



# LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATION

**DATE:** December 3, 2024  
**FROM:** Laura Klenke, Library Director  
**AGENDA ITEM:** Librarian's Report

**SUMMARY:**

**General News**

City Council approved our new hours on October 7, 2024, effective October 14, 2024. They are as follows. We have had positive comments about our new hours from patrons, but traffic has been a little slow in the last hour on Tuesdays and Thursday due to some issues updating our hours on our voicemail and phone system.

| <b>Library Hours</b> |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Monday               | 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM  |
| Tuesday              | 11:30 AM - 7:00 PM |
| Wednesday            | 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM  |
| Thursday             | 11:30 AM - 7:00 PM |
| Friday               | 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM  |
| Saturday             | 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM  |

We moved two part-time staff members, Theresa Hammond and Sarah Phelps to full time roles. Theresa is our new Programming and Data Support Specialist, and Sarah has been promoted to full-time library assistant.

To make room for additional full time staff, minor construction was completed on my office. This small renovation moved the adjoining staff doorway to the middle and a pocket door was installed allowing the use of valuable space in the corner.

Excel High School Diploma Program – We have our first student enrolled. The candidate has been working through the pre-requisite process. I recently completed an interview and they will be continuing to the next level. We hope they are able to complete the coursework within the 30 days.

**August 2024**

The library wrapped up a highly successful summer reading program, providing staff an opportunity to pause youth programming and focus on next year's plans. In August, staff completed a full inventory of over 18,000 items, using the opportunity to rearrange and organize

the library space to be more welcoming and efficient. New display areas were added to highlight recently acquired books.

During the monthly **Sanger Studio Saturday** event, participants created beautiful mini journals using old envelopes, scrapbook paper, and other mixed media. This artsy group meets on the second Saturday of each month.

August also saw the debut of the library's first **puzzle race**, which brought together families and friends for a spirited competition. Ten teams, comprising over 40 participants, tackled identical 500-piece puzzles under a two-hour timer. Team Puzzle People claimed victory, leaving fewer than 25 pieces incomplete. The event was a hit, with plans for it to become a regular feature, complete with pizza and friendly rivalry.

The **adult book club** explored Sally Rooney's *Normal People*, a poignant tale of friendship and love that resonates deeply. The club continues to welcome new members, gathering on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

The library celebrated a significant milestone by receiving a **2024 Texas Book Festival Grant**. These funds will enhance the collection to better meet the needs of the Spanish-speaking community.

**Monthly Statistics:** The library recorded 2,653 physical checkouts, 513 digital checkouts, 69 new cardholders (totaling 3,548), 2,073 visits, and answered 139 combined reference and computer-related questions.

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## September 2024

In celebration of **Library Card Sign-Up Month**, the library encouraged sign-ups and renewals with a raffle for a gift card, won by Kellin McDermand. To better serve the homeschool community, the library expanded program times, including a **DIY Play-Doh** and **Lego session** for young learners.

Programs for preschoolers continued to thrive, such as the **Music and Movement session**, engaging 14 adults and 11 children through rhythm-based play. A special **Teddy Bear Picnic** for National Teddy Bear Day brought 17 participants together for stories, snacks, and fun.

Teens enjoyed activities like an **Uno challenge** with four card decks and a **brand-name versus store-brand taste test**, surprising many with the quality of store brands. Meanwhile, adults embraced creativity in a watercolor painting workshop led by staff, and families gathered for a well-attended **friendship bracelet-making event**.

The **book club** tackled R.F. Kuang's *Yellowface*, sparking discussions on identity and cultural appropriation. In the art-centric **Sanger Studio Saturday**, participants experimented with alcohol inks, creating unique bookmarks.

**Monthly Statistics:** The library noted 2,869 physical checkouts, 619 digital checkouts, 61 new cardholders (totaling 3,559), 2,695 visits, and 196 combined reference and computer-related queries.

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## October 2024

October brought new **library hours** to better accommodate patrons, while the month's activities catered to a variety of interests. A highlight was the collaboration with the **Sanger Police Department** for a Traffic Stop 101 session during National Night Out, offering practical advice for drivers.

For teens, a **video game night** proved popular, featuring retro and modern consoles. Young builders excelled during **Lego Club**, and the **Kids Can Cook series** delighted families with spooky pudding dirt cups.

October also saw the annual **pumpkin decorating contest**, with creative entries inspired by beloved characters. Kenzie Green's *Winnie the Pooh*-themed pumpkin earned her the top prize. The first-ever **Harry Potter Week** featured a Sorting Ceremony, scavenger hunt, Bowtruckle crafts, and a wand-making workshop, culminating in a week of magical fun.

In the arts, **Sanger Studio Saturday** embraced paint pouring, while adults learned to marbledye fabrics. The month ended on a spooky note with a **Zombie Leftovers** teen hangout, where participants crafted eerie-themed snacks.

**Monthly Statistics:** The library saw 2,813 physical checkouts, 651 digital checkouts, 37 new and 27 reactivated cards (totaling 3,560), 3,670 visits, and 172 combined reference and computer-related questions.

### **FISCAL INFORMATION:**

Budgeted: YES/NO

Amount: \$0.00

GL Account: XXX.XX.XXXX

### **RECOMMENDED MOTION OR ACTION:**

N/A

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A