Professional Resources Blog Entry

my choices

by [Betsy Damon](http://www.plymouth.edu/courses/user/view.php?id=20904&course=20852) - Sunday, August 10, 2014, 6:02 PM

I have joined NHSLMA and feel that not only will this help me stay current professionally, but being a lone elementary school librarian in my district, this group has already provided some networking possibilities. I have also been able to connect with past PES librarians which has helped tremendously as I try to figure out what has gone on to bring the library to where it is. The listserv is great because I can put something out there that I want a few particular people to see and can get surprised by other people who might have the information I’m looking for that I wouldn’t have known to contact if I had done the info-seeking through traditional email. I have signed up for the listserv daily digest as well as liking NHSLMA on Facebook.

The second resource I’m going to follow regularly is NHSTE. I have signed up for the basic membership and have liked their Facebook page.  I have also set up an alert on Facebook so when NHSTE or NHSLMA have activity, I know and can go check out their pages.

I plan to join AASL after starting to receive [paychecks](http://www.plymouth.edu/courses/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=204683). Because I don’t have the funds to process right now I can’t quite see all the ways that I will be able to have current news shared with me but I routinely will have email messages for new content sent to me. I can then organize messages for later viewing if I am unable to check them at that time.

Right now I have a 14-day free Booklist [Online membership](http://www.plymouth.edu/courses/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=204683). I will be upgrading to a regular membership with alerts set up. I will be signing up for newsletters after upgrading and looking into attending webinars for professional development.

When I join organizations/websites/blogs, it is important that there is some information emailed to me on a regular basis (or when there is important news) to remind me of that connection and to provide an easy link to access the site. Many of my importance emails, I filter so I don’t have to go through all my [email to](http://www.plymouth.edu/courses/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=204683)find these and can see almost immediately when I have new mail from them. I’m also finding that Facebook helps with seeing new information and have special interest lists to tag and alert me when something new is posted.

I have found that sites that would seem to be obvious choices don’t always provide the best information and sometimes the most important information comes to you from very unlikely sources! One example is <http://theeducatorsroom.com/> - I’ve found some great [information](http://www.plymouth.edu/courses/mod/forum/discuss.php?d=204683) and articles on general education here that I am alerted to through liking their Facebook page.