

Learn about Ferndale-Metis!

Why Switch? Dewey is...

- Difficult to browse. Many patrons (young and old) don't have a working understanding of the Dewey Decimal System
- Not reflective of our modern-day communities
- A system that places certain topics in problematic locations



Why Metis?

- It was created by the Ethical Culture School in 2011 as a replacement for Dewey
- The system is language-based, not number-based
- Metis is flexible & adaptable
- Browsing is easier & more intuitive

How Ferndale-Metis Works

- Ferndale-Metis uses 26 Primary categories, each represented by a single letter (full list of Primary Categories attached). Secondary and Tertiary categories are used to further narrow the scope as needed
- Example: A book about trains would be found under G. Transport Trains, where "G" represents the Primary Category "Machines & Structures"

Primary
Category



Secondary
Category



Tertiary
Category



G. Transport Trains

Metis on the Shelf & Accessibility

- Books are shelved alphabetically, first by call number and then by title
- Shelf talkers and endcap signage list Primary Categories. Popular subjects get callouts on shelving
- All of our signage is high-contrast with dyslexic-friendly fonts
- Primary Category signage features universal images to increase accessibility

Resources

- **Contact Us:** youth@fadl.org
- **Metis**
 - *Overview: School Library Cataloging*
(<https://schoollibrarycataloging.weebly.com/metis.html>)
 - *Metis Example: Miquon's Schedule*
(<https://miquon.org/program/curriculum/library/library-guidelines-procedures/>)
- **A-Z Shelf Markers:**
 - *Library Skills* (<https://libraryskills.com/product/regular-shelf-marker-blank/>)
- **Images for Signs:**
 - *The Noun Project* (<https://thenounproject.com/>)
- **Labels:**
 - *Backstage Library Works* (<https://bslw.com/>)

Ferndale-Metis Primary Categories

A. REFERENCE

B. ANIMALS

C. NATURE

D. SCIENCE

E. SPACE & TIME

F. MATH

G. MACHINES & STRUCTURES

H. MAKING THINGS

I. ART

J. POETRY

K. LANGUAGE

L. MYSTERY

M. TALES

N. SACRED

O. RECREATION

P. JOBS

Q. OURSELVES

R. BODIES

S. BIOGRAPHIES

T. GEOGRAPHY

U. COUNTRIES

V. COMMUNITY

W. US GOVERNMENT

X. PREHISTORY

Y. HISTORY

Z. PARENT/TEACHER

Basic Timeline

- 2021 Brainstormed and researched alternative systems vs. Dewey
- 2022 Assessed whether Dewey could be re-worked (Answer: No)
Drafted a primary category schedule based on Metis A-Z system
- 2023 Admin buy-in (checked in throughout the project)
Met with departmental stakeholders (first of many times)
Identified secondary and tertiary categories
- 2024 Applied our draft schedule in an item level spreadsheet
Had external stakeholders review the schedule
Revised and finalized the schedule and item level spreadsheet
Submitted label request with Backstage Library Works
- 2025 January: Set implementation date & created marketing plan
February: Designed and created signage
Ordered materials for signs
March: Marketing - basic information & announcements
April: Implementation (5 days; 12 staff members)
Updated CARL records via a TLN helpdesk ticket
Ongoing maintenance (e.g. relabeling returned items)

Vendors

- Backstage Library Works
 - Spine labels
- Demco
 - Tape for spine labels
- LibrarySkills
 - A-Z shelf markers
- Amazon
 - General supplies

Total Cost

\$ 2,172.17

Supply Costs

