



**To: Library Board**

**Fr: Peter Loeffel, Library Director and Abby Bussen, Children's Library Supervisors**

**April 16, 2025**

**Re: Safe Child policy**

#### **Purpose/Need**

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The Wauwatosha Public Library (WPL)'s Safe Child policy is being presented to the Library Board for review with a few updates.

#### **Background**

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In December, the Children's Library staff began a review of Safe/Unattended Child policies at libraries in communities with demographics similar to Wauwatosha. Based on that review, we recommend the following changes to WPL's Safe Child policy:

- Changing the language of the first section to shift the onus of responsibility from children attending WPL to their responsible caregiver;
- More clearly identifying the supervision expectations for specific age ranges;
- Referring back to the WPL Code of Conduct and how it applies to patrons of all ages; and
- Creating an understanding of WPL as a public location where appropriate precautions for the safety of children should be taken.

The current policy is attached along with an updated draft policy.

#### **Recommendation**

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To approve the Safe Child policy. The Library Board Policy Committee reviewed the policy on March 6 and recommended approval 3-0.