



Director's Report July 2025

1. Circulation update (from Alanna Maddox, Circulation Supervisor):
 - 20 hour per week Circulation Attendant Faith Danneil has accepted the part-time Adult Librarian position and her last day in Circulation will be Saturday, July 12.
 - 20 hour per week Daytime Shelver Sarah Swanson has accepted the Technical Services Aid position and her last day in Circulation will also be on July 12. I am grateful and pleased that both of those positions were able to be filled internally by Circulation staff members. A requisition has been approved for both a new Circulation Attendant and Daytime Shelver with interviews hopefully starting late July.
 - The Administration and Supervisors meet with HR on Monday, July 7 to discuss upcoming staffing requests for the 2026 budget.
 - I virtually attended the Circulation Services meeting on Thursday, July 10.
 - I attended the Teens (Part 1): Basics of Teenage Behavior webinar by Ryan Dowd on Thursday, July 10.

2. Adult Library update (from Shellie Anderson, Adult Library Supervisor):

Displays: Staff picks are in the atrium this month. We are also featuring books that have been made into movies. Which is better? Pick up the book and the DVD to compare.

Employees: We are happy to welcome Faith Danneil as our new adult librarian. She is replacing Katie Obbink who retired after 19 years. Faith has been working in circulation for over a year, and we are looking forward to having her in our department.

Programs: Epilepsy Awareness and Seizure First Aid--This program could help you save a life! You'll get an overview of epilepsy and seizures, information to help you recognize a seizure, and valuable first aid tips for assisting someone experiencing a seizure. This event is free and provided in conjunction with the Epilepsy Families Southeast Wisconsin organization.

Foundation: Two new study pods have joined the two we already own. We have a constant demand for enclosed study areas, and these one-person "telephone booth" style rooms have been very popular. These soundproof rooms are outfitted with a chair, a desk and multiple outlets, and are a perfect place to make phone calls or do some work. A light and a

ventilation fan automatically come on when you enter the booth, so they are welcoming and never stuffy. Thank you to the Foundation for purchasing these for us!

3. Young Adult update (from Katie Jentges, Young Adult Librarian):

Young Adult summer programming is off to a great start! So far we've had a create your own graphic novel session led by Jennifer Klemens and a Pringles taste test program where teens taste tested 18 flavors of Pringles ranging from sour cream and onion to Mexican street corn to an extra spicy Hot Ones flavor. They had so much fun guessing the flavors, were unwilling to try a few, and then collectively decided that the classic sour cream and onion flavor was their favorite. Next on the summer schedule is a Pokémon character paint and sip event, followed by outdoor messy art day where spray bottle, smash, and salt painting are on the list.



This summer, I'm lucky enough to have a teen volunteer. Mable Danielson is a seventh grader at Longfellow who loves the library and is contemplating life as a librarian. Mable helps me set up for teen events, is pulling books for a collection development project, and has been a huge help organizing tags as we get ready to put together the Library of Things room later this month.

4. Children's Library update (from Abby Bussen, Children's Library Supervisor):

In-Person Programs: 34; Total attendance: 1,698

Passive Programs: 5; Total participation: 952

Ah, summer! The Children's Library is busier than usual with kids of all ages enjoying our space throughout the day, using computers, borrowing materials, and coming to Library programs. Our Magical Monday programs have welcomed 432 attendees & we have heard tremendous positive feedback from the public about these events. We have also had many happy families attending storytimes weekly, enjoying the consistency of our literacy enrichment opportunities.

This summer, we have joined Libraries around the state in offering the Wisconsin Summer Math Adventure. We provide kids with a booklet of math-based activities they can enjoy throughout the summer months as a screen-free, engaging way to beat the boredom. Caregivers have responded to this new option very positively as well.

Even though we are busy, our collection work is still at the forefront! The Children's Librarians have been hard at work weeding and assessing any areas of need in our collection. We have worked with Tech Services Librarian Anne Marie Thomas and Adult Librarian Katie Jentges to add bundles of Yoto Cards to our Library of Things – these are similar to our individual Tonies in how they function, except Yoto cards work with a different device called a Yoto Player and each card plays a longer book, typically for older readers. Children's Librarian Megan Jimenez has worked with Anne Marie to launch our collection of Wonderbooks, audio-enhanced "read along" picture books. We have also added a collection of Playaways, which are audiobook devices that chapter book readers can use that do not require the use of a screen or need Wi-Fi/Internet to enjoy. This is a great option for caregivers who are working to limit screen time for their kiddos.

5. Technical Services update: (from Robert Trunley, Assistant Director):

Our new Technical Services Aide is Sarah Swanson. She has worked as a shelver at the library for five years. Her first day in her new position will be Monday July 14.

The library is currently recruiting for an After School Monitor.

6. Building update: (from Robert Trunley, Assistant Director):

The Art Gallery rest rooms have been refinished and fitted with touchless controls and are open to the public.

The Library Document Station, which was funded by the Foundation, has been delivered and installed. Staff are working with the vendor to get the credit card terminal up and running. We expect the station to be ready for the public to use in a week or two.

7. Trustee Training Week:

Designed specifically for public library boards, friends, and trustees in Wisconsin, Trustee Training Week contains four days of individual virtual learning sessions. Sign up for one or all of the below sessions.

- Monday, August 18: [Wisconsin Library Law with Kris Turner](#)
- Tuesday, August 19: [Trustee 101: An Introduction to Being a Wisconsin Library Trustee with Bradley Shipps](#)
- Wednesday, August 20: [Basics of an Efficient, Effective Board Meeting with Laura Meade](#)
- Thursday, August 21: [Library Advocacy and Storymaking with Dawn Tevis](#)

8. July anniversaries:

11 years	Cori Lutz, Administrative Assistant
8 years	Katie Jentges, Adult Librarian
4 years	Karen Schleicher, Shelver
1 year	Abby Bussen, Children's Library Supervisor

9. Upcoming meetings:

Library Board: Wednesday, September 17 at 6:30 PM