

DIRECTOR'S REPORT APRIL 2023

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on 4/3/23

The Policy Committee met on 4/4/23.

Buildings and Grounds

In order to proceed with the Public Restrooms project, we need to declare the project to be an emergency and expedite the process. Attached you will find a resolution, similar to the one we passed for the chiller last year, that will expedite our permit process. Once passed, this resolution must also go before the Board of Education. The application for



the Public Restrooms project will be submitted after the approval of the resolution by the Board of Trustees and gives us enough time to apply for NYS Public Library Construction Grants.

We have received an additional \$30,184 for the NYS Public Library Construction Grant we received in the fall bringing the total to \$240,805 for the chiller, security camera, self-checkout project grant.

The last of the DVD shelves were cut down to

provide sight lines throughout the library.

The window in the Children's Room is complete. Shelving has been added to the slatwall for a new book display. We have gotten many compliments about the completed project which includes the window peeking into the toddler area and a new mural created by Librarian Cheryl Baker.

Circulation

Our staff is hard at work RFID tagging collections. The self-checkout machines will be installed and ready to use in May. There will be one between the Circulation and Information Desks, and one in the Children's Room. Staff have toured other local libraries and found the units to be very user friendly, easy to use, and the ones found in Children's Rooms are great fun for kids to use!

Learning Lab



John Aiello, Librarian II, dressed and ready for work: heading to the senior center to announce and recruit members for his latest grant-winning, innovative program - The Pearl River Public Library Spring Chickens Senior Choir. 24 members (and counting) are signed up.

Our partnerships with the Rockland Conservatory of Music and the Rockland County Music Teachers Guild provided the library with 3 free Saturday concerts this month, bringing in hundreds of community members and many new faces to the library.

Our Annual Waking Ned Devine Irish Heritage Party was a big hit. Over 300 patrons (on line and in-person) enjoyed our Irish Comedy Movie party, with live Irish music by John and a library friend, Brad.



Adult Services

A Spanish language section has been created in the Adult area of the Library; the Literacy instructor and coordinator have been oriented to it. It includes both fiction (popular and classic) and nonfiction books (books to assist folks in becoming citizens, passing the GED and more). Head of Adult Services, Diana Wendell had our computer service setup two additional computers for the public in the adult area as well as simplified the computer sign-on procedure. Library Assistant, Abby Toral helped a patron sign-up for Literacy Tutoring services, get a PRL Library card and showed him how to use the brand new MANGO database (a languages resource).

Youth Services



We had another successful session with Shop Rite's registered dietitian, Michelle Barry. Her Easter/Passover program included making carrot cake energy balls and bunny rice cakes. Our new YA Librarian, John Bocchichio, started on April 10th and has hit the ground running with many creative ideas for teen programs and contributions to the learning lab. Youth Services staff are putting final touches on children's SRP reporting and special family programming along with already



established offerings.

Librarian Cheryl Baker has also modified our old art program into a new one. Each session highlights a different artist. The kids then create a project inspired by that artist's work. The change has increased the attendance significantly.