



October 15, 2019

School Library Systems Association of New York State  
Monroe 2 Orleans BOCES  
3625 Buffalo Rd  
Rochester, NY 14624

On behalf of the Council of the New York Library Association (NYLA), the NYLA Section of School Librarians (SSL), and NYLA's 7,000 members, we are pleased to offer our wholehearted endorsement of the 2019 re-imagined Empire State Information Fluency Continuum (ESIFC).

Originally developed in 2009 under the leadership of Dr. Barbara Stripling, the ESIFC is a product of the collaborative efforts of school librarians and the Coordinators of the New York City Department of Education's Office of Library Services. The ESIFC went on to be endorsed by the School Library Systems Association of New York State in 2012. The ESIFC was infused into library and classroom teaching and learning across the state. Dr. Stripling states, "The focus is to provide standards for the **Information-Fluent Learner** and a clear continuum of skills and strategies that may be taught by the school librarian, whether in collaboration with classroom teachers or in independent lessons as dictated by school environments. A collaborative approach by the librarian and the classroom teacher is by far the most effective way to teach information fluency/inquiry skills and strategies. This continuum is designed to facilitate that collaboration."

The changing landscape of education and the context in which learners are taught, led to the need for a re-imagined ESIFC. Once again, Dr. Stripling led the work, this time in collaboration with school librarians and school library system directors from across New York State. The ESIFC is built from a framework of four anchor standards. While these standards align closely to both National and State Standards, they emphasize the unique instructional goals of school librarians. The ESIFC empowers librarians as they strive to develop information-fluent learners.

The powerful evolution of this resource will allow the materials to continue to serve as a blueprint and roadmap for top quality library instruction for the students of New York State. As Dr. Stripling states, "The heart of the ESIFC is our students." We believe that to be true and it is a pleasure to offer this voice of support of the adoption and implementation of the Empire State Information Fluency Continuum by all who wish to ensure their students are equipped with the information literacy skills they will need for success.

<https://slsa-nys.libguides.com/ifc/>

In support of student learning and school libraries,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Cannell".

Dr. Jennifer Cannell  
NYLA President 2019-2020

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeremy Johannesen".

Jeremy Johannesen, CAE  
NYLA Executive Director