



2017  
ITEM/MLA  
Legislative Forum

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Becoming Strong Library Advocates



# Morning

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**Summary of Legislative Session--Sam Walseth, Capitol Hill Associates**

**Minnesota Libraries in a Nutshell--Ken Behringer**

- **Organization, funding, relationships at local regional state level**

**Minnesota Legislature 101--Understanding the legislative process--Sam**

- **What does a lobbyist do**

**Understanding the State Budget--Jennifer Nelson, Director, State Library Services**

**Gathering Data--Joe Manion, State Library Services**

# Lunch!

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**Check your dot! Join the group!**

**Your opportunity to:**

- **Ask an experienced person questions about legislative process**
- **All those acronyms**
- **What happens at Legislative Committee & on Legislative Day**
- **Begin to build an advocacy network**
- **Other questions/discussion in lunch group**

# Afternoon

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## **The Platform for 2018**

- **Survey results**
- **What goes on the MLA/ITEM Platform & why**
- **Platform Planks**

## **New Legislative Working Committee**

### **National Issues: Fight for**

**Libraries--<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation/fight-for-libraries>**

# Keeping Up

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- **MNLibLeg mailing list**
  - **[http://mnlibraryadvocacy.org/mailman/listinfo/mnlibleg\\_mnlibraryadvocacy.org](http://mnlibraryadvocacy.org/mailman/listinfo/mnlibleg_mnlibraryadvocacy.org)**
- **First Wednesday Legislative Updates (10am via Zoom)**
- **Lobbyist updates (via MNLibLeg)**
- **Webinars--TBA on MLA/ITEM lists, MNLibLeg, Roundup**



# 2018 Library Legislative Day

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March 6, 2018  
State Capitol



# Ideas, Thoughts, Volunteers!

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Incoming Legislative

Ann Walker Smalley

[ann@metronet.lib.mn.us](mailto:ann@metronet.lib.mn.us)

651.646.0475

Current Legislative Chair

Jami Trenam

[jamit@grrl.lib.mn.us](mailto:jamit@grrl.lib.mn.us)

320.650.2531



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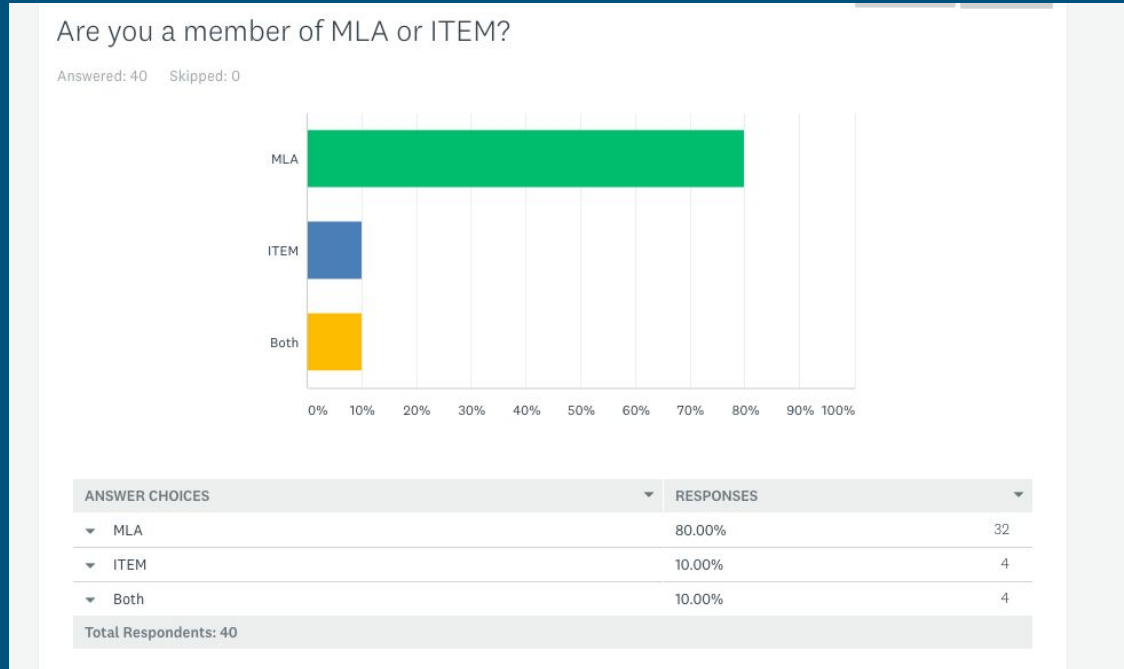
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2018 Platform





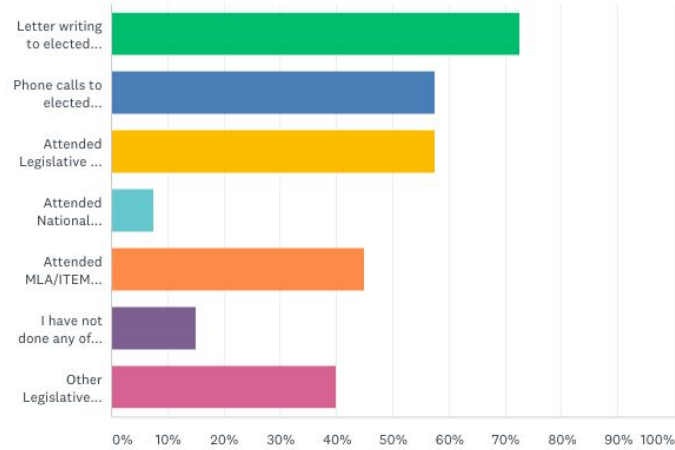
# Survey Results: Who Responded



# Level of Legislative Activity

Which activities have you participated in in the past? Check all that apply.

Answered: 40 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Letter writing to elected officials	72.50% 29
Phone calls to elected officials	57.50% 23
Attended Legislative Day in Minnesota	57.50% 23
Attended National Legislative Day in Washington, DC	7.50% 3
Attended MLA/ITEM Legislative Forum	45.00% 18
I have not done any of these things	15.00% 6
Other Legislative Activities (please specify)	Responses 40.00% 16
Total Respondents: 40	

# 2017 Platform Review

**The library card is the smartest card in your wallet.**



**2017 MLA/ITEM LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

The Minnesota Library Association (MLA) and the Information and Technology Educators of Minnesota (ITEM) support state funding for the following programs that sustain library services in Minnesota:

- 1. Basic funding for libraries**
  - Regional Library Basic System Support (RLBSS): increased funding from \$13.57 million to \$16.57 million annually with a corresponding formula change to provide stable funding for all regional public library systems across the state.
  - Multicounty Multiple Library Support: increased funding from \$1.3 million to \$2 million annually to support communication, resource sharing, staff development, and collaborative programming connecting all types of Minnesota libraries.
- 2. Library funding for libraries**
  - Appropriation of a \$4.25 million annual allocation of Arts and Cultural Heritage Legacy funding for regional public library systems to provide high quality arts, history, and cultural programming in every corner of Minnesota.
- 3. Broadband access across Minnesota**

Minnesota's libraries play a critical role in providing convenient, reliable broadband access to enhance economic development, college career readiness, and e-government services. #12 schools use media-rich online educational content to support and enhance their learning environment. MLA and ITEM support:


  - Increased annual funding for K12 Broadband Equity Aid from \$3.25 million per year to \$6.75 million.
  - Continued annual funding of Regional Library Telecommunications Aid (RLTA) at \$2.3 million.
- 4. Bonding**
  - MLA and ITEM support the appropriation of \$10 million over the 2017-18 biennium for construction and remodeling of public library buildings through the State's currently authorized matching program (M.S. 13A.45).





**MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION** **ITEM**

**MN School Libraries TRANSFORM**



**The following efforts enhance library service to Minnesota's students and citizens. We support:**

- The Minnesota Department of Education's inclusion of school library media programs in the plan to implement the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Effective school library programs (including a licensed school media specialist at every school) increase literacy, academic achievement, and information literacy skills that make Minnesota home to the world's best workforce.
- Funding for Minitex, the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM), the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL), and MNLINK, the statewide interlibrary loan system.
- The continued growth of Ebooks Minnesota, a collaborative effort between the Minnesota Department of Education and Minitex, to provide much-needed access to ebooks for libraries and school media centers.
- After-school and community programs that recognize the essential role libraries play to foster early literacy and provide out-of-school learning opportunities that reduce the achievement gap.

**MNLINK** **EBOOKS MINNESOTA** **ELM**

**Minitex** **MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION** **ITEM**

# From the Survey

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## Matching 2107 Platform Planks

- Funding for regional library systems--public & multitype
- Bonding for public library buildings
- Broadband for public libraries (RLTA)
- K-12 Broadband Equity Aid

# 2018 Platform Planks

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- Funding for regional library systems--public & multitype
- Bonding for public library buildings
- HF 2698--Media Specialist Grant Pool
- Broadband for public libraries (RLTA)
- K-12 Broadband Equity Aid

# From the Survey

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## New Ideas

- HF 2698--Media Specialist Grant Pool

# “Shadow Platform”

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## Matching 2017 Shadow Platform Statements

- Support of library media programs in MDE-ESSA Plan
- Continued funding of ELM & MNLINK
- Growth of EBooks MN
- Role libraries play in afterschool programming
- Role of libraries in early literacy

# “Shadow” Platform”

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## New Ideas\*

- Statements of support for LGA & CPA

\*Not really new, but not on the 2017 Shadow Platform



# Platform Planks by Consensus

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- Funding for regional library systems--public & multitype
- Bonding for public library buildings\*
- HF 2698--Media Specialist Grant Pool

\*Assumes a bonding bill in 2018 session

# 'Shadow' Planks by Consensus

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- Continued funding of ELM & MNLINK
- Support OHE request for funding for EBooks MN
- Role libraries play in afterschool programming
- Role of libraries in early literacy
- Statements of support for LGA & CPA
- Continuation of Broadband for public libraries (RLTA)
- Support funding increase K-12 Broadband Equity Aid