

# Opt-In Library Cards

## Overview

In April 2024, the then director of the Dwight Foster Public Library provided our library board with a presentation on opt-in library cards. Their public library coordinated with the Fort Atkinson school district to allow parents and guardians to register students for a public library card when they registered for school. The result was that over 1000 children in the community who previously did not have a public library card were able to acquire one with ease.

The Irvin L. Young Memorial Library would like to partner with the Whitewater Unified School District to do the same for children in our community.

## Goals

1. To partner with our school district to provide educational opportunities for students.
2. To make it easier for parents and guardians to register children for a library card.

## Specifications

In order to provide opt-in library cards, the Dwight Foster Public Library coordinated with the school's IT department to put opt-in language on the school district's online registration form.

If a parent opted-in, the student's information was sent to the public library. Library staff members then entered the student's information into the public library's computer system and mailed the card to the student.

### What we need from the schools:

1. Permission to include library card registration language on the school district's online registration form.
2. A spreadsheet with the registration information for any student whose parents or legal guardians opt into a library card.

### What the public library will do:

1. Create an account for the registered student.
2. Provide the student with a card via the U.S. Postal system.