

125 Tower Drive Burr Ridge IL 60527 630.734.5000 Fax: 630.734.5050 railslibraries.org

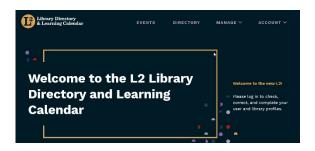
Message to School Librarians and School District Representatives

The Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) is a regional library system that provides services to libraries in the northern and west-central areas of the state of Illinois. We serve approximately 1,300 private, public, school, and university library members, which have a total of more than 4,200 library facilities in a 27,000 square mile area.

As a school librarian or a representative from a school district, there are many ways to take full advantage of everything the system has to offer. Here are a few ways to get started.

Create/sign in to your Library Learning (L2) account

Library Learning (L2) serves as both the RAILS membership directory and a statewide continuing education/events calendar. Having an account allows you to register for events and to find detailed information about other Illinois libraries. It also helps other libraries find you for networking and collaboration purposes.



If you already have an L2 account:

RAILS will set your account with the appropriate affiliation and Role/Access Group that allows
you to manage your staff list and depending on your role, edit library information.

If you do not have an L2 account:

- RAILS will create your account and set up the affiliation with your institution.
- You will receive an email from our L2 team with a link to reset your password within the next 24 hours.

To read about managing staff lists, instruction and information on L2 functions, or to contact the L2 Help Desk visit https://librarylearning.org/help.

Please note that your L2 username and password are used to login to the RAILS website. This is how you will access many RAILS benefits such as archived webinars, email lists, grants, deals & discounts, and more.

Subscribe to the AISLE Email List and Other Email Lists

The Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE) is a nonprofit professional association dedicated to supporting school librarians. Anyone can subscribe to the AISLE email list for free. This is a great place to share news and ideas, as well as ask questions of your peers.

To subscribe send an email to <u>aisle-join@list.railslibraries.info</u>. Do not include a subject line or message. Subscription requests must be approved by the list administrator. Approved subscribers will automatically receive a "Welcome" email message.

RAILS also offers more than <u>40 email lists dedicated to specific job/topics</u> including a school library email list. These are a great way to explore the full community that RAILS offers.

Subscribe to the Weekly *RAILS E-News* and the Illinois State Library E-News

The <u>RAILS E-News</u> includes important information about the system, including current news, upcoming continuing education events, discounts available to RAILS members, news about other RAILS members, and much more. Please encourage your entire staff to subscribe as well.

We highly recommend that you also subscribe to the <u>Illinois State</u> <u>Library's *E-News*</u> to stay informed about grant offerings and other important statewide news.



Schedule your RAILS School Library Visit

RAILS offers many more programs/services of special interest to school libraries. New school librarians or district representatives (or anyone wanting a refresher) can schedule a 30-minute discussion to find out how you can make the most of your RAILS membership. These one-on-one meetings take place via Zoom. To see available times and request your meeting please visit RAILS' Calendly site. If you need to schedule a time outside of one of the dates provided, please contact Dan Bostrom, RAILS Member Engagement Manager, dan.bostrom@railslibraries.org or 630.734.5151.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the RAILS Communications team at, communications@railslibraries.org. Thank you for your service to the community and to the larger network of libraries in Illinois.

Sincerely,

Monica R. Harris Executive Director

Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS)

monica.harris@railslibraries.org

630.734.5129

