MAKE THE CASE
for School Librarians

AASL
American Association of School Librarians
TRANSFORMING LEARNING

School librarians support learner and educator engagement in an interconnected world.

Google processes more than **40,000 searches every second**. Worldwide there are **5 billion internet searches per day**.[1]

Children (3-18) with a computer at home
2010 — **85%**
2015 — **94%**

Home access to handheld computer or smartphone
2010 — **25%**
2015 — **89%**

Children with home internet access who rely on a mobile service or data plan[2]
2010 — **9%**
2015 — **67%**

School librarians curate equitable instruction and curriculum tools for all information needs in the school community.

51% **of teachers** who use digital tools to illustrate abstract concepts report that **students demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills as a result of how technology is used** in their classroom.[2]

Parents concerned about inequitable technology usage in schools:[2]
2013 — **32%**
2018 — **51%**
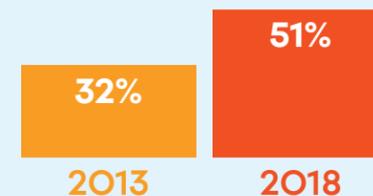
School librarians develop future ready learners through personalization that promotes curiosity and initiative when seeking information.

72% **of employers** say **critical thinking is key** to their organization's success.

36% say their **employees are good critical thinkers**.
(American Management Study, 2012)[4]

93% **of employers** says a candidate's **competency with workplace skills**, such as critical thinking, is **more important than their undergraduate minor**.
(AACU Survey, 2013)[4]

School librarians are professional development leaders in their schools and districts.

68% of principals say the **most significant challenge** in the effective use of digital resources in their schools is **providing effective teacher training**.[3]

Teachers professional development wish list:[3]

47% Using technology to differentiate instruction

29% Using technology tools for formative assessment

28% Implementing blended learning in my classroom

School librarians facilitate experiences in which learners exhibit empathy and tolerance for diverse ideas.

Teaching to diversity, students expressed **growing awareness** of different strengths and challenges experienced by peers (grades 4-7).[5]

"Knowing that everyone learns differently than you—it makes me understand that there's different smarts—everyone is smart in different ways."

"I really understood how they felt, to be like that, how it would be harder."

Find sources cited and download this infographic at national.aasl.org.