Communications from the community:

- Bruce Gay, MCFLS Director, shared a few items from their recent directors’ meeting that relates to questions about what formal and informal activities might be happening in systems that aren’t accounted for in the PLSR process. In this example, the question related to the directors’ meetings themselves as a way libraries in a region connect, network, and collaborate. This came up too in the Consulting Workgroup WLA debrief meeting related to story kits and other things the system provides on a rotating basis. We quickly were able to populate a list with other things like these examples that we know about. We’re calling it the “Utility Drawer”. It’s all those useful things that happen in or are done by systems that don’t currently have their own home in the PLSR process, but are things we need to factor in as we move forward. It also includes things that are related to fiscal arrangements unique to each system, such as payments to libraries, bookmobile, a system foundation, etc.

Workgroups

- The workgroups will have all met by this meeting to have done their post-WLA debrief to identify the things in the model that people were most excited about, recurring concerns we need to address, and big questions we still need to answer.
- The project managers are meeting with the leaders and facilitators from each group to begin to identify the activities and tasks that will need to be done for each workgroup to complete their model development and recommendations.
- In December, the project managers will be creating a draft of a master workplan that will pull together the next steps, including how the areas of overlap between workgroups will be handled and other items that need to be addressed for the final set of recommendations. This plan will also outline the activities of the Steering Committee along the timeline related to the process ideas we discussed to pull together the final Steering Committee recommendation report.
- The workgroups are officially on PLSR vacation from Thanksgiving through New Year’s.