

School Library Design Assignment

1. What is the library mission statement?

The mission of the Tuloso-Midway Intermediate School library program is to empower students to be critical thinkers, effective and ethical users and producers of ideas and information, and lifelong readers and learners, in order for them to become productive citizens in a global society.

2. Which of the 6 active learning spaces does the library have?

- Small Group Area
- Technology-Rich Area
- Quiet, Solitary Area
- Makerspace Area

3. What design suggestions from the article are incorporated into the library?

The article I read was "Using Action Research to Assess and Advocate for Innovative School Library Design" by Maghan Harper and Liz Deskins. The article gave the process and outcome of an action research project using teacher, students, and community stakeholders to determine what changes need to be done to improve their library. Many of the suggestions given in the article matched what was talked about in "6 Active Learning Spaces Your Library Should Have," however the use of music in the library was only talked about in the article. When you first walk into the Tuloso-Midway Intermediate school library the first thing you notice is the soothing music. It is loud enough to be heard if you want to listen, but quiet enough to overpower your thoughts when working. You would think it would only make the noise level louder when students arrive, but it seems to quiet them down instead.

4. How does the design of the library support its mission statement?

When you break down the mission statement it is easy to see how the design supports it. To empower students to be critical thinkers they use Makerspaces. To make effective and ethical users they have a computer corral that allows for teacher or student lead assignments. Students that are producers of ideas and information is supported through both the Makerspaces and computers. Lifelong readers and learners is supported by the large collection and comfortable setting not only in small group areas, but also in individual reading areas. All these spaces lead them to become productive citizens in a global society.

5. Based on your observations, the suggestions made in the article, and the existence of the recommended 6 active learning spaces, provide and explain at least 2 improvements that can be made to help the library fulfill its mission statement.

One of the improvements to help fulfill the mission statement would be to have more technology in the library. The computer corral does give access to computers but most of the time I only see students looking up books on them. I'm not sure if the 4 other

computer labs on campus make it where the library computers are not needed or is it the computers are not technology – rich as they need to be. The other thing that I see is there is no large group area. When the students have come in for their library lessons they have to sit on the floor.

6. What positive aspect of the library's design does your picture depict?

The positive aspect in the library design is the Makerspace area. They activities they offer range from making bookmarks to using Lego boards to create whatever come to their mind.

7. What UNT database was the article that you read found in?

The UNT database I found my article in was ProQuest.

8. What is the APA reference for the article?

Harper, M., & Deskins, L. (2015). Using action research to assess and advocate for innovative school library design. *Knowledge Quest*, 44(2), 24.

