

Beth Berasti

Library Media Specialist

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“The love of learning, the sequestered nooks, and all the sweet serenity of books”- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Professional Highlights

- Passionate about creating an inclusive and welcoming library space that fosters a love of reading, critical thinking, and a growth mindset while inspiring lifelong learning
- Highly reflective, flexible, and creative educator dedicated to professional growth
- Deeply knowledgeable about curriculum development, grade-level content, and instructional resources, with expertise in special education and integrated co-teaching
- Proven success as a collaborator with experience partnering with teachers to integrate library resources, support inquiry-based learning, and enhance student engagement
- Active member of the American Association of School Librarians and American Library Association, staying current with best practices in school librarianship

Educational Experience

Library Media Specialist

Manhasset Public Schools, September 2025-present

- Designed and delivered engaging library lessons for K–5 aligned with state standards and classroom curriculum
- Taught information literacy skills, including research basics, digital citizenship, and responsible technology use
- Collaborated with classroom teachers to support literacy, inquiry-based learning, and project research
- Integrated read-alouds, storytelling, and book talks to foster a love of reading across grade levels
- Curated and maintained a diverse, inclusive K–5 library collection supporting academic and social-emotional learning
- Managed cataloging, circulation, inventory, and weeding using a library management system
- Promoted reading through school-wide literacy initiatives, book fairs, reading challenges, and author studies
- Supported reluctant readers by providing personalized book recommendations
- Encouraged independent reading and inquiry through student-centered library programming
- Supported students and staff in the use of educational databases, eBooks, and digital research tools
- Partnered with administrators, teachers, and support staff to advance school literacy goals
- Maintained an organized, welcoming, and inclusive learning environment
- Tracked circulation and program data to inform collection development and instruction
- Maintained accurate records, schedules, and reports for library operations

Library Media Specialist Field Work

Manhasset Public Schools, Fall 2024

- Gained hands-on experience in collection assessment and development, circulation methods, organization and shelving, book promotions, library lessons and instruction
- Applied Follett Titlewave and OPAC systems in academic and practical settings to support library operations
- Worked alongside librarians to assist students with book selection and inquiries
- Collaborated with librarians and teachers to plan library units
- Acquired experience with purchasing procedures and procurement methods
- Observed and supported 6th-grade recess group alongside librarian fostering a positive and inclusive environment that encouraged social interactions and teamwork

- Applied knowledge of databases, computer and internet research skills, reference, and research assistance in the library
- Supported 5th-grade students in developing research and information literacy skills, instructing them on how to navigate curated databases, evaluate sources, and conduct effective searches

Elementary Special Education Teaching Assistant

Manhasset Public Schools, May 2015–Present

- Supported classroom instruction by assisting with lessons, tutoring students, and reviewing work to reinforce learning objectives
- Managed classroom behavior effectively, fostering a positive and structured learning environment
- Gained extensive exposure to curriculum content across multiple grade levels, developing a strong understanding of instructional strategies and student learning needs
- Partnered with teachers to implement lessons aligned with curriculum goals, incorporating digital and print resources to support student research and engagement
- Supported students with diverse special needs during the school day and afterschool in the CAPP program, providing individualized assistance to students to enhance academic and social development.
- Collected data on students' progress towards IEP goals to support individualized instruction and compliance with special education requirements

Education

University at Buffalo

January 2023–Present

Buffalo, NY

Master's of Science in Information Library Science

June 2026

- Completed coursework in information literacy, reference services, school library management, curriculum integration, computer and technology applications in the school library setting, and pedagogy for school librarians. Gained expertise in selecting and providing resources for children and young adults, instructional strategies, research methods, digital citizenship and information literacy skills.

Molloy College

May 2001

Rockville Centre, NY

Bachelor's of Science in Psychology/ Pre K- 6 Education

- Developed a strong foundation in child psychology, instructional strategies, and curriculum design for Pre-Kindergarten to 6th grade, fostering the ability to support diverse learners and effectively integrate library resources into classroom instruction.

Certification

- Library Media Specialist Internship Certificate, Jan 2025
- Teaching Assistant Level III Certificate, May 2019

Skills

- Library Management & Collection Development: Book promotions, cataloging, collection analysis, collection development, weeding methods, Follett Titlewave, OPAC
- Research Skills: Knowledge of databases, computer and internet research skills, reference sources, research methods, presentations
- Instruction & Collaboration: Classroom management, effective communication with students and staff, inquiry-based learning integration
- Digital Citizenship- Designed and built an interactive website with Digital Citizenship resources for students and teachers
- Technology- Proficient in technology resources for students, including makerspaces, educational websites, computer programs, AR/VR tools, Google Workspace, Canva, Book Creator, iMovie

