

Director's Report

November 2024

My Activities

The department coordinators and I have finalized our revisions to the employee handbook and the draft has been shared with our attorney for review. It will be provided to the Personnel Committee for review at the beginning of December, and recommended for adoption by the SCLS Board of Trustees at its December meeting.

I attended the annual conference of the Wisconsin Library Association in Green Bay at the beginning of November. As usual, it was an excellent conference full of learning and networking opportunities. I presented a conference session on "Library Board Appointments and Composition" with the directors of the Nicolet Federated Library System and the Outagamie Waupaca Library System. In addition, I was asked to serve on next year's conference planning committee and have agreed to do so. I have served in this capacity in the past so I understand the time requirements and demands.

Our strategic planning consultant conducted two member feedback sessions on November 21, in place of the All Directors meeting. The morning session was held in person at the DeForest Public Library, and the afternoon session was held virtually via Zoom. No SCLS staff were in attendance at the sessions, to guarantee confidentiality and encourage full disclosure of participants. We look very forward to seeing the results of these sessions.

Staff Activities

The injury of one of our delivery drivers has led SCLS staff to evaluate the safety conditions at our delivery locations in the field. We are currently working with Madison Public Library to mitigate safety issues there and will continue to examine other sites for ways to improve.

Today is Go Live Day for the system's website migration to Drupal 10. Our technology staff have worked very hard to make this happen and we are grateful for their efforts.

Our Member Libraries

Adams County Library

The library is looking into the purchase of a bookmobile so that they can serve those in the county who are homebound, have no reliable transportation, etc. As a low income county, they look for creative ways to meet the needs of residents, but they struggle with hiring qualified staff. The director noted that they are very happy that the system's ILS now allows for local holds, because their patrons do not place holds and this allows them to receive materials more quickly.

Lester Public Library of Arpin

The village of Arpin has offered the library free use of their facility for library programming whenever they feel that attendance may excel the library's capacity. This has allowed the library to offer a number of bigger programs, and to plan for additional programming in the future as well.

Kraemer Library and Community Center (Plain)

The library reported a total of 93,450 minutes of combined reading among the 76 children who participated in the summer reading program!

Reedsburg Public Library

The City of Reedsburg voted to move forward with the acquisition of the Lands' End call center building for a new library facility. The existing library building has exceeded its capacity and the community continues to grow exponentially. The new facility will take the library from its current downtown location and place it on the northeast side of the city, which is closer to schools and residential growth.

Respectfully submitted by,

Shannon M. Schultz