

Hunterdon County Library Director's Report June 2018

Buildings and Grounds

The library staff have begun work on a major library collection management project, including shifting and moving book collections to create an improved flow to the collection as well as open up new flexible spaces welcoming to the public.

The Director and Assistant Director toured the renovated Princeton Public Library on May 22nd, 2018. Princeton Public Library has a forward leaning design for their public spaces, which will certainly inspire some changes in the layouts of Hunterdon County Libraries.

Finances

The Friends of Hunterdon County Library (FOHCL) Finance Committee meeting had to be rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances. The meeting has been rescheduled for early June.

In the Libraries

Storytimes are winding down as Youth Services prepares for Summer Reading Club. The 2018 theme is "Libraries Rock!" Musical decorations are popping up everywhere. Performer shows will begin the end of June just after school lets out. All other programs for ages birth to teens will begin the second week of July and continue until mid-August.

In May, the staff at the North County Branch conducted tours for students from the Alexandria School, and Clinton Public School.

Staff Updates

Library Administration and supervisors have been working on addressing many of the issues discussed at the Branch Meetings. We are scheduling the second round of Branch Meetings for the third full week of June.

The Library Management Team met for the second time on May 24th, 2018. The Management Team discussed a many of the issues from the Branch Meetings, as well as cross training of staff, the collection management project, reviewing services to the affiliates and the library website.

On May 4th the library held a very successful half day of training for staff. The staff worked in cross-departmental groups to think about the needs of community members, and then create a model service or program for the constituency. The staff also viewed selected TED talks and ran a Code Adam drill. The Fall Staff Day has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 26th.

Outreach/Partnerships

The bookmobile visited the Berry Patch Learning Center on May 16th, Robert Hunter School on May 23rd, the Goddard School in Clinton on May 30th, and will be visiting Barley Sheaf School on June 13th.

Technology

The staff has tested out one of the demo sites for the online program registration and meeting room booking service. County IT has also been given the opportunity to test out the service. We hope to move forward with a solution shortly.

County IT has installed new WIFI equipment at headquarters and the North County Branch. The coverage throughout the building is much improved, though speeds are still low. We expect the WIFI speeds will improve greatly when the new connections are brought into the building.

Affiliates

The Library Management Team has formed a group to review services and collaborative opportunities with the affiliate libraries.

The HCL Youth Services Department will once again be providing four weeks of summer programming, a story time program followed by a craft program, for several of the affiliates [Readington, Tewksbury, Bunnvale, and Three Bridges] beginning July 9th. The statewide theme this year is "Libraries Rock!"