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# [Transcript](https://sd83bcca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jderpak_sd83_bc_ca/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Your%20Recording%207.wav)

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[Hey everyone, welcome to the Future Ready Library Podcast period leading from the library. I am so excited today to welcome my friend Jen to the show. Welcome, Jen. Hi. Hi. I know. Go ahead and introduce yourself. Sorry, Jennifer. We called district teacher librarian. This was on the. And and I've been. A teacher for almost 20 years. I've been English teacher secondary and post secondary first before I transitioned into the library and I'm actually new school district and actually. Changed our school assist in the middle. Our bedding here. This is like your kids, and I love it. It's. You're like me. I get to work with all of our kids and I I just love it because it's we get the best of all worlds, right? We get to work with our little ones and even our older ones and I have to tell you. I love working with. They're amazing. And then I love the idea. We're a small district under 2000 staff and so I love the idea of getting. For 13 years and their their career doing that. Too, I love that. I know we're when we're. Around 1000 kids this year and we're pretty too, because we're all in one building and so we added our preschoolers 2 years ago. And so we even have our, you know, there and. It's been fun. My son, now junior, just to watch the kids. Grow up. Quick tangent, small communities or school districts like that we're down one group. And so like when I was doing virtual field trips last year was in. College because I was like. To the right and look down the road, frustrated. Your future look down the road and then. Coming from a bigger district of almost 18,000 here to get a Chromebook cart from one building to the other. You literally just put the down the sidebar, which kind of cracks the libraries is great. I love it. I know and. And we were just brainstorming all the ideas that we could have talked about today. One that. Really stuck out to me and what Jen said was those scenes. Innovative and collaboratively boring things that you do, and I love that because I think that those birds innovate coverage and explored just really kind of encompass what we do as librarians. The all the great things that you're doing done within your district. And so let's just start by talking about like innovation. So. Robbery explorers is actually. School year and silver lining of the pandemic is I feel like it pushed many of us. To like you had to become innovative and so. That I'm working with our high school. Library looks like with loving kindness, I'd say that it looks like it's swoop in 1972. It's very brown and avocado and and I get along with the library building. And Add all this innovative technology and make the space clubs and podcasting pubs and all of them. And part of that we imagining the rebranding this like guidance. Right. And so. There are few prominent bookshelves, and those are going. To be the words on. Vertically on those bookshelves, right when you walk into the library. It'll say innovate, collaborate. Explore. And we also know that part of in the library. They're coming from a traditional like both. Centric library is that you have to you have to show. What 21st? Through the innovative things that we did and when I see the innovative first time used for like may be happening and others. Around the country or across the globe? But they were new for the school district. So like one of the things that I was in one of those future ready. Last last year, we did. You know blew up. All over the place. What I think was doing with about our success is that they were very with the intent of moving. Programming service learning and collaboration, and we probably do that fifty of them last year and they did. They begin to move to. Classroom curriculum based Service Corporation. So like the second grade, they were reading books, studying first responders. And so the second grade teachers. The fire department. And and then another example. Our Youth transitions program at the high school is. A program in a class that's trying to secure students into their pockets. So we did a couple of virtual field trips from Stan and then the students were able to meet up with those community partners like our Internet. The use of Spielberg. So. We have the. Original. Pretty innovative course they used to last year and because of them and because of meeting Michelle Carsons through another one of your future readies. Webinars. Version is to apply for a Fulbright. Fulbright. Classrooms, award or program and I did and I got accepted. So that was amazing. And I come from a first generation college family. We even have conference right next to my computer. I LED in for my application was digital. Wanting to connect money for rural students to the world. Next. Proud of you? I think that those connections that we can make for our kids in just innovative and creative and not being afraid to like reach out and make these connections if it's. You know our community, or if it's anywhere in the world like it brings it definitely brings so much joy. Kids and we're in a row. Community here in Iowa and those are the things that my son remembers. Like when you know he was little like still say. Like remember when we connected with you know the that author we connected with NASA. We connected with even my brother and his, you know. Cornfield and think as a librarian, so lucky has. Your first. Teachers what they want. But even from US kids too, and then use of them and and so I. I love that. I love following that and that kind of leads us into that collaboration. Right. Like because it's not just the. Collaboration that we do with our teachers, but it's. Also, the collaboration that. We do with our kids and their families and our communities. And So what? You know what? Like and what have you been doing there to really make an impact when it comes to collaborate? Again, we're in such a special position. Leading from the library sometimes. Teachers. Don't have they don't have the time or the whatever we can connect lastly to our. And I feel like we're the perfect conduit in the library that you that you know. Last year again. One of our alright. Collaborations that lasted all but will last. Forever. And. There we did a lot of. And. We've talked about how. Physiological provide. Start reading the book. Or. Or an adult like you're moving. Down and your Pittsburgh down especially like, you know a lot. Of us are focusing on. Like. So. We frequently Humane Society. Time. And then, like we've had our arts students school create arts and collaboration. Art alliance with a showcase their student artwork downtown. And then all of that money. Was raised for the student price. So we have these like beautiful. Interagency collaborate. Constantly happening and I think. Sometimes. However, we will rich and reciprocity good. And then another I have to collaboration that discarded is with our local radio. So we're going to set up a podcasting card in our middle school library we're working with. Video. And so whatever we. Meriden Count on the local radio as well as like. I want to propose on the storage form. So that they're archives at the Library of Congress and all their own like. Go all over. So it's like a real authentic employees and it's super meaningful. But the. I know that's the best job, right? And again, the kids will never forget those. Collaborative this relationships and experiences and so. So talking about the last thing that you have in your library. You're thinking. Explorer. I think that just by watching what you're doing and also. All the great things that you're doing with your kids and your teachers that really encompasses also the things that we can do now as a librarian. And I know that I had so many aha moments. Like during the pandemic and continue to do. But I think that explore that. Exploration that we can have is just so great as librarians. But we really it's really opened our eyes over the last like 18 months to what that truly. Yeah, I I guess I always find the silver lining. Silver lining one of the Silver Linings in the. We all got wired out in a wonderful school district. Didn't have Chromebooks before, and now we're all one. To 1 Chromebooks. And everyone learns how to connect online. So I've done service learning throughout my entire career and I remember when I worked with my college kids. I could be like OK partners, right? But when I work with. Projects like in the middle school merging in World History Project. And like. Can't get the car in the drive and connect. So we would have to bring all the participants. I remember like on the speakerphone, on the in the classroom. Talking to our Historical Society person, because that was the technology, you know. Over a decade ago. And so this pandemic says again. This. Fast forward and really need like so yeah, when I think the third banner. To connect. That's the library that the ability to outside of our community and also represents obviously like our info. From the library. Again with my Fulbright, I'm specifically specifically wrote it because I want to again my student. Outside of the across the globe for exploration. And then another big part of that explore concept for me is. Our library. There you know, our maintenance people sometimes, yes. I circulated. Thousands of these little paper to those kits during the pandemic, right? So they had to be flat. I prototyped them to be flat so I can just easily mailed or put into our student folders. But they got. And and next steps, sometimes people like. What is this crap and like? No. We're teaching the kids the engineer design. Process through every single one of those little activities. So we're building. The. Clubs in our library. I still think these. Can request class sets for grade level sets for depending on their. I have substances that I'll work with every single. Person I think it will request for specific. So I just hopped in the class and. Really. From the library, right that we all know how what it's like getting mail or packages. And so they think of them as little gifts. And then now again this is my. Now when I visit classrooms, first said is you.](https://sd83bcca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jderpak_sd83_bc_ca/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Your%20Recording%207.wav)

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[Activity is. Jumping on and jumping up and down because. We're so excited to create more. The last thing I will say is that another. Thing. I'm passionate about this. And so in my previous high school library had a have one inside the high school library as well. So the panels. We're adding the car. I just wanted to check out. So during open. Time in the library for school, lunch time, etc. Not with classes. But during open plans. Wow. I'm students got to the point. Where they were grabbing. Comes together and then. Even according and editing with technology. And. We have an organ association school libraries conference. Is this Saturday? And every participant got. Mailer that included invest by oxygen. And then one of the neighbors includes 4 kits, so one was to bind together your. Conference journal. That's kind of. Like a sketch noting and then they got imperfectly fistulated. Fearless watercolor palette artist from the side. And they got one of the questions. Dennis Matthew is also an assistant, and so during the flight. Everyone got a bag of.](https://sd83bcca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jderpak_sd83_bc_ca/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Your%20Recording%207.wav)

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[Can make a little percussion instrument, and then the last one. I'm sure you know posting these bogus. Yeah. We're not gonna talk. For the last session is missing. And then creating the top account. Advertising in the library.](https://sd83bcca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jderpak_sd83_bc_ca/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Your%20Recording%207.wav)

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[Yeah. Sure. Great. How fun your kids are gonna you're gonna love all those things and your friends at the conference too.](https://sd83bcca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jderpak_sd83_bc_ca/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Your%20Recording%207.wav)

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[I know. I love it and again we have. The best job. It's like we think we have just so many and working with kids like we both. All the great bubbles we couldn't do last year, right? One thing at one point. Yeah. So like I'm clapping. So I'm just. Wait. 1234 are my regular. Participants. But I, you know, introducing the engineering design process and collaborating. And we are looking for more. Kids to join their middle school high school looks like. Into those careers, career programs from the roads, but it's not with 12 background. Yeah. So fortunate to get to work. Through the work. To do like people's eyes. To all of the possibilities and so like this year. We added a whole new program to our school. We added a school teacher and it's, you know, not just like me now. Librarians pushing in or working with the kids, but that's what comes to from this collaboration. I think when we open our you know. Eyes to our community about the three things that we talked about today. That's when other possibilities come to our kids, too. It's programming within our school or outside, bringing the world in and exactly what you're doing. My friend. So I love hearing about all this today. So much for sharing. Thank you guys. You're what am I doing? With always wrong. It's really it's an honor to. And where do people find you online? Yeah. So I have a clock account now. You want to talk about that one is Jennifer Mary. And then my Twitter are both at. Then our library. Please. I use club library. And I'll make sure that he has. A option so they can see. But thank you so much, Jen, and have a great time at your conference. And and we can't wait to follow along with kids in your library. Thank you and thank you everyone for joining and a huge things to follow it for sponsoring our podcast series. We will see you next time. Thank you for joining us for the future Ready Librarian podcast. Even from the library. I would like to also thank our sponsors followed learning for their amazing continued support.](https://sd83bcca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jderpak_sd83_bc_ca/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Your%20Recording%207.wav)