Pathways for School Library Education and Training in Japan

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The School Library Law in Japan

This law closely connects school libraries to the Japanese education system; enacted in 1953, it covers the core elements of the school system in Japan.

The latest version of the law, amended in 2014, the placement of the school librarians has been documented in addition to the teacher librarians.
Training course of Teacher Librarians

5 contents of Training course of Teacher Librarians

• School Management and Libraries
• Managing School Library Media Resources
• Education and School Library Services
• Theories of Reading and Personal Development in Schools
• Using Multimedia Information Resources

The curriculum consists of both the courses of the teacher training programme (about 30 subjects) and those of the teacher librarian programme.
Training course of Teacher Librarians ①  
School Management and Libraries

To help students understand the general matters about a school library.
Training course of Teacher Librarians②
Managing School Library Media Resources

To help students understand collection management and complete a practicum.
Training course of Teacher Librarians③
Education and School Library Services

To help students understand how to use physical and digital resources in the curriculum.

Debate
Investigative Learning
Pathfinder
Training course of Teacher Librarians

Theories of Reading and Personal Development in Schools

To help students understand the theory of reading promotion according to children’s personal development.
Training course of Teacher Librarians⑤
Using Multimedia Information Resources

To help students understand how to use various resources of a school library.
Secondary School Libraries

A Secondary School in Kyoto

Private Boys’ School
[St.Viator Rakusei Junior and Senior High School ]

洛星中学校・高等学校

75,000 volumes
Rakusei Junior and Senior High School

The preparation room for Social Studies
The example of teaching material of geography. A teacher found out these maps in the city office.

These 2 maps show the same place of 2007 and 1947. By comparing 2 maps students can learn changes in industrial structure.

The map of Kaizu 「海津」 left 2007 right 1947

mulberry field
orchard

the industrial change that means silk production has left the region
The Future Prospects of the Training

1) Education of school library staff
The overall educations is not sufficient.

2) Roles and duties of school library staff
Each job’s duties are not clear in the school education scene.

The contents of the curriculum in the universities are not keeping up with the needs of the school.
The Future Prospects of the Training
For the study of the professional’s expertise in school libraries
→ We need the interdisciplinary study ‘the library and information science’ and pedagogy and developmental psychology
→ match the school library services in the school needs
Thank you for listening