



Monthly Report: August 2017

Staff throughout the library have been engaged in developing a new Strategic Plan that will serve to align library efforts with community needs and aspirations. This new plan will guide the work of the library over the next five years and is envisioned to better connect the work of the library with other city departments, partner organizations and community groups. The Library Leadership Team will be focusing on engaging staff and the larger community to make sure the planning effort is thoughtful, relevant and inspirational.

One of the first internal components of the plan is the creation of a series of Guiding Principles that describe how staff work together:

Loveland Public Library staff are committed to fulfilling the library's mission and believe that the following shared aspirations are critical in creating a safe, engaging work environment where everyone is contributing in a productive and positive way:

- 1. Be passionate about our service to the community and our mission to serve the public.*
- 2. Be supportive of each other, work as a team, encourage and recognize each other.*
- 3. Be innovative, embrace change and be flexible in our work. Take risks and learn from our mistakes.*
- 4. Grow and learn as an individual and in our profession. Demonstrate what it is to be a learning organization and share knowledge with each other.*
- 5. Be respectful of our differences, honor diversity and find ways to appreciate how our unique attributes are an asset. Strive to find ways to work to our strengths.*
- 6. Actively listen and participate to further the work we do with a shared voice and commitment to open communication.*
- 7. Be accountable and demonstrate high standards in the quality of work we do, the way we treat others and the integrity of our actions.*

In striving to demonstrate these principles when we come to work every day, we will create a work environment where everyone is working to their fullest potential. By joining together and focusing on the important difference we make in the community, we make Loveland a better place for everyone.

In addition to working on the Strategic Plan, the Library Leadership Team participated in an Emergenetics workshop with colleagues from Cultural Services. Diane continued to meet with key stakeholders including Kelly Jones, Director of Economic Development; Susan Iason, Director of Cultural Services; Ann Kling, Executive Director of the Clearview Library Director in Windsor and now retired High Plains Library Director, Janine Reid.

Community Outreach and Program Highlights

We were excited to offer a very popular program, *The Total Eclipse of the Sun Explained*, with Dr. Charles Kuehn from the University of Northern Colorado. While the original forecasted attendance for the event was between 45 and 65 people, over 255 people attended the event. Dr. Kuehn did four separate sessions of his

program to accommodate the demand over four hours. Dr. Kuehn handed out hundreds of solar eclipse glasses to the attendees.

Our Adult Services and Children's Services staff worked together to take robotic cublets to the Wexford independent living community. Library staff and volunteers provided an opportunity for the seniors to investigate the cublets.



Robotics at the Wexford

Loveland Public Library were out in force at the Corn Roast Festival and Parade. We passed out candy corn packets to hundreds of participants with fun messages attached to encourage a visit to the library.



Staff at the Corn Roast Festival Parade

Summer Read Wrap-Up

The numbers are in! We signed up 1,975 children for the 2017 Summer Reading Program. We are currently evaluating this summer's program and are already brainstorming ways to make the program even more successful in 2018.

Partnership with Thompson School District

With the start of the new school year, we're excited to build on the momentum with the Thompson School District (TSD) that started last year. Our staff is meeting with TSD personnel to discuss first grade field trips and distributing library cards to schools. Children's staff also attended Back to School Nights across the district. We are looking forward to additional opportunities to partner with TSD to help all of our students have a successful and fun school year.

Jo McNeal, Head of LPL Customer Service, met with Jo Conlon, Head of Media Services at Thompson School District, to investigate ways to set up more students with their own Loveland Public Library cards. With a Loveland Public library card, students have access to additional literacy resources that the District can no longer provide. Other resources available only at the library are downloadable books and certain online databases.

The District will again send 1st graders to the library to pick up new cards, tour the library, and check out, however students have already been coming in to get cards independently since a library card is again included on the "Back to School" supplies list. In August, customer service issued 722 new library cards, 73% more than the average number of cards issued so far this year and 30% more than August 2016. Slowly but surely, understanding the importance of obtaining a library card for your student is spreading to families throughout the community.

Finally, Customer Service and TSD are starting a new program this school year that will make it more convenient for families to return books. Students will be able to return Loveland Public Library materials to their schools. The district courier will then return the materials to the Loveland Public Library. This will be a pilot program so that we can discover and iron out any kinks, so that we can expand the program in the future.



Library Technology and Innovation (LTI)

With some significant staffing changes in the LTI, we are looking at opportunities to redefine some roles to make sure both internal and external customers continue to receive excellent service in one of the busiest and most complex areas of the library. LTI staff made sure that the server move over the Labor Day weekend went smoothly and we are pleased to report that all operations related to our integrated library system, Sierra, were fully functional by the time the library opened on September 5.

Teenseen

In August the Teen Division offered 12 programs with an attendance of 396. August kicked off the start of a new school year with back-to-school events and new faces in the teenseen. Highlights included:

- A new look in the teenseen with open space for seating, activities and maker supplies (see pics below). This layout will increase access to teens during busy afterschool hours.
- Outerspace-themed programs in celebration of the solar eclipse including constellation crafts (see pic), Guardians of the Galaxy Fandom Friday and an Eclipse Party with solar-oven marshmallows and hot dogs.
- Relicensure and civil rights training as a Kids Café site with Food Bank for Larimer County, Planned Parenthood training on sex education and resources for teens, and Connected Learning training on outcome-based evaluation.

