

FAME Members,

As we prepare for school openings throughout the state, safety is foremost in all of our minds. As media specialists, we must prepare for all aspects of safety and particularly handling materials in order to be ready to safely reopen our media centers. Both federal and state officials have stated that the exact guidelines will be left up to each individual school district. Thus, it's important we work with our principals and local district personnel.

AASL's Covid-19 resources can be found at: <http://www.ala.org/aasl/about/pandemic>

The following link is to ALA's guidance on *Handling Library materials and Collections During a Pandemic*:

<http://www.ala.org/alcts/preservationweek/resources/pandemic>

Among the links is an article on disinfecting and quarantining various types of materials.

<https://www.nedcc.org/free-resources/preservation-leaflets/3.-emergency-management/3.5-disinfecting-books> These guidelines were updated June 5, 2020 and although not peer reviewed, I think they are worth considering as we prepare for reopening.

As you review the guidelines, please remember that information and best practices regarding COVID-19 safety are being updated frequently. The Institute of Museums and Library Services posted the following today:

<https://www.ims.gov/news/research-shows-virus-undetectable-five-highly-circulated-library-materials-after-three-days>

I hope this information helps as you work with your school communities to continue the role of media programs as the heart of your schools. School openings may look very different in districts throughout the state, but we all remain leaders in our schools and districts and partners in assuring safety and access for all students, staff, and community members.

Have a restful summer with your families and stay safe.

Thanks for all you do and for your support of FAME and media programs in Florida,

Lorraine Stinson

FAME President