Andie Kantor Bender

ELib 580

Field Experience Reflection

I had the opportunity to work under the guidance of Ms. Caroline Gill at Venice High School. Ms. Gill is a National Board Certified Teacher Librarian, as well as a Grande Dame in the TL profession. It was an incredible stroke of luck to be able to learn from her and I hope to continue to do so.

I realized that I do like high school. Prior to this assignment, I had considered looking for an elementary assignment, perhaps in a private school. High school students are much more mature for the most part, and don’t need the hand holding that middle scholars do. That said, they still don’t have the research skills they need to be successful in college, so the teacher librarian is still very much needed.

Of all the things I learned from this experience, two pop out to my mind as of the most importance: I learned how to process books correctly and I learned that the librarian community is warm, welcoming, and has much to share. In the future I will continue to join the book club once a month. I will also to join other groups—and go to meetings. It’s one thing to send a check, and quite another to actually socialize with the people themselves. I am looking forward to connecting with colleagues and continuing to learn how to be a better teacher librarian.