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@ the prhs library

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Survey Results

The library surveyed faculty, students, and PRHS parents at the end of last school year and has some interesting results to share.

We had 61 faculty responses, 430 student responses, and 31 parent responses.

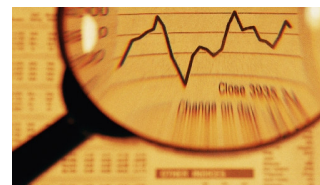
Upon reading the survey results, we heard loud and clear that faculty wanted to know more about the services that are offered through the library. In response to the results, we quickly planned a workshop to be held during the August in-service days before school began. Fifty two faculty members participated. We introduced new databases, services, and other resources that will help teachers in all departments with integrating research and literacy into their curriculum.

We also found that the student

survey results were very favorable. Most students indicated that they use the library to access computers (89%), to do research for classes (78%), or to do homework and study (72%).

We found that 52% of the students did not know that we had audiobooks available in the library, so we moved our audiobook display to the front of the library. Since then, circulation of audiobooks has increased from 26 checked out all of last year to 24 checked out in the first quarter alone.

We also found that 38% of students did not know about NoodleTools, our works cited software. Since then, we have been working with English teachers to establish NoodleTool accounts for all students. During the 1st quarter, 307 NoodleTool accounts were created.



The most positive feedback we got from student surveys is that 40% of students find the new Library hours (open from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.) "very valuable." We are thrilled to continue with these hours and have noticed more students utilizing the later hours.

We asked parents if they noticed an increase in the amount of books that their students were bringing home and reading and 45% of the respondents said that, yes, they noticed an increase, 38% reported that, no, they did not notice an increase. 84% of the parents responding indicated that their students utilized the library after school.

Thank you for participating and do not wait until our next survey to share ideas and suggestions.

New Assistant Librarian

On September 24th, the library welcomed Casey Brough to the PRHS library staff. With a degree in English Literature and nearly ten years of library experience, Casey brings with him a love of libraries; a love, he hopes, that will translate into getting students excited about coming to the library.

"Libraries are no longer just

a quiet, stuffy place with old, dusty books. I want students to realize that the library is a place to meet with friends, share ideas and information and, of course,



to find books. I want them to know that the library is a pretty happening place," says Casey.

When not promoting the greatness of libraries, which is rare, Casey enjoys playing and watching hockey, 60's folk-rock, and macaroni & cheese. Some of his favorite authors are Raymond Carver, Jonathan Safran-Foer and Oscar Wilde.

Book Club Titles for Fall

Featured Non-Fiction:



My Secret: a PostSecret book By Frank Warren

My Secret is a collection of postcards in which teens and college students from around the world reveal their deepest secrets by mailing postcards to the author.

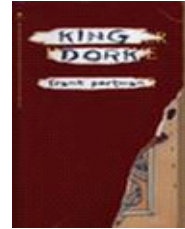
This book is inspired by the blog that Frank Warren created after he invited people to send him a postcard revealing a secret they have never told.

We also have Warren's first book: *PostSecret: Extraordinary Confessions from Ordinary Lives*.



Certain Slant of Light 130 yr-old ghost tells a story

The Night My Sister Went Missing Disappearance of a girl



King Dork High school loser solves mysteries

Periodicals in the Library

Check out the magazine and newspaper titles that we have in the Library this year:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---|
| American Heritage | Mathematics Teacher | Seventeen |
| American History | Military History | Shonen-Jump |
| ArtNews | Money | Ski |
| Atlantic Monthly | Motor Trend | Social Education |
| Audubon | National Geographic | Spin |
| Backpacker | National Wildlife | Sports Illustrated |
| Boston Globe | Natural History | Teen Ink |
| Cicada | New Yorker | Teen Vogue |
| Concord Monitor | Newsweek | Thrasher |
| Cooking Light | Off-Road | Time |
| Current History | PC Gamer | Transworld Snowboarding |
| Discover | People | Union Leader |
| E: Environmental Magazine | Popular Mechanics | US News & World Report |
| Economist | Popular Science | USA Today |
| English Journal | Prevention | Wall Street Journal |
| Field and Stream | Psychology Today | Washington Report on
Middle East Affairs |
| Guitar Player | Record Enterprise | |
| Harpers Magazine | School Library Journal | |
| Health | Science News | |
| Horse Illustrated | Science Teacher | |
| Library Media Connection | Scientific American | |

Let us know if you have any suggestions for additions to the periodical collection.

What Do Students Want To Know?

One day in October we kept track of the questions that were asked in the PRHS Library Media Center. Here is a sampling:

Can you help me find a video clip about mountains for my presentation?

Do you have any books about Darwin or the origin of species?

Can you help me find information about a television show I saw last week about cars running on combusted air?

Will you help me find a really thick book to read for the weekend?

How do I log onto Ebsco?

Do you have any books about altitude sickness?

How many times can I renew my jump drive?

Do you have a digital camera that I can use?

Did you find a chemistry book in here last week?

Does this citation look right to you?

Can you look up my NoodleBib password for me?

Can I use the phone to arrange an interview for one of my classes?

Can you find me a book where the main character is actually telling the

story?

How do I change MSWord so I can type my Spanish paper with the accents?

This is a typical day of questions & answers for us.



“Will you help me find a really thick book to read for the weekend?”

Jump Drives



One of the services we offer in the library is loaning out jump drives to students.

Students are frequently transporting

computer files for their assignments between school and home; and sometimes they need to transfer a file in school from one account to another.

We started last year with a small number of jump drives and now have over a dozen that students can check out overnight. Already this quarter, the jump drives have been checked out 59 times.

Other Names for a Jump Drive:

- Flash Drive
- USB Drive
- Thumb Drive
- Memory Stick

What Do You Mean, What's a Zine?

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! The PRHS library has added zines to their collection! “What are zines?” you might ask. I’m glad you asked! Zines, short for magazines, are generally self-published works of fiction, non-fiction and art with very small circulation numbers.



The first shipment of zines recently arrived in the library and include work from authors and artists from around the country and beyond. Topics range from personal (On Subbing, the musings of a substitute teacher) to practical (France & Amber’s Apartment, DIY decorating ideas) to comics/graphic novels (Couch Tag, a collection of mini-comics).

While there is no shortage of amazing and exciting books in the library, zines give students an additional alternative to mainstream literature. And with a majority of the zines written, edited, published and circulated by people in high school and college, students at PRHS should find that the content is applicable to their lives.



Plymouth Regional High School Library

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Check out our PRHS Library webpage:
<http://prhslibrary.pbwiki.com/>

The purpose of the Plymouth Regional High School Library is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information.

Library Quotes ~

Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it. — Samuel JOHNSON

I find that a great part of the information I have was acquired by looking something up and finding something else on the way. — Franklin P. ADAMS

Trying to find information on the web is like walking into a library after an earthquake with the books strewn all over the floor. — Deborah JONES

PRHS Library By the Numbers

Statistics are a great way to see how the library is growing and changing. With our powerful databases we can gather and report on how the library is working in a variety of ways.

Number of shiny new books added this summer: **1,000**

Total number of items in our collection: **14,500**

Number of jump drives available for checkout: **15**

Books checked out for the summer: **201**

Checkout totals for August 2007 (only 4 days of school in August this year): **269**

Checkout totals for September 2007: **768**

Checkout totals for October 2007: **910**

The library is open **11** hours per day.
7 a.m.—6 p.m.

Individuals using the Library (an average of a 3 day gate count):

Period 1/2	121
Period 3/4	96
Period 5/6	122
Period 7/8	133

Number of paid databases that our school subscribes to: **10**

Number of teachers who attended Library In-Service training this year: **52**