

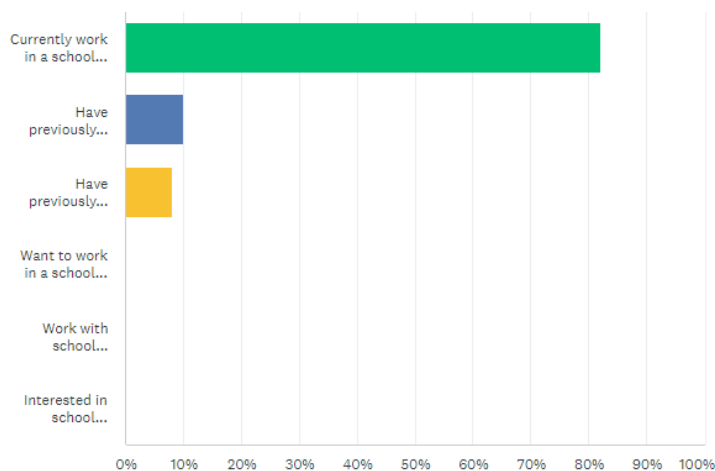
# ALIA Schools Group Survey Summary May 2023

The Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) recently surveyed school library assistant, library technician, librarian, and teacher librarian members working in school libraries to find out what they would like to see from the ALIA Schools Group and how they might like to engage.

51 respondents completed the survey.

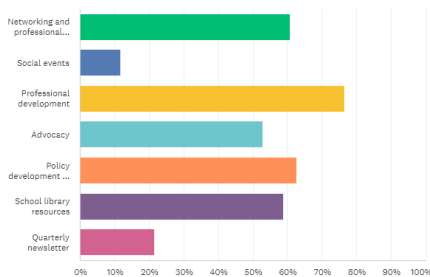
## What is your connection with school libraries?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 1



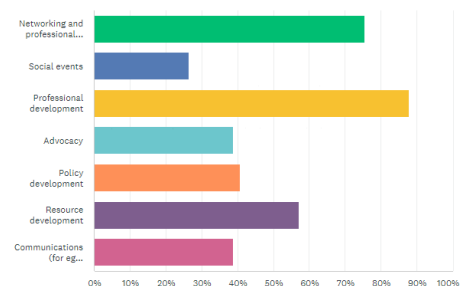
## Which of the following activities would you most like to see from an ALIA Schools Special Interest Group? Choose three:

Answered: 51 Skipped: 0



## Which of the following activities would you be interested in participating in? Tick all that apply

Answered: 49 Skipped: 2



## Comments:

- I believe that all of the above are relevant to ALIA Schools as they have been for the past 50+ years
- Would like to see all aspects listed above
- Focus on non-teaching library staff. Most resources/advocacy focuses on teacher librarians

What areas of advocacy do you think are currently the most important for the ALIA Schools Group to focus on?

Advocating for the value of school libraries that are run by qualified staff were the key issues highlighted in the survey. There is still much work to be done to ensure that Principals are aware of the value of school libraries.

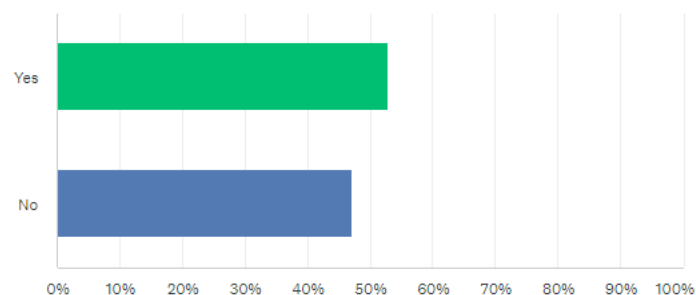


**Sample of comments:**

- am concerned that there are still principals who do not understand the value of school libraries.
- the importance of having qualified library staff - teacher librarians and library technicians- working in school libraries to support our students with their learning and wellbeing needs.
- demonstrating to school leadership and state/national government the value of a well staffed and well funded library in all schools
- identifying how to best present the benefits of the school library (including the difference trained library staff make) to all school staff
- funding, role of libraries for students, teacher librarian impacts on literacy, etc.
- many schools only employ library staff as Term Time employees. I think this is wrong and that library staff should be treated similar to teaching staff. It's wrong that a school can permanently employ you but not pay you during school holidays or that it doesn't count towards long service leave. Would rather work the school holidays and be treated as a professional staff member.

Are you currently or have you ever been a member of the ALIA Schools Group?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 0



Would you be interested in playing an active role in the ALIA Schools core committee?

The survey revealed enthusiasm for the group with 12 people (existing and new members) expressing an interest in being actively involved in the core committee.

If you were to participate in future ALIA Schools activities, list how you would like to engage in order of importance:

Answered: 45 Skipped: 6

