



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION DEPARTMENT REPORT

TO: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager
FROM: Laura Blaker
DATE OF MEETING: May 5, 2025
ITEM TITLE: Department Report – Library

One Book Indee Feedback

The library has completed our One Book Indee project for 2025. It was a great partnership with businesses, government departments and entities, authors, historians, artists, and more.



Following are results and comments from the One Book Indee 2025 Survey:

73% said they became more involved in the community through One Book Indee.

80% responded that they discussed or shared with others what they learned or experienced.

- “I met new community people and learned more of the history of Independence.”
- “I spoke with a couple ladies about my experience reading the book and spoke with people in other towns about this program!”
- “I have recommended this book and others by her to many people and told them about my library’s program and its history.”
- “I think the whole program is wonderful and is a great way to get people thinking about the world around them. I love the variety of programs.”

IPL is a place to gather, meet, and connect with others.

The Summer Reading Program: Level Up at Your Library



We are busy preparing for the summer reading program (SRP)! We have 58 events planned during summer reading, and offer reading programs for all ages...babies, children, teens, and adults. The theme this year is Level Up at Your Library, which is based on games of all kinds and “leveling up,” or improving your life.

Look for exciting events this summer, like an indoor/outdoor family game night, cooking demonstrations, a puzzle contest, creature feature with an animal staying in the library during summer months, story times in the park, day camps, etc.

How is the Summer Reading Program paid for?

The City funds 25% of the Summer Reading Program cost, and the Foundation, Friends of the Library,

donations, and other sponsors pay for the other 75% of the project. All prizes are purchased with donated funds. If you or somebody you know would like to help, there is an online wishlist consisting primarily of prizes for readers in the summer reading program. You can find it at <https://qrco.de/iplwishsrp25>.

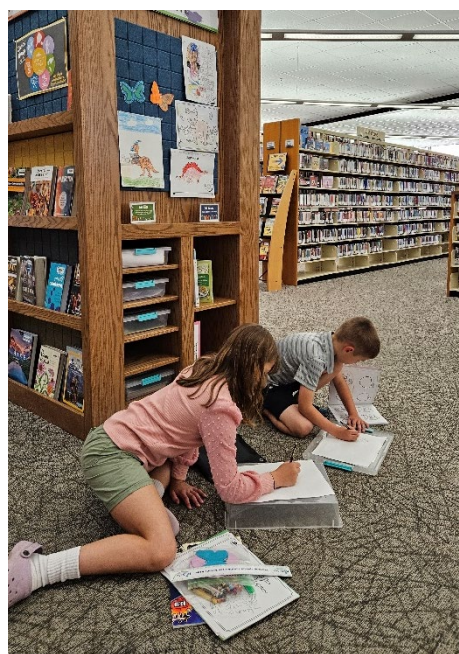
IPL promotes literacy and a love of reading.

Sprinkler System Leaks

The library's compressor connected to our sprinkler system has been running frequently, and we've found out that there are several leaks in the system. We are in the midst of the repair work, so far including the replacement of an air valve, a stretch of pipe, and couplings.

Fun while Learning at the Library

Kids come to the library to do many activities, like puzzles, play on the early literacy stations, create with Legos or make their own artwork, play with the activity tables, perform puppet shows, read, pick out books, and attend programs! Some recently entered a Peeps Diorama Contest where we had online and in-person voting!



IPL provides culture and recreation in a small community.

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