

Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board Agenda
Microsoft Teams Virtual & In-Person Meeting
Loussac Library – Moose Room
September 16, 2026

Board Members

Ryan Foisy, Olivia Garrett, Jen Griffis, Lydia R. Johnson, Marc Johnson, Wade Hampton Miller, Antionette M. Street, Cristy Willer

Topic	Leader	Time
1. Call to Order	LAB Chair	5:30
2. Roll Call	LAB Chair	5:30
3. Approval of Agenda	LAB Chair	5:35
4. Approval of Minutes	LAB Chair	5:40
5. Public Participation	TBA	5:45
6. Library Spotlight		
Library Service/Program: Summer Discovery	Samantha Blanquart, Youth Services Coordinator	5:50
Library Resource: Youth Book Bags	Kendall Millman, Early Literacy Outreach Librarian	6:05
7. Disclosures	TBA	6:20
8. Unfinished Business – None	--	--
9. New Business – Circulation Policy	APL Director	6:20
10. Monthly Board Report	APL Director	6:50
11. Board Comments	LAB Chair	6:55
12. Adjournment	LAB Chair	7:00

Following is a link to join the meeting virtually:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 292 276 050 799

Passcode: jEfGNp

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 907-519-0237,,632109625#](#) United States, Anchorage

Phone Conference ID: 632 109 625#



**Municipality of Anchorage
Library Advisory Board
Minutes of the Meeting of August 19, 2026**

1. Call to Order

Chair Cristy Willer convened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. in Anchorage Public Library (Moose Room), 3600 Denali Street, Anchorage, Alaska.

2. Roll Call

Present: Ryan Foisy, Olivia Garrett, Jen Griffis, Lydia R. Johnson, Marc Johnson, Wade Hampton Miller, Antionette M. Street, and Cristy Willer.

Also in attendance were Marjorie Harrison, Library Director, Stephanie Schott, Chugiak-Eagle River Branch Manager, Sarah Preskitt, Adult Services Coordinator, and Rebecca Lampert, Junior Admin Officer.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Wade Hampton Miller moved, Marc Johnson seconded,
To approve of the agenda of the Library Advisory Board Meeting of August 19, 2026, as amended (to move the Chugiak-eagle River library tour to the end of the meeting).

and the motion passed without objection.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Marc Johnson moved, Wade Hampton Miller seconded,
To approve the minutes of the Library Advisory Board Meeting of July 15, 2026,

and the motion passed without objection.

5. Public Participation – None

6. Library Spotlight (moved between 10 and 11).

Chugiak-Eagle River Branch Information, Highlights, and Tour – Stephanie Schott, Branch Manager.

7. Disclosures – None

8. Unfinished Business – None.

9. New Business

Events and Programs Policy – Sarah Preskitt, Adult Services Coordinator. Policy draft was presented, discussed, and is on file.

Marc Johnson moved, Wade Hampton Miller seconded,
To approve the Events and Programs Policy,

And the motion passed without objection.

10. Reports

The Monthly Board Report has been distributed and is on file. Director Harrison pointed out highlights of the month.

11. Member Comments

Marc Johnson pointed out that situating library functions in malls provides accessibility, and would like to discuss this at a future board meeting

Cristy Willer reminded the Board about the need to elect a new Chair and Vice-chair. This will need to be done in September or October 2026.

12. Adjournment

Chair Willer adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The next Library Advisory Board will be held on September 16, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Lampert, Junior Admin Officer for
Marjorie Harrison, Library Director

*For detailed Board discussion, please refer to the recording of this meeting located on the Anchorage Public Library Website at [Library Advisory Board - Anchorage Public Library](https://bit.ly/APLLABYouTube)
<https://bit.ly/APLLABYouTube>*

SUMMER DISCOVERY 2026

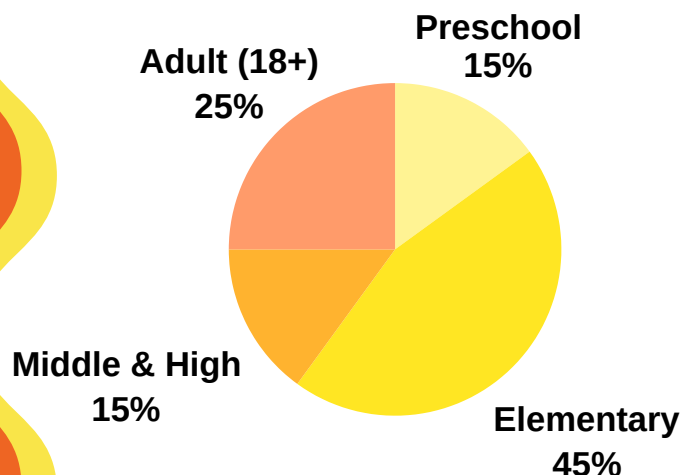
WILD ABOUT YOUR LIBRARY

Summer Discovery 2026 began on a sunny, windy May Saturday with Reading Rendezvous, bringing nearly 2,000 people to the Loussac lawn. We saw another successful year with participation and program attendance. Our goal is to see 35% of total participants complete the program and 40% completion for elementary and teen participants. We met our goals this year by achieving a fantastic 39% overall finisher percentage, with 43% elementary finishers and 45% for middle and high school participants. This year marked the highest overall total finishing percentage and elementary finishing percentage in Summer Discovery history.

Summer engagement programs like ours can help develop and maintain a love of reading and slow summer learning loss. Despite the ongoing decrease in Anchorage's youth population, APL continues to register around 5% of Anchorage School District's K-12 students for Summer Discovery.



PARTICIPANTS



SUMMER NUMBERS

3,575 participants
1,416 finishers
422 new youth library cards created
97,667 youth materials circulated

PROGRAMMING

56 Summer Discovery programs with
3,171 attendees
86 storytimes with
2,154 attendees
70 other youth programs with
842 attendees

READERS TO THE RESCUE

586,793 extra minutes logged
\$2,500 worth of school supplies donated

VOLUNTEERS

37 teens volunteered for a total of
139.5 hours





PATRON COMMENTS ABOUT SUMMER DISCOVERY

"We are a family that reads nightly throughout the year, however we have a tendency to slack off in the summer, so I love that this program reminds us/encourages us to keep it up during the summer!" – Lindsey C.

"It's always a fun challenge to have my kids do over the summer and it's something they look forward to every year!" – Brandy W.

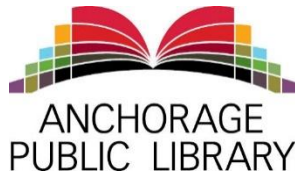
"Loved all the summer events that encouraged my daughter to visit the library more frequently than otherwise." – Hannah L.



Summer Discovery is made possible thanks to a donation of **\$19,500** from the Friends of the Library.

Do you love the Library? Do you want to help make the Library a better place? Become a Friend of the Library!
www.librarychampion.com





CIRCULATION OF PHYSICAL LIBRARY MATERIALS POLICY

Effective Date: 7/31/2024	Approval Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
Supersedes P&P: (P&P NAME)	Previous version dated: 2/17/2021
Final approval by:	

1. PURPOSE

The Anchorage Public Library strives to provide current and future users with the fullest possible access to library materials and services. The intent of this policy is to enhance access for our public, to clarify loan periods and possible fees, and our interaction with partner libraries in the Alaska Library Consortium.

2. POLICY

1. To checkout materials, users must be in good standing and present their library card, a valid form of photo identification or confirm two pieces of personal information in their library account.
2. Checkout limits and lending periods for APL owned items borrowed by verified cardholders.

Material Type	Initial Loan Period	Quantity
Books	21 Days	50
Magazines	7 Days	10
DVDs	7 Days	10
DVDs in a Set	14 Days	10
CDs/Audiobooks	21 Days	10
Book Club Bags	42 Days	2
Library in a Box	42 Days	2
Beginner Reader Bags	21 Days	10
STEM Kits	21 Days	2
Read With Me Bags	21 Days	1
Lapsit Bags	21 Days	1
Storypacket Bags	21 Days	1
Raise a Reader Bag	21 Days	1
Little Sprouts Book Club Tub	21 Days	1
Lucky Day	21 Days	2

- a. Unverified Cardholders can only check out 3 items at a time, they are ineligible to borrow other materials until their card is fully verified.
 - b. Holds — up to 10 holds at a time for verified cardholders; 3 holds for unverified cardholders.
 - c. ALC library lending period and limits will vary by location.
- b) Items owned by Anchorage Public Library are not due on days that the library is closed.
- a. Items owned by partner libraries in the Alaska Library Consortium can be due on days APL is closed, but materials can be returned to any exterior book drop on those days and will then be backdated upon check-in.

3. Renewals

- A. Items may be renewed up to 2 times, if eligible.
- B. Items not eligible for renewal are:
 - i. On Hold for another patron.
 - ii. Has reached its renewal limit, partner libraries in the Alaska Library Consortium have different loan and renewal rules.
 - iii. Has been recalled by library staff.
 - iv. Has been checked out for a special loan period.
 - v. If account is Blocked.

4. Requests

- A. Patrons may request most materials to be held for them at any library location of their choice.
- B. Requests can be made by using the online catalog, in person or over the phone.
- C. Requests are filled on a system-wide first come, first served basis.
- D. Patrons will be notified by an automated phone call, text message, or email when their request is available, unless they have asked to not be notified.
 - i. Patrons are responsible for keeping their contact information updated via their account page or contacting the library.
- E. Materials on hold at a physical library will be held for 7 days from the date of the hold being processed and put on the shelf for user pickup.
 - i. If patrons are using a Remote Locker for their hold pickup the item will be held for 4 days from the date of the hold being processed.

5. Lost/damaged Materials

- A. Items over 17 days late or returned with damage will be charged a replacement fee, plus a \$5 processing fee per item.
- B. Bills may be paid through a patron's online library account or at a library desk (when possible); replacement fee payments can only be made at the owning library or online.
 - i. APL cannot process replacement fees for any of our partner libraries in the Alaska Library Consortium.
- C. Fines or fees of \$1000 or more, that include lost or damaged materials, are sent to a collection agency and the patron is subject to additional charges and fees assigned by that collection agency.
- D. Materials owned by partner libraries are subject to the owning libraries fines, fees and limits.

3. DEPARTMENTS/DIVISIONS AFFECTED

Anchorage Public Library

4. REFERENCES

MOA P&P 01-01

American Library Association Bill of Rights

Alaska Library Consortium Bylaws

5. DEFINITIONS

- 1. Loan Period – total number of days a patron can keep a specific item.
- 2. Loan and Hold Limit – the number of items that can be borrowed or placed on hold simultaneously.

3. Alaska Library Consortium – a statewide consortium of libraries that share materials to enhance all our collections.
4. Renewal – an extension of the loan period of library materials.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Patron Services Coordinator, primary contact regarding this document and any necessary edits.
2. Patron Services Supervisor, responsible for the implementation of this document at Loussac Library
3. All Branch Managers, responsible for the implementation of this document at all branch libraries.
4. All library staff, responsible for understanding this document and carrying it out while working with our patrons.

7. ANNUAL REVIEW DATE/LEAD REVIEW RESPONSIBILITY

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, or as necessary, by the Patron Services Coordinator.

List reviews and/or edits for the previous 10 years.

Review Date	Review Agency	Review/Edit
6/1/2024	Library Leadership Team	Edited
2/17/2021	Library Advisory Board	Reviewed
9/19/2020	Library Leadership Team	Edited
12/18/2019	Library Advisory Board	Reviewed

Approved by: (MOA LEGAL REP NAME, DATE)

Approved by: (MUNICIPAL MANAGER NAME, DATE)



Anchorage Public Library Board Report, September 2026 Activities for August 2026

Our mission is connecting people to education, information, and community. Each month we share our wins, our challenges, and public information, in service of the Municipality of Anchorage.

Education

Recent Accomplishments

- Kendall Millman (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library) did nine outreach storytimes for 332 people at locations including childcares, AWAIC, and more. This work is funded by the Municipal Alcohol Tax.
- Keelin Baughman (Teen Services Librarian, Loussac Library) attended the Back to School Night at Wendler Middle School and spoke to approximately 100 people about library resources and the teen space at Loussac Library.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- None at this time.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Following the August 1 accident at the Mountain View Library branch, all remaining August programs were canceled.

Information

Recent Accomplishments

- Kendall Millman (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library) hosted the first joint Play to Learn at the Library program (formerly Countdown to Kindergarten) with the Anchorage School District. 158 people attended the event and enjoyed practicing school readiness skills through early literacy games and activities.
- Kendall Millman (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library) and Samantha Blanquart (Youth Services Coordinator, Loussac Library) hosted the first My First School Bus program with Anchorage School District Transportation at which 35 people, including many children ages 4-7, learned about school bus safety and practiced boarding a school bus. (Link to video bit.ly/APLASDMyFirstBusRide)
- Samantha Blanquart (Youth Services Coordinator, Loussac Library) attended an in-service for Anchorage School District elementary and secondary librarians before the start of school to provide information about public library collections and services, including the APL/ASD library card program, the teen zine, and opportunities for public librarian visits.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- None at this time.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time.

Community

Recent Accomplishments

- The Gerrish Library held a workshop in collaboration with Downsizing Alaska and Turnagain Community Health where attendees learned about decluttering and downsizing and engaged with seven participants.
- Following the August 1 accident, Mountain View staff worked diligently to restore library services for the community. Mobile library service was available August 6–13, and the branch reopened in a temporary space with limited services on August 14. **(photo below)**
- Kelsey Skrobis (Youth Services Librarian, Loussac Library) hosted an elementary school-age craft club on creating “cardboard companions” for 12 people. Participants made adorable sweaters for cardboard cats and dogs using yarn, washi tape, and other materials **(photo below)**.
- The Teen Zine officially opened for submissions for the third annual issue. This year’s theme is “Pets.”
- Samantha Blanquart (Youth Services Coordinator Loussac Library) hosted Megon from Music Together Mountain Song for a free family music program for 107 people. Singing is one of the five early literacy practices. Songs and rhymes help slow down language and assign a note or beat to each syllable. This helps children hear the different sounds that make up words.
- Muldoon Library’s August events were well-attended. We had big crowds at our bubble and tie-dye events at Chanshtnu-Muldoon Park, as well as a return to outreach at the Muldoon Farmer's Market.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The Gerrish Library will host a Mushroom Masterpieces program as part of the Girdwood Fungus Fair in collaboration with Four Valleys Community School and Turnagain Arm Mycological Society in September.
- APL and ZIP Kombucha will again partner for the 4th Annual Booch for Books event on Thursday, September 10. Patrons 21 and older (or accompanied by someone 21 or older) can enjoy their favorite kombucha paired with flavor-profile book recommendations. The library-themed flavor To Chai For will once again be available in September in celebration of Library Card Sign-Up Month.
- The Scoops & Stories children’s book ice cream contest will run from September 1-13 for Library Card Sign-Up Month. The public will vote for the winning flavor, which will debut at the Scoops & Stories tasting event at the Wild Scoops Midtown Scoop Shop on September 30.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time.

Internal Operations and Statistics

Recent Accomplishments

- Chugiak-Eagle River Library has expanded two collection areas. The adult Spanish language collection increased by almost 200 fiction and non-fiction books thanks to selector Sandy Lukes (Community Engagement/Outreach Librarian, Loussac Library). With the help of Ariel Mortem (Technical Services Librarian, Loussac Library) the teen graphic novel collection was updated and expanded with new and relevant titles for teen readers.
- Core Services By The Numbers
 - Access to a diverse collection of materials in various formats –
 - Circulation total: 135,204
 - Digital: 52,615
 - Physical: 82,589
 - Tech services:
 - New items added: 3,089
 - Items repaired/records updated: 652
 - Knowledgeable and approachable staff
 - Staff training hours for August: 9.5
 - Access to internet connectivity
 - Wifi sessions: 7,545
 - Computer sessions: 3,601
 - Professional reference and research assistance
 - Reference questions answered: 9,277
 - Spaces for individual or group use
 - Door count by location
 - Mountain View Library: 6,598
 - Muldoon Library: 4,120
 - Please see limiting factors for other library information
 - Programming and outreach to support the mission and vision of the library
 - 44 Adult Programs; 408 people attended
 - 82 Youth programs; 2,849 people attended
 - 8 All Ages programs; 231 people attended
- Safety and Security standing update – incidents per location
 - Loussac Library: 91
 - Chugiak-Eagle River Library: 2
 - Mountain View Library: 3
 - Muldoon: 1

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- APL will be filling and on-boarding multiple positions within our leadership and supervisory team over the next 3 months. They will include Budget Coordinator, Adult Services Coordinator, Collection Management Services Coordinator, Muldoon Branch Manager, and Downtown Branch Manager. We will also be hiring staff for both new opportunities and to back fill for internal

hires. This will consume a significant amount of staff time, however we look forward to being fully staffed by the end of the year.

- Downtown Library: In partnership with the Mayor's Office, APL will celebrate a "Ground Breaking" for the Downtown Library to include a small group of stakeholders and the press, on September 22. APL will also be attending multiple community council meetings in September to share updates on the project process. Renovations have begun and plans are on-track for public opening celebration in early 2027.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- An IT issue caused the gates at all locations to stop reporting information to library servers and thus the gate count was only available at locations that have a backup already installed.
- Security incidents are increasing sharply. In June there were 31 incidents systemwide, in July, 65 incidents systemwide, and 97 incidents in August. This is a tripling of incidents over just three months.
- Microsoft 365 will stop supporting Publisher in October 2026. Many Youth Services documents for the public are created using Publisher. Youth staff are pivoting to other software, including Canva, to recreate many brochures and our monthly youth programming calendar before the support end deadline.
- The FCC is reviewing the federal E-Rate program, which helps public libraries offset the cost of internet connectivity and network infrastructure provided to the public. For the first time Anchorage Public Library was slated to receive an 80% E-Rate reimbursement this year. Our previous offset was 60%, which was \$28,000 annually in federal funding to cover our internet service provider (GCI) and accompanying firewalls, not including other projects like wireless Access Point Updates or Licensing. This program is extremely important to our technology budget. Proposed changes to E-Rate could reduce eligibility or reimbursement levels, potentially increasing the Library's share of these costs. APL is monitoring this situation closely however is not joining any group actions currently. Individuals may speak on support of the program through FCC channels.

Library Board Updates

Recent Accomplishments

- The Library Advisory Board reviewed and approved revisions to the Events and Programs Policy.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Circulation, Exhibits, and Volunteer policies in the works.

Social Media/Photos

Recent Accomplishments



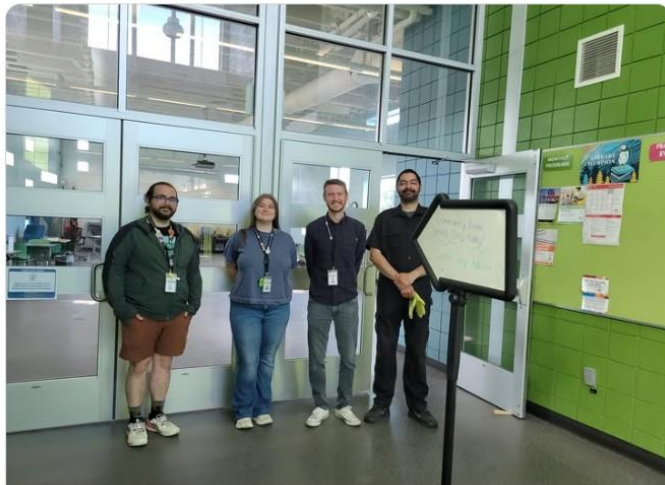
Mountain View Library Staff Mobile Library Service



Anchorage Public Library

★ Favorites · August 14 at 11:35 AM · 🌐

Love seeing our Mountain View crew back in their building, even with limited services. Read their full post for details.



Anchorage Public Library (Mountain View Library)

August 14 at 10:24 AM · 🌐

We're back (sort of) - READ FULL UPDATE

8/14 SERVICE UPDATE: Your Mountain View Library is increasing services, with adjusted hours, in a temporary space.

Effective August 14 please visit us in the Library Community Room, Tuesday-Saturday 11AM-6PM for holds pickup, limited computer access/printing, and account info.

Watch for future updates here and on our website at <https://bit.ly/APLMVServiceUpdates26>

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT YOUR LIBRARY

Mountain View Library Staff ready to reopen.

Social Media caption: Love seeing our Mountain View crew back in their building, even with limited services. Read their full post for details. We're back (sort of) - READ FULL UPDATE

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Some of the adorable Cardboard Companions in their yarn sweaters.