

**Request for Endorsement for Separate Information Literacy Standards by the  
Board of Regents  
Sept. 2009**

In our increasingly complex world, a learner must be information literate, able to effectively find and evaluate sources, think critically, and synthesize information to create new knowledge. These are the survival skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

For a successfully educated individual, this learning process becomes a lifelong habit. Knowledge acquired today may be inadequate tomorrow, while the process of searching out answers, once learned, will be a lifetime skill.

The mission of a strong school library program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. The school library media specialist empowers students to be critical thinkers, enthusiastic readers, skillful researchers, and ethical users of information. (AASL, 2009)

The New York State Information Literacy Standards, taught by certified school library media specialists in collaboration with content-area teachers, will present a broad perspective, going beyond basic information literacy skills to focus on the learning process as a whole, which is essential for all learners in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The only way to ensure that all our students receive comprehensive instruction in essential information literacies in a coherent manner from PK-12 is to teach this learning process in a defined curriculum, delivering the instruction in a collaborative way.

We look to you to endorse Information Literacy Standards as the eighth New York State Learning Standards area.

**Prepared by members of SLMS and SLSA**