



Quest for a Federated Search

Jana Knezek, Director of Libraries

Linda Miller, Library Specialist

Northside ISD

San Antonio, Texas

What is a federated search?

Allows user to enter a search term and search across multiple databases simultaneously, returning results sorted by relevance, date, or other format

Why invest in a federated search ?

- To provide users with an efficient way to search through all available databases
- To increase the use of authoritative, valid resources
- To prepare students for post-secondary education

First Steps in Quest

- Determine need for a federated search
- Delegate someone to lead the search
- Solicit volunteers to serve on a committee
- Provide background information and research to committee members

And then...

- Determine what features final choice should have
- Identify viable products
- Contact vendors and set up demonstrations
- Invite technology support to demonstrations
- View products
- Evaluate products
- Recommend product

Considerations



Products We Considered

- SirsiDynix SchoolRooms
- Gale Federated Search
- Serials Solutions 360 Search
- Auto-Graphics AGent Search
- Discovery Education
- WebFeat Express

NISD Federated Searches

- Professional
- Elementary
- Middle School
- High School
- Administrative
- Statistical Tool



Questions?