

GRAL Director's Report

DECEMBER 2022

ADVOCACY

-City of Grand Rapids Preliminary Levy

The Grand Rapids City Council adopted a preliminary levy 9/26 for FY 2023 that includes \$759,331 for the Library (the same as FY 2022). There is a 0% increase in the City Levy. (Grand Rapids City Council will adopt a final levy and budget 12/19.)

-Arrowhead Library System Request to Itasca County

The ALS funding request to Itasca County seeking a 2.5% increase over the FY 2022 support amount to \$402,526 was not included in the Preliminary Levy for 2023 adopted 9/27. The Regional Library line item remains at \$392,709. There is a 0% increase in the County Levy. (Itasca County Board will adopt a final levy and budget 12/13).

-Minnesota Library Association Legislative Update

The 11-14-2022 update is included with this report.

LIBRARY MANAGEMENT

-Christa

Christa Roerick completed the introductory period 12/6/2022 – she is doing a great job at the CIRC desk!

-New Bookmobile Stop

The Arrowhead Library System Board is considering approval of a new Bookmobile stop in Warba. UPDATE: ALS is also considering Marcell.

-Book Recycling

Beginning 1/1/23, Itasca Life Options will no longer take discard books for in-house shredding. However, paperback books may be recycled at the Waste Management Bass Lake Road transfer station. ILO has agreed to haul books for recycling in exchange for a consideration from the Friends. We will continue to look for a solution for recycling hardcover books.

FACILITIES MAINTAINANCE / SPACE

-Front Door Operator

Anderson Glass replaced the automatic door operator the second week of November.

-Heating System PMs

Gardener has completed the preventative maintenance inspection on the library heating system.

-Bid Specs

The City Council approved an agreement with Encompass Engineering Inc. for design and bid phases to repair the Library exterior. The Facilities Maintenance Manager is in contact with Encompass regarding the next steps. We hope to have information for Council in time for the start of 2024 budget planning.

FIRE RESPONSE

I responded to one fire call from the Library in November.

END OF REPORT

Will Richter

From: Minnesota Library Association Office <office@mnlibraryassociation.org>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 1:15 PM
To: Will Richter
Subject: Minnesota Election Results



Advocating for Minnesota's
libraries, librarians and
library staff

Legislative Update: Minnesota 2022 Elections Results and Analysis from MLA Lobbyist, Sam Walseth CHA

11.14.2022

In 2018, 1.393 million people voted for Tim Walz. Last Tuesday night, 1.312 million Minnesotans turned out for Walz, putting him squarely in the victory circle early on election night. In 2018, GOP Gubernatorial nominee Jeff Johnson attained 1.097 million voters and Scott Jensen pulled in 1.120 million this year. The GOP maintained strong message discipline on crime and inflation, highlighting failed attempts to defund the police. While this resonated with their traditional voters, those messages were trumped by higher concerns over threats to reproductive rights and our democracy among independent voters, who upon post-election analysis, appear to have tilted slightly to the Democrats. While Trump's visibility in Minnesota was low this cycle, offering late endorsements for Jensen, perhaps his presence nationally, and the continued rhetoric about re-litigating the 2020 election, didn't play well here. Of note, GOP Secretary of State candidate, Kim Crockett, who, joking or not, talked 2020 election fraud, had the poorest showing among GOP statewide candidates.

Furthermore, attempts by GOP candidates in MN to distance themselves from the Dobb's decision and claim that abortion wasn't on the ballot don't appear to have worked with women and independents. Add a strong youth vote (18-29 year-olds) that broke by huge margins for DFLers and the red wave was just a mirage in Minnesota. Republicans last won a statewide race in Minnesota in 2006, a year where Tim Pawlenty won re-election to the Governor's office in a three-way race. Also note Amy Klobuchar's 1.566 million votes in 2018. She's up for re-election in 2024.

Once again, Democrats hung on to all statewide constitutional officers. For Congress, the incumbents return as Angie Craig (CD 2 south metro) secured a win in one of the most

competitive congressional races in the country. Dean Phillips (CD 3, west metro) won handily, moving a congressional seat that in 2014 was a GOP +24 to a now DFL +20 district. Secretary of State Steve Simon was the largest vote-getter on election night, collecting 1.345 million votes. House Speaker Melissa Hortman defied the odds and is keeping her majority intact with what looks to be a 70-64 split. Most stunning of all is that the Senate DFL found a pathway to 34 members, attaining the slimmest of majority status, 34-33, and giving the DFL a governing “trifecta” - the first since the 2012 election. The DFL’s pathway is through the suburbs, which have solidified for them, along with the larger Greater MN communities of Duluth, Rochester, St. Cloud, Mankato and Moorhead.

The rural DFL juggernaut that, with the Iron Range, held control of Minnesota’s political landscape through the 1980s until Obama’s second term is gone, as is the GOP control of the suburbs. Both elements still exist, but the dominant political identities of the regions have flipped the script and a new Minnesota majority has emerged. Minnesota is one of 18 states, including Michigan, which have joined the Democrat trifecta club. Of course, many states are in the Republican trifecta club, but Minnesota had been one of two hold-out states for divided state government and throughout the midterm cycle it felt like it could go the other way.

DFL Priorities

Another factor, perhaps benefiting the DFL, is the fading of left-leaning third parties, like the “Legal Marijuana Now” party, which will lose major party status after failing to secure a minimum 5% voter threshold in the last two general elections. After seeing votes hemorrhaged to the marijuana parties in recent elections, the DFL has taken an aggressive stance toward pro-legalization. We should expect to see a marijuana legalization bill advance and likely become law during the 2023 session. Labor groups, of course, are a mainstay presence for Minnesota’s DFL and Paid Family Medical Leave will be another top priority issue for the new trifecta to advance. Last, but not least, is the impact of the Dobb’s Supreme Court Case, overturning Roe vs Wade. There will be serious consideration by the new DFL majorities to place a constitutional question on the ballot for 2024 voters to consider. A state Supreme Court decision is currently protecting a woman’s right to choose in Minnesota.

As for Education: vouchers and “education savings accounts” are dead on arrival. Instead, we should expect a significant, if not a truly historic, education package to emerge from the Walz budget plan, released by January 24. In recent years, teacher union pressure has been to allocate state aid to categories of staff groups, like school counselors, in addition to state dollars in student-based formulas (general education, special education, English Language Learners). In his press conference last Wednesday, Governor Walz talked about potentially fully funding special education. Support for regional library systems has been in the mix in recent DFL (and the 2021 GOP) education plans.

New Leaders

Last Thursday the Senate DFL decided on Sen. Kari Dziedzic (Minneapolis) to be the Senate Majority Leader. They selected Bobby Joe Champion (Minneapolis) to be the President of the Senate. They selected Ann Rest (New Hope) to be the Tax Chair, and they picked John Marty (Roseville) as the Finance Chair. SML Dziedzic said they are still deciding on assistant leadership posts. She stated their caucus will spend more time

together and hearing from their very large incoming class of new Senators about what policy issues they heard at the doors as they work to coalesce around their 2023 agenda. A committee structure and chairs remain to be seen and is probably a couple of weeks out.

The Senate GOP also regrouped and chose a new leadership team. Sen. Mark Johnson (East Grand Forks) will be the new Senate Minority Leader. His leadership team includes Sens. Justin Eichorn (Grand Rapids), Julia Coleman (Chanhassen), Karin Housley (Stillwater) and Bill Weber (Luverne).

The House DFL will continue under the leadership of Speaker Melissa Hortman (Brooklyn Park). They have selected Jamie Long (Minneapolis) as their new Majority Leader and House Whip Athena Hollins (St. Paul) to work with Speaker Hortman on organizing the House for 2023. Last Friday, the House GOP decided to move in a new direction with the selection of Lisa Demuth (Cold Spring) as the incoming House Minority Leader.

Education Leaders

Last February's redistricting results led to many retirements, including key educational leaders. Tuesday's election resulted in another key retirement as Senate GOP Education Chair Roger Chamberlain lost his election to Heather Gustafson. Chamberlain's race was highly targeted by the DFL, in particular by Education Minnesota, who sought to unseat Chamberlain. Both the House and Senate DFL majorities need to select new Education chairs, but we likely won't know who they'll be for a few weeks.

Library Leaders

THE Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL Hermantown)

Library supporters lost their key ally in the election. Longtime House DFLer Mary Murphy (DFL Hermantown) lost by a narrow, 35 vote margin, ending a long and storied career. Her unwavering support for library programs will be missed and we'll need to rally up new supporters to fill her historic shoes, especially on Library Legacy and Bonding requests.

Rep. Dan Wolgamott (St. Cloud)

Rep. Dan Wolgamott, the latest House chief author for regional public library system support, won re-election to his third term. He stays in the majority, and we'll look to him for continued support of the MLA agenda.

Sen. Mary Kunesh (DFL New Brighton)

Filling the library advocacy gap in the Senate has been Sen. Mary Kunesh, a former licensed school media specialist in her own right. She now gets a chance to legislate from the Senate majority and we can be excited about her prospects for helping advance the MLA agenda.

Sen. Mark Johnson (GOP East Grand Forks)

Sen. Mark Johnson, the latest Senate chief author for library system support, won re-election to his third term. While the GOP lost majority status, Sen. Johnson has been

selected as their new leader. He is the Senate Minority Leader for the 2023 session and beyond. We'll still look to Sen. Johnson for his continued support of the MLA agenda.

Sen. Karin Housley (GOP Stillwater)

Sen. Karin Housley, the latest Senate chief author for library construction and renovation grants (Bonding bill) won re-election to her fourth term. We'll still look to Sen. Housley for her continued support of the MLA agenda.

New Members

Overall, we expect 68 new members in the Legislature to be sworn in on January 3, 47 in the House and 21 in the Senate, about 1/3 of each body. The Senate DFL caucus has 20 current members and 14 new Senators joining their ranks. The Senate GOP caucus has 24 returning members and 9 new Senators. The House DFL has 51 returning members and 19 new members. The House GOP has 40 returning members and 24 new members.

In addition to the committee structure for the House and Senate, and their committee staff, the actual committee rosters are the final piece of the organizational jigsaw puzzle as the new legislative chessboard is set. We likely won't see committee rosters until very close to the start of session, somewhat by design to keep the lobbyist crew at bay, but it's also a monumental task for leadership to balance out many interests, many personalities, and ensure that key legislation won't hit accidental roadblocks during committee hearings.

One Minnesota

A significant consensus for policy and legislative solutions around a core set of issues seems elusive in Minnesota, as it appears to be for the rest of the nation. Our voting blocs appear to be hardening, especially along generational lines. While a political trifecta certainly greases the skids for Tim Walz's second term, perhaps relief from the pandemic and serious civil unrest will allow him to refocus our energies on the many problems that all our communities are facing. Housing shortages, workforce shortages, childcare shortages, rebuilding respect for our educational professionals, property tax stability, layering in the federal infrastructure money, and yes, persistent economic and educational disparities that all too often fall on racial lines. These might not be the hot issues that trigger extreme voter bases, but they're the bread-looking-for-butter issues that cross the rural metro divide. A sustained focus on these complex challenges over the fresh four years of Walz's next term, and the Senate's four-year term, could get us back on track for the good life we expect in Minnesota.

Minnesota Library Association
1611 County Road B W, Ste. 315
Saint Paul, MN 55113

If you would like to

unsubscribe: <http://www.mnlibraryassociation.org/members/EmailOptPreferences.aspx?id=56415247&e=wrichter@ci.grand-rapids.mn.us&h=7077bc9257044f32a74fea894482ed45655450d2>

November in Children's

Holy Cow! What a month! (And where, do you suppose, the expression "Holy Cow" came from? Hang on...Well! This was not what I was expecting! Straight from Wikipedia:

The phrase "Holy cow!" was used by baseball players at least as early as 1913 and probably much earlier. It became associated with several American baseball broadcasters. **The phrase may have originated with reporter and broadcaster Halsey Hall who worked in Minneapolis, Minnesota from 1919 until his death in 1977.**

There you go! Your trivia for the day.

We had a great month in Children's! Our first foray into the return of Lego Club was much better than I anticipated, with 35 builders joining us. We are experimenting with a partnership with the Class Act program from Minnesota North College, and have hired two Class Act students to help run the Lego program. It went well, and I look forward to working with these gentlemen in the future. (We discovered, long ago, that Lego club afternoons are insanely busy with the families of the builders in the library, and with the builders themselves trickling in after their projects are done. We need at least two staff in the library, and two more in the Lego room, to make things work on those busy, busy afternoons.)

Our second program of "Afterschool with Ms. Amy" again saw 16 participants. The group is trending younger than I had hoped, but it does confirm a thought I had: school-age kids need to know what the project will be before they, and their parents, commit time to it. I am very content with the participation numbers, but I'm imagining a program that will connect better with my target audience.

Online we are continuing Storytime, of course, and also Artastic. (Regarding storytime: I've had more than a few people mention that they saw me on TV. I often forget that ICTV broadcasts our Storytime as well as it being posted on Facebook and YouTube. I think because it is a statistic that is unavailable to us, I don't even think about it.)

We will begin monthly classroom visits with the Cohasset 1st graders (both sections) in December, and have had queries from three other teachers. While I'm excited for class visits to begin again, I am beginning to feel stretched in ways I haven't been. Our online presence combined with significant in-person demand is something to which I need to adjust. I am actively looking for ways to streamline my processes to free up some time. (And, in a way, aren't we all?) If I have a flash of brilliance on how to do this, I'll certainly share! 😊 (I also need to put in a plug for Dion here. She picks up slack wherever I drop it, and not only films and edits our online programs, but she also has started completely cataloging many of our books. That's a big deal. You know, during all that extra time

when she's not helping patrons, shelving, keeping and gathering stats, and doing all the things that I don't do. She is a wonder, and our library, especially the Children's Department, would be in a sad, sad, state without her.)

Thank you, Board, for all that you do for us. I am grateful. Happy Reading!

Dayend Auto Renew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Checkin

Description	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	%chg	Nov 2021	%chg	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	%chg
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Normal	8263	8631	-5	8527	-4	96264	72195	33
Late	1825	1587	14	1948	-7	20482	13620	50
Offline Normal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offline Late	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	10088	10218	-2	10475	-4	116746	85815	36

Requests Placed

Description	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	%chg	Nov 2021	%chg	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	%chg
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Placed	1806	2162	-17	1804	0	20431	24791	-18
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	1806	2162	-17	1804	0	20431	24791	-18

Requests Resolved

Description	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	%chg	Nov 2021	%chg	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	%chg
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Cancelled	82	119	-32	84	-3	968	1286	-25
Filled	3087	2710	13	2828	9	30693	36308	-16
Expired	1	2	-50	12	-92	27	64	-58
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	3170	2831	11	2924	8	31688	37658	-16

Holdes Resolved

Description	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	%chg	Nov 2021	%chg	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	%chg
Picked Up	1868	1654	12	1689	10	18466	24262	-24
Cancelled	7	2	250	7	0	38	45	-16
Expired	105	146	-29	162	-36	1400	1542	-10
Total	1980	1802	9	1858	6	19904	25849	-23

Overdues

Description	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	%chg	Nov 2021	%chg	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	%chg
1st Notice	423	510	-18	469	-10	5379	3074	74
2nd Notice	0	0	0	0	0	20	11	81
3rd Notice	0	1	-100	1	-100	6	8	-25
4th Notice	0	1	-100	1	-100	4	3	33
5th Notice	0	1	-100	0	0	1	0	100
Final Notice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice # 7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice # 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice # 0	105	256	-59	94	11	1691	802	110
Total	528	769	-32	565	-7	7101	3898	82

Borrower Delta

Description	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	%chg	Nov 2021	%chg	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	%chg
New (Manual)	70	98	-29	65	7	975	587	66

New (Manual)	603	854	-30	465	29	5767	4864	18
Deleted (Manual)	171	832	-80	731	-77	7371	4668	57
New (Batch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deleted (Batch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	774	1686	-55	1196	-36	13138	9532	37

Acquisitions Activities

Description	Nov 2022	Oct 2022	%chg	Nov 2021	%chg	2022 YTD	2021 YTD	%chg
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Lines Ordered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Items Ordered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lines Received	253	578	-57	301	-16	3404	2863	18
Items Rcvd by Ven	256	598	-58	308	-17	3466	2916	18
Claims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	509	1176	-57	609	-17	6870	5779	18

Grand Rapids Area Library

Reference Statistics

November 2022

	November 2022	YTD 2022
Door Count	2565	43564
Reference Questions	194	2964
Computer Help Over 5 Minutes	23	343
Tests Proctored	0	13
Public Computer Use: Sessions	210	3206
Public Computer Use: Hours Used	143	2187
Special Computer Sessions	108	1264
Passports Accepted	86	754

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 12,456	2 13203	3 13,455	4 13,603	5
		2	7			(15)
6	7 14056 * Volume	8 15050	9 15317	10 15549	11 CLOSED	12
	5	3	3	8		(19)
13	14 15784	15 16017	16 16241	17 16507	18 16,679	19
	2	1	8	5	8	(24)
20	21 16876	22 17103	23 17328	24 CLOSED	25 CLOSED	26
	2	5	2			(9)
27	28 17581	29 17,798	30 18008			
	6	7	6			(19)

November 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 5 NP C 	2 4 NP C 	3 4 NP C 	4 2 NP C 	5
6	7 5+11 NP C 	8 3+12 NP C 	9 5+9 NP C 	10 2+8 NP C 	11	12
13	14 2+7 NP C 	15 1+8 NP C 	16 3+8 NP C 	17 1+6 NP C 	18 3+9 NP C 	19
20	21 6+5 NP C 	22 12 NP C 	23 3+8 NP C 	24	25	26
27	28 4+10 NP C 	29 5+9 NP C 	30 3+11 NP C 			

Children's Stats

Month November
20 22

Book Time

Programs: 3

People: 46

Online Storytime

Programs: 4

Facebook views: 254

YouTube views: 258

Total views: 512

Class visits

Groups/People: 1/15

Children's Programs

Programs: 2

People: 51

Artastic

Programs: 1

Facebook views: 77

YouTube views: 20

Total views: 97

Kits handed out: 150

Reference Questions:

359

Reference Questions

2021: 205

22
November

3
7/10

10

4

22
28
21

2
10

1

11
20
19
120

22

20

November 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 16	2 36	3 22	4 6	5 80
6	7 19	8 23 Cindy in pm	9 18	10 12	11 closed <i>[scribble]</i>	12 72
13	14 23	15 13	16 17	17 21	18 19	19 93
20	21 16	22 24	23 19	24 CLOSED	25	26 61
27	28 13	29 21	30 19			53

GRAND RAPIDS AREA LIBRARY: 2022 Volunteer Report

Month	Regular Volunteers		RSVP Volunteers		Library Board		Program Committee		Teen Advisory Board		Friends of the Library		Library Foundation		Total	Total
	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours
January	26	124.75	5	125.25	8	8.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	39.00	9	27.00	31	250.00
February	23	94.00	7	109.00	9	9.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	46.00	2	10.00	30	203.00
March	18	112.50	9	128.00	7	7.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	60.50	1	4.00	27	240.50
April	31	160.00	7	85.25	6	6.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	13	72.50	9	29.00	38	245.25
May	25	131.25	8	101.50	8	8.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	69.00	2	6.50	33	232.75
June	35	224.75	10	112.25	7	7.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	25	156.50	1	5.00	45	337.00
July	22	138.50	9	91.00	6	6.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	11	73.00	1	6.00	31	229.50
August	33	283.50	9	139.75	8	8.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	11	95.50	1	5.00	42	423.25
September	34	195.50	10	101.50	8	8.00	1	3.00	0	0.00	14	114.50	6	20.00	44	297.00
October	27	163.00	10	103.00	8	8.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	11	74.50	1	7.00	37	266.00
November	41	226.25	10	119.50	9	9.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	18	136.00	7	18.00	51	345.75
December																
Total		1854.00		1216.00		84.00		3.00		0.00		937.00		137.50	*	3,070.00

**Grand Rapids Area Library
Reference Statistics
October 2022**

	October 2022	YTD 2022
Door Count	2291	40999
Reference Questions	252	2770
Computer Help Over 5 Minutes	32	320
Tests Proctored	1	13
Public Computer Use: Sessions	247	2996
Public Computer Use: Hours Used	165	2044
Special Computer Sessions	142	1156
Passports Accepted	99	668

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 8156 4	4 8317 7	5 8735 *COVID Booster Clinic 9	8976 8976 8976 5	9080 9080 9080 5	8 30
9	10 9294 9294 3	11 9591 5	12 9850 7	13 10087 3	14 10213 10213 3	15 21
16	17 10494 3	18 10720 1	19 10901 5	20 11235 98	21 11403 2	22 20
23	24 11659 5	25 11932 6	26 12147 4	27 12371 7	28 12541 8	29 24
30	31 12739 4					4

October 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 2+12 NP C 	4 5+6 NP C 	5 4+12 NP C 	6 3+9 NP C 	7 NP C 	8
9	10 1+8 NP C 	11 13 NP C 	12 1+12 NP C 	13 4+7 NP C 	14 4+8 NP C 	15
16	17 3+10 NP C 	18 2+10 NP C 	19 4+9 NP C 	20 12 NP C 	21 3 NP C 	22
23	24 4+12 NP C 	25 8+4 NP C 	26 2+8 NP C 	27 2+10 NP C 	28 7 NP C 	29
30	31 8+12 NP C 					

Children's Stats

Month October

20 22

Online Storytime

Programs: 4

Facebook views: 248

YouTube views: 493

Total views: 741

Artastic

Programs: 1

Facebook views: 81

YouTube views: 24

Total views: 105

Kits handed out: 150

Book Time

Programs: 1

People: 19

Class visits

Groups/People: 2 / 46

Children's Programs

Programs: 1

People: 17

Reference Questions:

343

Reference Questions

2021: 310

October 2022

343

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 15	4 12	5 25	6 15	7 6	8 23
9	10 8	11 28	12 13	13 12	14 9	15 10
16	17 12	18 11	19 15	20 20	21 16	22 88
23	24 30	25 10	26 22	27 17	28 8	29 102
30	31 10					