



DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
610 QUINCY ST. | RAPID CITY, SD 57701 | 605.394.6139

RAPIDCITYLIBRARY.ORG



Date: February 12, 2024
To: Library Board of Trustees
From: Sean Minkel, Assistant Library Director
Re: 2023 Strategic Plan Update, 4th Quarter

Per established practice, a strategic plan progress update will be provided to the Library Board quarterly. The current plan was adopted by the Board on August 8, 2022.

Overview:

Notable accomplishments for the library's strategic plan during this quarter include significant progress on sound remediation for the 2nd floor, multiple events targeted at literacy, culture, and learning, partnerships with local organizations, and an impactful change to the registration policy.

EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY THROUGH A VARIETY OF CLASSES AND TRAININGS

Provide resources and assistance to help citizens achieve their educational, professional development, and personal growth goals

- ⌚ The library will host the *Spark! Places of Innovation* exhibit in July. The exhibit is designed to promote new ways of thinking and foster creative problem solving. Library events and materials will be used to support and expand on this topic during the exhibit
- ⌚ The library and Rapid City Arts Council are collaborating to pursue a grant for The Big Read; if the proposal is successful, the events will start in late 2024
- ⌚ Teen programming continues to be reviewed and adjusted in order to identify more popular times and provide a variety of classes related to life skills classes
- ✓ The library started a financial literacy series of classes to educate the community

DEVELOP ENGAGING EVENTS FOR A VARIETY OF AGES AND INTERESTS

Host a variety of engaging events that draw current and new users to the library, encourage future visits, and offer unique experiences

- ⌚ Makerspace events will be implemented in 2024
- ⌚ Storytimes and crafts were trialed at the Liberty Center YMCA, Farmer's Market, and Youth and Family Services Pop-up locations and will be continued in 2024 with the bookmobile
- ✓ The Winter reading challenge for adults, teens, and children ran from December 10 through January 6, 2024 with 481 participants
- ✓ Lakota Hoop Dancing and a cultural presentation were completed in November. In addition, Custer State Park returned with events related to nature, local history, and ecology
- ✓ An author event with Jan Brett was held on December 5 in partnership with Black Hills Reads, Early Learning South Dakota, and South Dakota Public Broadcasting

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VISION *Educate, enrich, and inspire the community by providing accessible and equitable resources for all*

VALUES *Welcoming • Community • Inclusion • Well-being • Inquisitive*



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ENHANCE ACCESSIBILITY TO ALL LIBRARY SERVICES FOR ALL LIBRARY USERS

Ensure ease of access through library hours, library card eligibility, and adaptive technologies and resources

- ⌚ The library is investigating high interest, low readability and no-text picture books collections for adults to encourage adult literacy at all levels
- ⌚ Genre stickers are being added to young adult materials after recommendations from the Teen Advisory Board
- ⌚ Dynamic shelving displays are being investigated to make it easier for patrons to locate materials and better market library collections
- ✓ The Registration Policy was significantly revised to improve library access for all members of the community

EXPAND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO PROVIDE AND PROMOTE LIBRARY SERVICES

Invest in partnerships as a way to promote services and gain new users, especially with the business and Native American communities

- ⌚ An event to increase internet connectivity was held in partnership with the Affordable Connectivity Program through the SD Department of Labor and Regulation
- ✓ The library participated in Community Connect on November 16 with RAI (Rural America Initiatives)
- ✓ A partnership with the SDSM&T Paleontology Club began providing monthly events in November; these events will continue through the school year.

ENHANCE THE LIBRARY FACILITIES TO CREATE A COMFORTABLE AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

Enhance public spaces to improve library usability and comfort

- ⌚ Public lounge chairs were replaced in the children's and young adult areas
- ⌚ New upstairs carpeting is planned for 2024, per the replacement schedule
- ✓ The upstairs accoustical remediation was initiated with fabric batts in the Community Room, sound absorbing panels in the lobby, and enclosed study rooms. Some additional work is planned for the pink noise generators on the 2nd floor

GOALS COMPLETED

Goals completed since the last review with no major updates to report.

- In October the library participated in the Girl Scouts Annual BIG (Believe in Girls) Event with an engaging STEAM challenge
- StackMap, a service designed to show patrons where materials they look up in searches are to be found on a library map, was implemented
- Outreach events took place at Central States Fair, North & South Middle Schools, the Parent Resource Fair at RAI, and Rush Fanfest
- A campaign to promote library services to Ellsworth Air Force Base personnel and their families was completed during September's Library Card Sign-up Month

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- Signs were installed in the west parking area indicating these areas are not intended for public use
- Quiet Zones were trialed on the south and east sides of the main floor; this trial was determined to be successful, and these areas have now been signed for quiet, individual study

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