



NORTH LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT Strategic Plan



POLSON
LIBRARY

NORTH LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

2024 – 2029



Our Mission

The North Lake County Public Library District provides a welcoming and inclusive space for all community members and guests to discover, learn, and grow. We are committed to fostering lifelong learning, promoting literacy, and offering diverse resources and programs that enrich the cultural and educational fabric of our community.



Our Vision

Our vision is to be the heart of the community; a place where everyone feels empowered to explore their passions and achieve their potential. We strive to inspire curiosity, support innovation, and connect people with the information and ideas that shape our world. By embracing technology, nurturing partnerships, and valuing every individual's unique contributions, we aim to create a brighter future for all in Polson and beyond.



Our Plan

The strategic priorities outlined in this document represent goals for the Staff and Trustees of the library that we hope to accomplish over the next five years. This is certainly not an all-inclusive list, but five areas in which we plan to focus energy.

Our main goal is always to offer a welcoming space for all members of our community and guests to gather, engage and learn.

Strategic Priority #1

Collection Development

Expand and diversify the library's collection to meet the needs and interests of our community

Staff will accomplish this goal by evaluating the entire collection over the course of the next five years, focusing on specific areas one at a time. We will use a set of criteria including evaluating the age and condition of the collection, researching new and better materials on a subject, and looking for new genres and subjects we do not have in our collection. We will also evaluate if we have too many books on one subject or genre and will weed as necessary.



This will be a team effort so our staff gets to know our collection better. This will help them with Reader's Advisory for patrons. The **Trustees** will help the staff meet this goal by reviewing and updating relevant policies, and providing a sufficient budget for new collection purchases.

The Library always encourage patrons to submit requests for materials, which we evaluate based on our Collection Development Policy.

Strategic Priority #2

Enhance Library Services & Resources

Provide innovative programming and services to engage diverse age groups and interests.

Staff will accomplish this goal by seeking out unique program offerings that draw age groups that we often do not see in our programs, such as 30-50 year olds, working parents, young adults, and people with disabilities. We will explore offering programs outside of the library that may appeal to people in these demographics.

Trustees will assist staff in accomplishing this goal by sharing with their constituents offerings of the library and by providing a sufficient budget for speakers and program materials and supplies.

Implement technology upgrades and continue digital literacy programs to enhance access to online resources.

Staff will accomplish this goal by creating a technology upgrade schedule so that public and staff computers and equipment are updated frequently enough to ensure ease of use and access to current offerings.

We will outfit our Makerspace with new and fun equipment for patron use to encourage creativity.

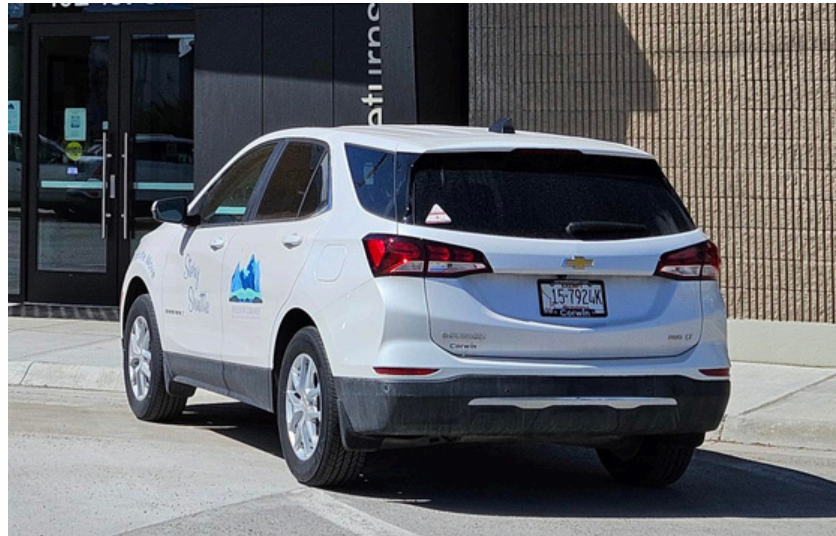
Trustees will assist staff in accomplishing these goals by approving sufficient budgets for technology upgrades and additions, as well as a dedicated staff member to manage the upgrade schedule, equipment usage and programming.



Strategic Priority #3

Expand Outreach and Advocacy Efforts

Increase visibility and awareness of library services throughout the Library District through advocacy efforts by cultivating relationships with local businesses, organizations and other stakeholders.



Staff will accomplish this goal by finding opportunities to engage with patrons in other areas in the district, such as Dayton, Elmo, Valley View, and Yellow Bay. Opportunities may include more interactions with teachers and students in these areas, as well as offering programs at local gathering places for adults.

Trustees will assist staff in accomplishing these goals by helping make connections with local community groups and stakeholders in these areas. They will also advocate for the Library by promoting library services and programs in the community.

Strategic Priority #4

Building & Maintenance Plan

Ensure the newly renovated library remains a relevant and welcoming place for years to come through proper maintenance and upgrades.

Staff will accomplish this goal by working with the **Trustees** on a thorough, thoughtful plan for maintenance of the building. This plan will be specific and will set realistic lifespans on equipment, furniture, and aspects of the building so that these things are replaced or repaired consistently.

Trustees will assist staff in accomplishing this goal by offering input on the schedule and approving sufficient transfers into the Depreciation Reserve Fund to ensure funding is available when repairs or replacement are needed.



Strategic Priority #5

Develop Volunteer and Support Networks

Enhance relationships with Volunteers, Foundation and Friends to expand opportunities for community members to become involved in library advocacy, and recognize the contributions of those individuals through appreciation events and acknowledgments.

Staff will accomplish this goal by evaluating volunteer opportunities in the library and offering volunteer positions in a variety of ways and time commitments. Staff will strive to be present at community events and will invite **Trustees** and **Support Groups** to join, when appropriate, so as to further the Library's advocacy efforts.

The Director, a Trustee and a Representative from each of the two support groups will work together to draft Memorandums of Understanding to better solidify the relationships between the groups and the library.

Staff will also revive the annual volunteer recognition event to honor and recognize **Volunteers, Trustees and Support Groups** who give of their time to the Library.

