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[Susan](https://www.linkedin.com/in/susan-ballard-b8079223/?trk=public-profile-join-page) is vice-president and director of library services and partnership development for the National Collaborative for Digital Equity. She is recognized internationally as a leader in the role school librarians can and must play to enable underserved learners to develop the literacy and media literacy skills they need to thrive in a digital society and economy. Past president for the American Association of School Librarians, Susan remains active and much in demand in a wide range of publishing, professional development and policy setting initiatives.