

Cassidy Wilson Named School Media Innovator of the Year

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Cassidy Wilson Honored for Innovative Library Leadership in Minneapolis Public Schools

The Information and Technology Educators of Minnesota (ITEM), a division of the Minnesota Library Association (MLA), has named **Cassidy Wilson of Minneapolis Public Schools** the recipient of the **2026 School Media Innovator of the Year Award**.

Wilson has distinguished herself through innovative approaches to increasing library engagement, improving access to collections, and expanding literacy opportunities for students.

Among her accomplishments are implementing genre-based organization for biography collections, creating a self-checkout station, and piloting an unlimited book checkout program.

Her school now boasts the highest per-student circulation rate among Minneapolis Public Schools, and students are showing positive literacy gains.

Wilson is also a passionate advocate for school libraries, consistently communicating the importance of library services to district leaders and school board members.

Her innovative spirit and commitment to student success make her a deserving recipient of this honor.

About the Minnesota Library Association

The Minnesota Library Association advances excellence in library services, supports library workers across the state, and promotes equitable access to information for all Minnesotans.

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