachers Pay Teachers, ReadThinkWrite, as well as other education websites.

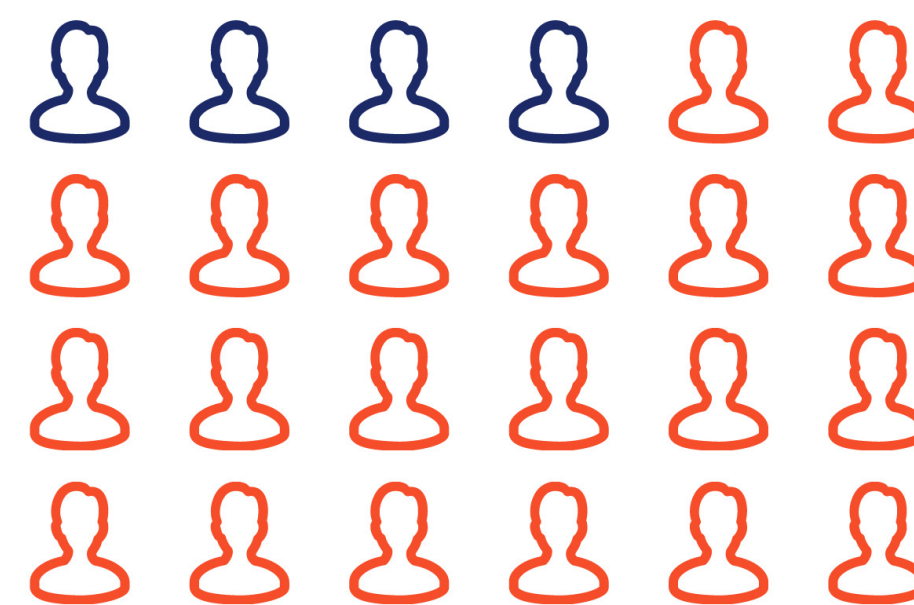
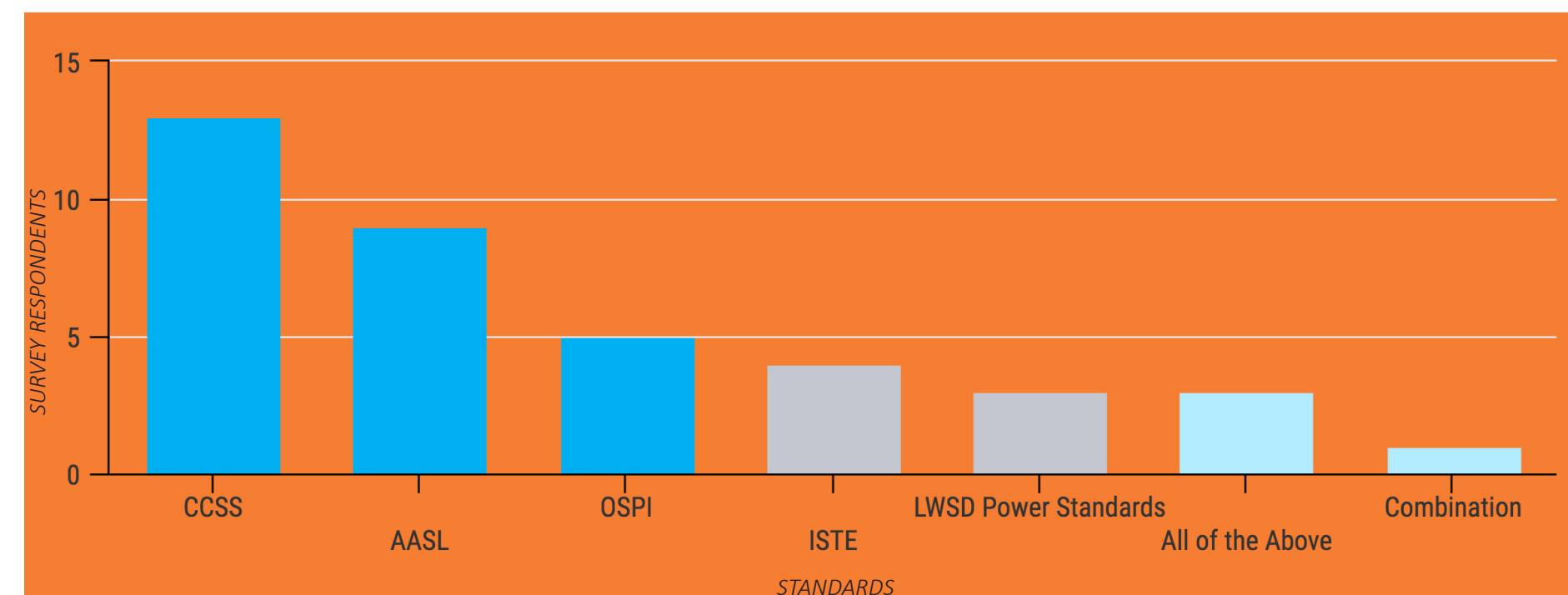


Legend: Websites (purple), Social Media (orange), Self-created/Other Teachers (yellow)

What tools would make collaboration easier?

"Learning management system (LMS) in which we don't just dump lessons, but rather curate and refine a single unit for each instructional standard."
-Anonymous survey respondent

Local librarians were asked which standards they commonly followed when planning curriculum.



"What do we teach?"

Only 4 in 24 school librarians have been provided with guidelines of what they are expected to teach in a school year

3. Solution

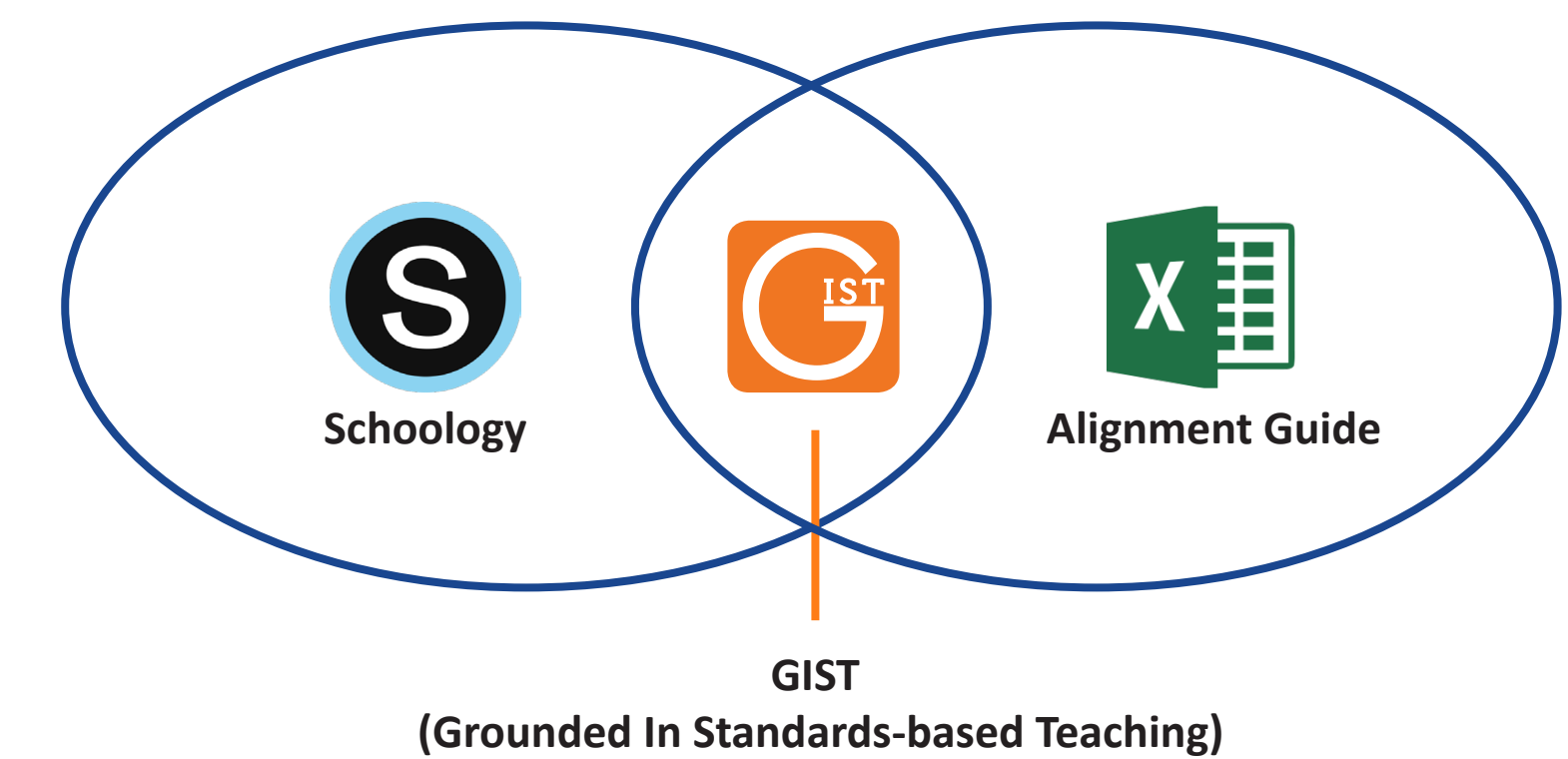
Standards:

Finding a way to make sense of and easily use standards in creating lessons is no easy task. We decided to focus in on the most common and universal standards:



Tool:

We have created an alignment guide and curated a Schoology LMS course for educators to quickly and easily share their resources. We call this tool Grounded In Standards-based Teaching (GIST).



5. Next Steps

1. We have aligned standards to the English Language Arts curriculum, however, there are still Math and Next Generation Science Standards to align.
2. We chose to connect to ISTE, AASL, and CCSS in an effort to leave the door open for expansion beyond Seattle Public Schools. While Washington State's OSPI standards were also frequently used, we didn't want to limit the scope of this tool to just those in Washington schools.

This project has great potential for future growth both locally and nationally. This is only the beginning.