

Library Report

Dates included: October 1, 2024 – October 31, 2024

Circulation Statistics: 4,372 Checkouts (up 743 from October 2023)

Cards issued: 116 total new cards | 79 in-person cards | 37 website sign-ups
(up 37 from Sept 2023)

Materials Added: 400 Items Value: \$8,418.61

Materials Weeded: 39 Items Value: \$494.95

Overdrive (WT Digital Consortium) – 4,467 eBooks, 3,865 eAudiobooks, and 474 eMagazines

Overdrive New User Registrations – 84 new users (up 19 from October 2023)

Total number of visitors: 2,685

Total number of computer users: 181 (up 18 from October 2023)

Total number of reference questions: 992 (up 88 from October 2023)

Meeting Room reservations: 17

- We use the large room almost daily for Library/ community events, GED/ESL, and Fire/EMT classes.

Program totals: 35 Total Programs: (22 more programs than October 2023)

Family – 3 | Preschool – 17 | School Age – 2 | Teen – 1 | Adult – 3 | Outreach – 9 |

Total Participation: 905 Total (399 more than October 2023)

383 Babies/Toddlers (0-5) | 143 Children (6-11) | 23 Teens (12-18) | 356 adults

**Approximately 300 books were given away at National Night Out and Harvest Festival. (Book giveaways are provided by Literacy Lubbock).

Volunteer Hours: 10.25 hours

The Texas State Library supports accredited rural and small Libraries by providing access to eBooks and audiobooks for adult readers purchased by the State. Last month, they updated the platform to Boundless by Baker and Taylor, making these much more accessible to our readers. To engage our younger readers and support the collection curated by the State, we are also a member of the West Texas Digital Consortium through Libby. This consortium includes 22 additional small and rural libraries within the region, each contributing financially to create a well-rounded digital collection that serves their communities. Midland and Ector County are the largest in the consortium and generally have the highest usage of all the libraries in the group, but this month Wolfforth had the highest usage and most new users. One of my goals for FY25 is to enhance our outreach efforts. This month, we participated in the National Night Out and the Harvest Festival, which I believe directly contributed to the increase in our usage and members.

We are very excited to report that our efforts to increase the support from Lubbock County for the FY25 budget were successful and we received \$60,000 this past month for Library services. During the budget process this past summer, Randy and I worked to prepare a budget presentation for the

Commissioners, requesting an increase in support from \$14,000, which we have received for many years, to \$60,000. Taylor and I presented this during the budget hearings at the Commissioner's Court in August. As we all know, Wolfforth's growth is impacting every single department, and this increase in funding brings the Library closer to being able to begin the process of updating our master plan and preparing for the future.

With our community's growth and increased Library usage, the demand for expanded programming continues to rise. This month, in addition to our regular programs, we introduced a new adult program and began hosting more storytime sessions at a local childcare center. Attendance across all programs has surged, and we continue to receive frequent requests for additional offerings. We are actively pursuing new outreach strategies and establishing partnerships with community organizations to ensure our resources and services reach as many individuals as possible. We want to make sure the Library remains a helpful and important part of our community's growth and development.