Cheryl Doubleday

Bradford Elementary School

Submitted via email 3/4/22

Hi Karen,

This is my second year as the librarian at Bradford Elementary School. They did not have a librarian the previous year and were on the verge of scrapping the library all together. Yikes! The current library is crammed into a tiny room (smaller than most classrooms) and was obviously not intended for use as a library. There is a sink and a counter that takes up almost an entire side of one wall and the 2 ft. deep shelves underneath that are definitely not intended for library books. I am pretty sure the space used to be a lab room. The library space is extremely limited, to say the least. It is neither user friendly and **NOT ADA compliant.** The bookshelves are bolted to the floor with the carpet put in around it and cannot be moved. A single class of 15-20 kids has difficulty fitting in the library standing, never mind having a place to sit! It is a challenge just to perform a read aloud and impossible to conduct any real activities or lessons. There isn’t enough room for books or students, so forget about tables and chairs. There are boarded up windows that would look into another space. There are four doors, two are unusable, one is permanently locked, and the fourth is the door that is used. All of these challenges are preventing the library from being a safe space where students can learn, read, and explore.

* My school library does not have adequate space or ADA accommodations. This is a problem for our students/staff/community because it limits access as well as the effectiveness and safety of the library.
* The best improvement to our library facility was Significant updates to the collection. It helped our students/staff/community by offering newer, relevant and factually accurate resources to the library.

Thank you!