



Dear Carson City Schools Foundation,

First of all, I would like to thank you for awarding me one of your department grants last fall. I wanted to update you on the progress of this project and share some of my data findings with you.

With the help of the Department Grant, I've been able to add just over 200 graphic novels and mangas to the Carson Middle School library. The students are very much enjoying these new titles as the photos in my library newsletter show: <https://carsonmiddleschoollibrary.weebly.com/news.html>

Before this grant project, the graphic novel and manga section made up 23 % of circulations, while comprising only 2 % of the CMS collection. After the project's implementation, graphic novel and manga titles make up 25.6 % of all circulations this year and 4.15 % of the collection. The fact that even more of all checked out books are now from this popular section is not surprising since students are drawn to this popular section of the library.

The current hold list also reflects this trend: While about half of all holds used to be for graphic novel and manga titles, these currently make up 73% of all current holds (36 out of 49).

I predicted that the implementation of this project would lead to an increase in book check-outs and thus an increase in student reading. I compared our current circulation numbers to past years and found that current circulation numbers are already higher than in the entire school year 2018/2019 (the comparison to last school year is tricky due to the shut-down (only 4,588 circulations): We've had 6,624 circulations so far this year compared to 6,177 circulations for the entire school year 2018/2019. While this is clearly due to a number of factors, I believe that the increased student interest in the graphic novel and manga section has contributed greatly towards this increase in circulation numbers.

A quick look at the CMS library's top 10 titles also shows that half of the top titles are currently graphic novels and mangas. I am attaching pictures of the CMS graphic novel and manga section before and after the project implementation. Please note that both photos were taken in the course of the school year, which means that the number of available books does not show accurately since a good portion of them is usually checked out.

While I do not yet have this year's data on students' growth in reading skills, I am hopeful that the students' increased interest in books will have a positive effect on their reading scores on standardized assessments as well.

I am very grateful that you enabled me to expand the graphic novel and manga section here at the Carson Middle School Library and hope that you will continue supporting library projects in the future.

With the kindest regards,

Mirjam Caster

(pronounced Miriam)

Library Media Specialist
Carson Middle School

**The more that you read, the
more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.**

Dr. Seuss



Before




After



Display 1



Display 2




LIBRARY

Newsletter
February, 2021

Graphic Novel and Manga Extravaganza!

The CMS library won a department grant from the Carson City Schools Foundation to expand its graphic novel and manga section. While we're still waiting on some of the titles, many new books are available for check-out and are already seeing much interest from Solon readers.

\$2,000 in new books!



Lots of excited readers!

Most popular series:
 My Hero Academia
 Baby-sitters Club
 Jojo's Adventures

collage publishable

