



To: Library Board

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

March 19, 2025

Re: Safe Child policy

Purpose/Need

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

Background

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

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