PB Core Database Schema

and how it can help teachers and stations
Databases as a General Tool

Doesn’t matter how cool it is.

If you can’t find it again, it doesn’t exist.

● Where we store things, so we know where to look
● How we all agree to label things, so we know where to look
● Helps us day to day
● Helps us serve teachers and stations, by being able to provide answers

“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one.”
— Neil Gaiman
What catalogers do
Why the metadata? And what is it?

- Metadata = All the words we use to describe what this thing is
- Verify that the metadata entered makes sense
- Insure that the metadata entered is the best we can make
- Teach stations how to make their metadata better
- All so teachers can find things on the site

“All the books in the world won't help you if they're just piled up in a heap.”
— David Eddings, King of the Murgos
Teachers regularly ask for ‘more time’

Good metadata helps them find things faster

It is literally the best way to give them more time

Careful cataloging gives you your time back

“Glam culture is ultimately rooted in obsession, and those of us who are truly devoted and loyal to the lifestyle of glamour are masters of its history. Or, to put it more elegantly, we are librarians.”

— Lady Gaga
About this PB Core thing
What is PB Core

- Standardized set of metadata terms and format
- Really easy for computers to read
- Designed specifically for AV materials
- Already adopted by some stations for production and archives
- More stations are considering using it
- Overall PBS is looking to adopt it as the standard for the production side

“Not all librarians are evil cultists. Some librarians are instead vengeful undead who want to suck your soul.”
— Brandon Sanderson (Alcatraz Smedry), *Alcatraz Versus the Scrivener's Bones*
What are the benefits

- Using the same data format as production makes it easier to bring pieces in
- Limits user error typos
- Easier to explain upload process to stations
- Consistent data makes it easier for teachers to find what they want
  - And to find it again the next time

“In the nonstop tsunami of global information, librarians provide us with floaties and teach us to swim.”
— Linton Weeks
What does it look like?
Data is **accessible** via an easy to read format *and* XML

“Never argue with a librarian; they know too much.”
— Carole Nelson Douglas, *Cat in a Red Hot Rage*
Most LM data fields have direct links to PB Core data fields.

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“I'm a librarian...I always know what I'm talking about.”
— Gary D. Schmidt, *Okay for Now*
XML based data means forms can work for the metadata ingest.
“You can take the girl out of the library, but you can’t take the neurotic, compulsively curious librarian out of the girl.”
— Molly Harper, Nice Girls Don’t Have Fangs
Librarians can catalog anything from an onion to a dog’s ear. They could catalog you.

Librarians wield unfathomable power. With a flip of the wrist they can hide your dissertation behind piles of old Field and Stream magazines. They can find data for your term paper that you never knew existed. They may even point you toward new and appropriate subject headings.

People become librarians because they know too much. Their knowledge extends beyond mere categories. They cannot be confined to disciplines. Librarians are all-knowing and all-seeing. They bring order to chaos. They bring wisdom and culture to the masses. They preserve every aspect of human knowledge. Librarians rule. And they will kick the crap out of anyone who says otherwise.

- Erica Olsen, Why You Should Fall to Your Knees and Worship a Librarian