



MEETING MINUTES
EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, February 15, 2017

6:30 P.M.

Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Avenue, Barbara Friedberg Room

Members Present: Tori Foreman, Adam Goodman, Shawn Iles, Vaishali Patel, Sandra Smith, Michael Tannen

Participating by Phone: Margaret Lurie

Members Absent: Socorro Clarke, Benjamin Schapiro

Staff: John Devaney, Karen Danczak Lyons, Jessica Jolly

Guests: Andy Tunucci and Brian Foote, Woodhouse Tinucci Architects; Floyd Anderson, Wight & Co.

Presiding Member: Michael Tannen, President

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF QUORUM - A quorum was present and President Tannen called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

CITIZEN COMMENT – none

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the Minutes of January 18, 2017 Regular Meeting and Approval of Bills and Payroll** – Vaishali Patel motioned to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2017 Regular Meeting and the Bills and Payroll. Sandra Smith seconded and it was approved on a voice vote.

INFORMATION/COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Robert Crown Branch Library Update** – Andy Tinucci and Brain Foote from Woodhouse Tinucci Architects presented preliminary design concepts for the Robert Crown Community Center and Branch Library. This project, referred to by Andy Tinucci as a “culture center” combining recreational facilities with a library, is “a mixing zone and social hub greater than the sum of the parts.” The architects will look to the Board, staff and the public to help envision how space will be used well into the future.
- B. Financial Reports** – There were no questions on the financial reports.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Karen Danczak Lyons reported on several successful collaborations. The newly hired social worker began work today. Her role will be to help connect patrons with services, support staff encountering difficult situations and provide public programs. The Center for Economic Progress is again providing tax preparation help to low-income adults. EPL is partnering in the “Evanston Explorers” program featuring programs and services for families with children. President Tannen and Karen Danczak Lyons continue to meet with mayoral and aldermanic candidates to introduce them to EPL.

BOARD REPORTS

A. Facilities Committee- the Facilities Committee met prior to the Board meeting and discussed the following issues:

- **Chicago Avenue Main Street Lease Agreement** - Shawn Iles motioned to approve the renewal of the three-year lease for the space at 900 Chicago Ave., seconded by Tori Foreman and approved by roll call vote.
- **Main Library Renovation Agreement with Wight & Co.** – Shawn Iles motioned to approve the contract for architectural services for the Main Library interior renovations in the amount of \$677,000, seconded by Tori Foreman and approved by roll call vote.
- **Facilities Policy** – As per Library policy, staff can ban individuals whose behavior is threatening and disruptive to staff and patrons. Individuals have the right to come to the Board to appeal the ban. Director Danczak Lyons alerted the Board of a recently banned individual who may bring an appeal in the near future.

B. Executive Committee Fundraising – Michael Tannen and Karen Danczak Lyons have been invited to a meeting with Marty Lyons, Michael Happ and the Friends of Robert Crown on Thursday to discuss fundraising challenges for the Robert Crown Center portion of the project. Questions have arisen about the Board’s and EPL’s commitment to fundraising. Trustees again voiced their opinion that EPL is “all in” to building a branch library at RCC. The Library has committed \$2.5 million, which more than covers the estimated costs for building the branch library, and the Board is 100% behind the project. The Library has invested in fundraising staff to cultivate and solicit Fund for Excellence donors. The May donor and volunteer soiree in May will highlight Robert Crown, EPL has lots of fundraising priorities, including collections, and donating to the RCC library is being added to the mix. EPL’s donors make modest annual gifts and are well known in the community. The Library does not have a list of million dollar donors. President Tannen and Director Danczak Lyons have repeatedly offered to accompany Michael Happ and the Friends of Robert Crown on fundraising

visits to individual and corporate prospects and to date, the Director has only been asked to one meeting with a prospective corporate donor. The Director and the President of the Board have met and will continue to meet with aldermanic and mayoral candidates to gauge their interest in RCC and pressed to recognize its necessity. Shawn Iles and Vaishali Patel are hosting an event on March 8th at Mr. Iles' home to introduce Library donors and prospective supporters to the project.

- C. District 202 Board Liaison-** Michael Tannen reported the Library continues to work with ETHS on the Wi-Fi hotspots program. This project is very well received and there is potential to seek funding from an outside group like the ETHS Alumni Association.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

A. RAILS/United for Libraries Video:

Board members are asked to view the video "Working with Friends" at their convenience.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was no unfinished business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the 2016 Illinois Public Library Annual Report** – Vaishal Patel motioned to approve, seconded by Sandra Smith and approved by voice vote
- B. Honoring Mayor Tisdahl and Alderman Holmes** – Karen Danczak Lyons suggested a scholarship - named for Mayor Tisdahl - for staff pursuing library degrees and the Board recommended she pursue this idea. The Board discussed honoring Alderman Holmes by naming a teen/youth space at the Robert Crown Community Center Branch Library after this wonderful advocate for youth development.
- C. Extension of the Vanguard Signature Authority** – Vaishali Patel motioned to approve Michael Tannen's continued authority to sign on the Vanguard account. Seconded by Sandra Smith and approved on voice vote.
- D. Closed Session – Personnel (Library Director Evaluation)** – Michael Tannen motioned to move to Executive Session as per the Open Meetings Act, seconded by Tori Foreman and approved by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT –Sandra Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tori Foreman. Motion approved and the meeting adjourned at X pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved April 19, 2017

Vaishali Patel, Secretary

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 6:30 pm Evanston Public Library,
Barbara Friedberg Room.**

**Library Director's Report
February 15, 2017**

Updates:

Total material Circulated including digital content 2016 = 1,080,109 an increase over last year 1,071,401 (in 2015 we did not have Hoopla) Hoopla = 14,796
My Media Mall = 71,546 an increase of 7.2% over 2015 (2015 was 66,750)

- My thanks to Brian Wilson (for donating the books he reviewed as part of his work on the Caldecott Committee to EPL) and to Laura Antolin for suggesting that EPL make a big book donation to the Head Start/Preschool for All families. From Laura - I do a lot of programming for these families and had a conversation with my colleague, J.C. Renteria, at JEH about how she would like to send home a book to each family at the end of the year.

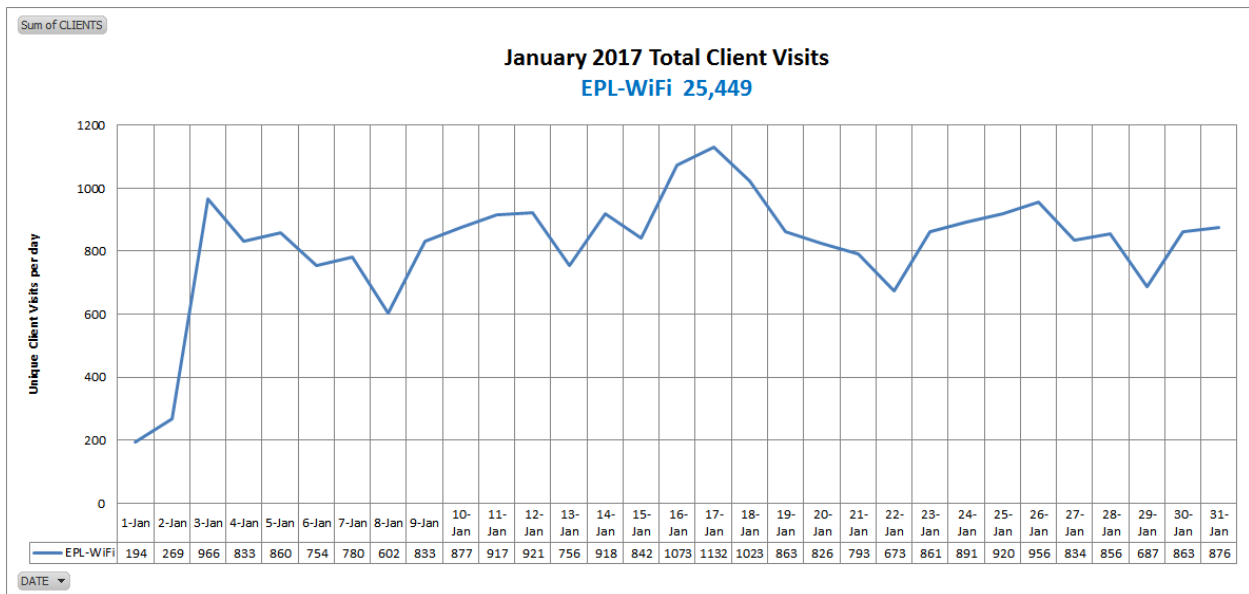
Assessments, metrics and initiative results:

Foot traffic: January, 2017 December, 2016

Main:	27,390	24,192
North:	3,790	3,452
CAMS:	3,164	3,060
Total:	34,344	30,704

Website visits: January: 55,468 December: 42,407

Overall Computer/Internet Use – all locations: January: 1,097 December: 4,561



Actual Computer Usage					
NEW AND REPEAT CUSTOMERS					
Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	

	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan	TOTALS
		13	12	16	8	49
	9-Jan	10-Jan	11-Jan	12-Jan	13-Jan	
	14	7	10	13	10	54
	16-Jan	17-Jan	18-Jan	19-Jan	20-Jan	
		10	14	13	9	46
	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	26-Jan	27-Jan	
	19	15	8	7	14	63
	30-Jan	31-Jan				
	15	15				30
						242

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Along with job search and computer help, National Able hosted the following at the main library:

[National Able Network](#) and [Skills for Chicagoland's Future](#) are hosting an Interview Day at the Evanston Public Library for anyone interested in a career in healthcare or hospitality!

Available positions include:

- Housekeeping
- Cook
- Utility Steward
- Medical Assistants
- Patient Access Representatives
- Healthcare Customer Service Specialist

Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2015

Time: 1:30 - 5:00 PM

Location: Evanston Public Library
1703 Orrington Ave
Evanston, IL 60201

Partnerships and collaborations:

- Our Social Worker joined us today and is being introduced to staff and the library. I will invite her to a future Board meeting. Both the City of Evanston and Presence Health continue to be a wonderful partners and their support is greatly appreciated.

I was invited by the Evanston Community Foundation to share the details of this partnership and the reasoning behind the addition of this service with the current Leadership Evanston cohort.

- The Center for Economic Progress and their team of volunteers is providing free tax preparation services to income eligible adults. The response to date has been very strong with patrons waiting in line in the hallway before the doors open on Tuesdays, Thursday and Saturdays.
- In partnership with the City of Evanston, Parks and local child-centric businesses, EPL is partnering in the “Evanston Explorers” program featuring programs and services for families with children. My thanks to Jan Bojda for representing EPL in this new initiative. Please look for additional details and feedback in future reports from Jan.

Highlights from Children’s Services from Jan Bojda and the team include:

It’s all about the Caldecott! Wilson completed his term on the Caldecott Committee. Here are his highlights from January:

Attended ALA Midwinter in Atlanta, GA. I served on the Caldecott committee and we chose the winner of the Caldecott Medal (Radiant Child by Javaka Steptoe) plus four Caldecott Honors. Also, I attended a meeting about international children’s books, the RUSA Awards which announced winners of books for primarily adult audience, and went to the exhibits where I learned about upcoming children’s titles.

Caldecott Club Voting Party at the Robert Crown Center with Skokie Public Library (1 session). Very successful program where kids chose a book they feel should win the Caldecott. 18 Evanston children attended with their parents.

Presented on what it’s like to serve on the Caldecott committee to 32nd grade classes at the Catherine Cook School in Chicago. Asked by librarian Patrick Gall to do so.

Presented on what it’s like to serve on the Caldecott committee to 32nd grade classes at the Latin School in Chicago. Asked by librarian Elisa Gall to do so.

Chinese New Year/Year of the Rooster Celebration

1/28 4pm 123 participants! (see 2 emails thanking us for this program and 2 pictures) Meyer and Iverson planned and presented another successful Chinese Cultural event with stories, songs, and crafts. This one had the largest attendance to date.

Meetings:

Bojda:

Attended:

- City Director’s and Manager’s meeting
- RAILs Collaborative grant with Meyer, Botanic Garden rep. Leora Siegel and Wynn Shawver
- Evanston Explorers meeting
- Design for America Students

Kennelly and Wilson attended EPL 100 Best Books.

Training and Professional Development:

A number of staff attended sessions to give input on the children's desk in the remodel.

Staff attended training on the city's switch to Gmail.

Outreach and Community Engagement

Meyer and Bojda conducted the Harwood Ask Exercise at Robert Crown.

The majority of the staff visited JEH to play Construction for our Literacy Education At Play (LEAP). Full are details in Laura Antolin's report.

Wilson visited Total Child to present story times to 3 classes.

Kaufmann conducted story time at Doorway to Learning at JEH.

Other Activities:

Iverson began work on a narrative nonfiction bibliography and began plans for a Graphic Novel Book Discussion group.

Children's staff, including Bojda on three occasions assisted in covering the Loft, primarily for programs and breaks until the new Loft staff member is hired this support will continue.

Highlights from Laura Antolin – Children's Outreach include:

In House Meetings Attended / Events Attended

- 1/11 Selection meeting – Additional Resources to Select Diverse Materials – Board Room
- 1/12 Summer Reading Meeting – Loft
- 1/14 K-LEAP Let's Play Post Office – Bessie Rhodes and Lincoln Schools
K-LEAP Let's Play Post Office – Orrington and Willard Schools
- 1/16 MLK Day Celebration – Children's Room
- 1/17 EC2C meeting w/Suni Kartha – Children's Room
- 1/23 Google On-Site Training – Board Room

Out of House Meetings Attended / Events Attended:

- 1/10 Fleetwood After-school K-1st grade – Fleetwood
- 1/11 Dawes Y.O.U.
- 1/12 JEH Pact - JEH
Fleetwood After-school 2nd-3rd grade – Fleetwood
5th Ward STEM Fest meeting
- 1/13 Baby Toddler Nursery story time & Book Bag delivery

- 1/15 Book Buddies at Reba Early Learning Center
Caldecott Party - Robert Crown
- 1/16 Y.O.U. Headquarters & Youth Center Tour
Y.O.U. Diverse Communities United - ETHS
- 1/17 Deliver Book bags to home providers
Dawes Afterschool story time – Dawes School
- 1/18 EC2C Solution Design Team meeting – ETHS
- 1/19 Summer Learning meeting w/Tracy Hubbard and Jamila Pitts (Bessie Rhodes)
Washington Y.O.U.
Washington Afterschool story time – Washington School
- 1/20 Gmail Webinar (COE)
- 1/23 LEAP at Head Start, PFA, SPPAC – JEH
Walker Y.O.U. – Walker School
- 1/24 LEAP at Head Start, PFA, SPPAC – JEH
Washington Y.O.U. – Washington School
- 1/25 Exploring STEAM w/Ms. Laura – JEH
Child Care Center of Evanston story times
- 1/26 LEAP at Head Start, PFA, SPPAC - JEH
EPL & Rice Library meeting w/Renee Neumeier – Rice
Oakton Y.O.U. – Oakton School
- 1/27 Teen Baby Nursery story time & Book Bag delivery
Sharing Circle – King Arts School
Book Buddies at Reba Early Learning Center
- 1/30 LEAP at Head Start, PFA, SPPAC – JEH
EC2C Too Small to Fail Conference Call – Family Focus
- 1/31 LEAP at Head Start, PFA, SPPAC – JEH
ABC Boosters meeting – Nzinga West – YJC
Oakton Afterschool story time – Oakton School

Outreach/In-House Reach - Preschools:

Day Care Delivery Book Bags: 19: 15 Book Bags delivered to home providers*; **4** Book Bags delivered to IWSE (2 to Baby Toddler Nursery; 2 to Teen Baby Nursery)

Baby Toddler Nursery story time: Total: 80 (65 children and 15 staff); 7 classes- infants, toddlers, preschool classrooms (in the preschool classroom, we made paper trees and decorated them).

Teen Baby Nursery story time: Total: 20 (14 children and 6 staff); 2 classes – infants and toddlers

Child Care Center of Evanston story time: Total: 58 (49 children and 9 staff); 5 classes – toddlers and preschool classrooms

LEAP: Total: 324 (261 children, 63 staff) 24 classrooms of 30

We started Construction Play Literacy toward the end of January. This unit is a favorite of many of the teachers and kids – creative and also challenging for the kids to move from two-dimensional planning to three-dimensional building. We will visit the remaining 6 classes on February 2.

- Laura – 14 classes, Kim – 10 classes, Brian – 6 classes, Jessica – 4 classes, Martha – 14 classes

Exploring STEAM w/Ms. Laura at JEH: Total: 32 (16 children, 14 adults, 2 staff)

I presented a math program. There were stations set up on 5 tables in the room and one on the floor: everyone circulated around the room and tried out each activity.

- Table 1: had bags with LEGOS and colored pattern sheets from 1-10: kids worked with their parents to match the pattern cards and put together LEGOS from 1-10;
- Table 2: held a large basket with random LEGOS and blank pattern sheets and crayons for kids to color and then match the LEGOS and count them;
- Table 3: had pattern sheets with geometric shapes and wooden craft sticks to make those shapes;
- Table 4: had colored pattern sheets and colored craft sticks for kids to match up;
- Table 5: had cardstock circles divided from with sections divided from 1-10 and corresponding numbers of circles. The kids colored the circles, glued the circles on cake rounds and the parents numbered clothespins from 1-10. The kids matched the clothespins to the correct number of circles.
- Floor: held 10 felt squares with numbers on each (1-10) and bean bags numbered 1-10. He kids tossed the correct bean bags on the felt squares.

I coordinate with J.C. Renteria and Xiomara Alfaro (Family Center Home Visiting) on STEAM programs. I plan the program and we all contribute materials. Both J.C. and Xiomara recruit families.

Each family took home the clothespins and circle activity as well as the geometric shapes and 10 craft sticks to use at home. This was a very successful program with families participating in every activity.

Comment from Drake's mom, Sam Baldina, a week after the program:

"Thank you! We loved the math STEAM program. Drake takes out the pattern sheets and craft sticks at home and makes the shapes when he needs to calm himself down."

PACT Activity at JEH: Total: 27 (14 children, 11 adults, 2 staff)

I read *The Mitten* by Jan Brett. The children and parents worked on coloring 2 mittens (glued to a small envelope) and the animals from the story in order for the kids to tell the story at home.

I work with J.C. Renteria to coordinate each PACT program – we share craft ideas and materials and get a diverse group of families for each of our programs.

Book Buddies at Reba Early Learning Center: Total: 82 (55 children, 7 staff, 20 NU students)

- We had 2 sessions of Book Buddies in January
- I bring 2 bags of books for use by the Book Buddies in the classroom; I read and sing with the children, they read with their NU Book Buddies and then do a craft.

Winter Words:

Although I had hoped to involve all 15 home providers in Winter Words this year, the start time was a little problematic – providers got back to me at various times and so I arranged for 10 to participate this

year. I delivered read logs and information sheets and will deliver book bags and a sorting activity in February.

Outreach/In-House Reach – School-Aged:

K-LEAP: Let's Play Post Office: Total: 88

We had two K-LEAP Post Office Play dates in January and they were very successful – we had a good number of families come and everyone had fun. We have two more dates in February.

Bessie Rhodes and Lincoln: Total: 45 (19 families)

Orrington and Willard: Total: 43 (17 families)

MLK Day Celebration: Celebration (speech & sing) Total: 90

Movie Total: 104 (49 first showing; 55 second showing)

As in past years, I prepared a drop in craft project; arranged for 2 showings of 2 short movies *Martin's Big Words* and *March on!*; arranged with Rev. Reeves' to come and speak his interpretation of Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* speech and asked Marlene Meyer to lead a short community sing.

Fleetwood K-1st Afterschool: Total: 9 (8 kids, 1 staff member)

I read books for MLK Day and the kids colored MLK portraits and made peace doves.

Fleetwood 2nd-3rd Grade Afterschool: Total: 9 (8 kids, 1 staff member)

The kids colored and made balancing robots.

Dawes Afterschool K-5th grade: Total: 18 (16 kids, 2 staff members)

I read books for MLK Day and the kids colored MLK portraits and made peace doves.

Washington Afterschool K-5th grade: Total: 19 (16 kids, 3 staff members)

I read books for MLK Day and the kids colored MLK portraits and made peace doves.

Oakton Afterschool K-5th grade: Total: 17 (15 kids, 2 staff members)

I read three books about owls/birds and the kids made simple machine owls.

Y.O.U. Elementary School Book Check-outs

Total: 160 kids 186 books checked out

Dawes Y.O.U.

I brought about 100 books for the kids to choose among. I set up books in a classroom; checked out new books and brought back the books they had checked out previously.

Total: 45 kids, 57 books

Oakton Y.O.U.

I brought about 100 books for the kids to choose among. I set up books all along the floor in the auditorium; checked out books and brought back the books they had checked out previously.

Total: 45 kids, 50 books

Washington Y.O.U.:

I brought about 90 books for the kids to choose among. I set up books on the bench in the hallway; checked out books and brought back the books they had checked out previously.

Total: 25 kids, 34 books

Walker Y.O.U.

I brought about 100 books for the kids to choose among. I set up books outside the auditorium; I checked out books and brought back the books they had checked out previously.

Total: 45 kids, 48 books

Other/Connections:

EC2C Community Literacy Design Team meetings:

We currently have 340 people signed up for text messages/emails and are moving ahead with our Talk Read Sing Community Campaign which we hope to launch in March. While EC2C is a lot of work for me, I do feel that it's valuable for the library to be involved with this initiative.

Monarch Award Committee:

I am finishing up reading the 50 books which will be presented at the New Lenox Public Library on February 11 (including the title that I will be presenting). This is the 2nd year of my 3 year term on the Monarch Award Committee.

Collection:

- Selected and ordered graphic novels for Children's Room collection
- Received and put out on the floor 12 new comics for the *Read It Here Comic Collection*

MLK Day Tour of Y.O.U. and Diverse Communities United:

Wynn Shawver and I took a tour of the new Y.O.U. space on Church Street and then attended Y.O.U.'s MLK program, Diverse Communities United. Their new space is really lovely and includes a state of the art kitchen and space behind the building to garden and grow vegetables. Their makerspace had no equipment but lots of plans for 3-D printing and other activities. The program was a series of short skits by different Y.O.U. sites—singing, dancing, poetry, etc. The library was listed as a partner and thanked in their program as was individual library staff who attended. Froilan Landeros, site director at Washington school, thanked me for coming as we were leaving

Summer Learning w/D65:

Jamila Pitts, Tracy Hubbard and I met to discuss plans for engaging about 120 rising 3rd grade students and their families this summer in EPL's Summer Reading Program. These students are not involved in any formal summer learning and we are working out three visits to the library over the summer to do Summer Reading check-ins as well as activities in the library. Tracy and I collaborated on a RAILS grant request to fund part of the teachers' stipends and transportation for families to the library.

ABC Boosters:

Nzinga West (YJC) and I met to talk about hiring this year and how to expand the program within the budget. We will have 15 teen Boosters at JEH and serve the 60 students who are there for the Jumpstart program in the summer. Additionally, I met with Lindsay Percival and Ann Rappelt at the

Child Care Center of Evanston as well as Tiffany Caston at Robert Crown to talk about the logistics of running ABC Boosters in other locations.

It looks very positive at the Child Care Center and we're looking at a different model this year utilize Boosters at the Child Care Center and Fleetwood. Given the census the last two years at Fleetwood and the reality of summers at a preschool setting, we realized that we the model might change in camps and preschools over the summer. We're hoping to pilot 2 intensive days a week at Fleetwood and 3 intensive days a week at the Child Care Center to see if we can achieve the same good results in that time frame. I will be meeting with Lara and Frances in early February to go over this different schedule and to talk about additional training for the ABC Booster interns who would travel to both locations. Both Nzinga and I are excited about this change and had the opportunity to run it by Karen Demorest while we met at YJC and she also was very positive about trying something new.

PACT Activity- JEH



PACT Activity- JEH



Exploring STEAM w/Ms. Laura at JEH - Math



Table1

Dawes Afterschool K-5th grade



Celebrating MLK - portraits & peace doves

Washington Afterschool K-5th grade



Celebrating MLK - portraits & peace doves

K-LEAP Let's Play Post Office



K-LEAP Let's Play Post Office



Caldecott Party



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration



Teen Services Highlights from Renee Neumeier include:

Staffing:

The full time library assistant position was upgraded to a Librarian I position and posted on 1/30. This position will be the point person for in house programming. In the future this position may also work on developing programming in the learning lab.

Usage and Program Attendance:

During January the Loft and the space outside the Loft has been packed with teens; especially during finals week. Teens have been coming to study or to take a break and relax. Video games remain popular and we've have new middle schoolers who come by to hang out in the space almost every day. We've had 20-40 students each day in the Loft this month.

While the space has been being used more than ever, our program attendance has not been going well. Many programs have had little to no attendance. We're working on thinking of new ways to promote these programs in the community and by word of mouth. We're also working with the Teen Advisory Board to come up with programs or projects that students are more interested in. One idea is to have specific DIY supplies available each month for a project that can be picked up at the desk. I am hoping once the new staff person starts this can be something we pursue. However, it may be that students have also been very busy during this month.

Programming:



Table Top Game Night:

Starting in January we started a weekly drop in table top game night on Mondays. This program has been a big success so far. Several teens take part and they get just as into the board games as they do the video games. Chess, checkers, UNO and Connect Four are the most popular games. We have been leaving chess out all the time and teens enjoy playing each other or taking on EPL staff. We're working on recruiting a volunteer for this program who can play with the teens or encourage them to try and new game out that that they may not have played before.

Community Engagement and Outreach:

Middle School YA Lit Fest:

The second annual Fest was a huge success! 115 middle school students attended. 12 authors volunteered their time to take part of the events. Two authors Skyped in and 10 came in person. They wrote all different genres and came from diverse backgrounds. Betsy Bird moderated the opening panel which focused on why adults can write for teens. For the bulk of the fest middle schoolers could pick from different 30 minute break out sessions ranging from "Alternate Endings" to upcoming graphic novels. At the end of the fest attendees got pizza and could have their books signed or their programs signed. We received tons of positive feedback from everyone! This was an excellent partnership between the D65 middle school/magnet school librarians, the Book Stall and EPL. Working together made it much easier to get things done and address issues that came up. Don, from Maintenance did an amazing job setting up the rooms for this event, which helped everything get off to a smooth start. We're looking forward to hosting this event again and expanding it once the Main Library is renovated.



Mock Printz Event:

For the past four years EPL has partnered with Haven, Nichols, Chute and Bessie Rhodes on a Mock Printz discussion and voting event for 8th graders. In the fall all of us work together to come up with a list of Print contenders. 8th graders need to read four of the books to be able to attend the event. In January all the 8th graders from the different schools (about 45 students)

come to EPL to hash things out. In small groups they talked about which character was the most original to whether or not diversity was a must have in a Printz title. Kefira Philippe (Nichols Librarian) talked about her experience on the Printz committee this past year and answered questions. We ate pizza and played a Kahoot! Trivia game; which the students loved. This is a great opportunity for 8th graders to read excellent books, but also to engage with students from other schools that they may have never met before, but might see again at ETHS.

Nichols Y.O.U. Program Visiting Loft

In January Y.O.U. started to bring 8-10 students to the Loft on Tuesday nights for a program. Liz Fuqua put together different challenges for the students to complete. For the month of January they used Little Bits for the challenges. The students have really enjoyed the challenges so far they have made things like alarms and flashlights. This is the first time Y.O.U. has brought students to the Loft during the school year on a regular basis.

Renee Neumeier/YA Services Supervisor's Personal Report:

Programming:

Middle School YA Lit Fest

- Put break out session schedule together
- Finalized information and schedule with authors
- Made room signs
- Finalized setup with maintenance
- Created and printed off tickets
- Helped run event

Spring Break:

- Finalized programming added more gaming tournaments, added to evanced

Summer

- Finalized most of summer programming put SRP doc and into evanced, will have movies every Friday, going to continue RPGs, First Look, will be starting Gender and Sexuality Alliance and will host Pride Party

Home School:

- Have been facilitating home school 90 second Newbery program with Eti Berland (volunteer)
- Students finished filming all of their remaining scenes in January, did a really awesome job. Will begin editing in February.

Community Engagement:

Chute:

- Met with Sherri Kushner to help her learn more about Arduinos and also discussed options for March art display

Belizian Grandparent/Teen Meeting:

- Lesley and I met with Audrey from COE and the leader of Family Focuses grandparent group and the Dr. Birdie Haggerty, who has partnered with EPL in the past
- Dr, Birdie is interested in running a program where teens and seniors will meet and interview each other, her goals are for teens and seniors to learn more about each other and see through stereotypes or stigmas they may have about each other

- I recommended that Dr. Birdie partners with Y.O.U. and connected her with Casey Varela at Y.O.U.

Mock Printz:

- Hosted and helped facilitate the event

Digital Literacy:

- Follow up mtg with D65 on computer classes with ELL families
- Attended Board Meeting, where group presented

Community Wide Read:

- Got partner letter signed for Big Read application for *Citizen*
- Worked with Heather to come up with alternative options for Wes Moore scheduled, communicated with schools and other community contacts about the change in events.
- Got 50 copies of the book to Y.O.U.
- Attended books discussion leader training
- Coordinated with Chute and Nichols Media Arts teachers on putting student art related to the themes in *The Other Wes Moore* in the 2nd floor gallery space during March.

Cradle to Career Literacy on Track Team:

- Took part in 2 early childhood educator interviews
- Facilitated meeting with design thinking team to develop tool for communication between early childhood educators and D65
- Share draft of form developed with D65
- Stepped off Literacy on Track committee to focus more on projects and programs directly related to teens.

Project Excite/D65 Camp

- Met with Kelley Rooney twice to begin developing curriculum for camps
- We decided that we're going to focus on electronics, first introducing the basics of electronics and then working our way into circuits and then pairing circuits with other devices that allow you to use different commands.
- We're going to have demonstrations, hands on activities, a larger end project, journaling, reading and discussion as part of each day

Nichols:

- Met with Nichol Nava and Lisa Reitman to discuss how to proceed with setting up Nichols Makerspace
- We're working with Meta Media to try and coordinate all three spaces and also MetaMedia and EPL staff will be offering programming at Nichols

EvanSTEM:

- Haven't been able to attend EvanSTEM meeting recently due to days of school and needing to cover the Loft desk.
- 5th Ware STEM fest has been moved in 4/22

Summer Reading:

- Signed contract with ReadSquared
- All PR was due 1/23
- Wrote up parts of PR with Jill Schacter

- Community Picnic event confirmed

Restructuring:

- Developed drafts of public desk forms with Heather Norborg
- Worked through tweaking the form during the Admin team meeting

Professional Development:

Google:

- Volunteered to be Google Champion for COE
- Got GSuite 2 weeks before rest of COE
- Attended trainings

Tinker:

- Met with other facilitators to discuss survey results
- Developing more templates and guidelines for presenters
- Planned out topics for 2017
- Contacted Science in Society to see if they would be interested in presenting on science programming, they agreed to present in April

Other:

- Led meeting focused on how we should select and maintain diverse materials in our collection, talked about getting more copies of books, resource to find materials etc.
- Taking part in 100 best childrens book committee, reading picture books, chapter books and board books, have been selecting chapter books that also appeal to middle school students
- Completed Liz and Kevin's evals and met with them
- Selected eBooks and eaudiobooks for My Media Mall
- Wrote book reviews for the blog
- Selected fiction/nonfiction/AV for Loft
- Weeded YA fiction, nonfiction and audiobook collection

Community Outreach highlights from Jill Skwerski includes:

- LifeSource Blood and Marrow Drive - We hosted yet another very successful drive, collecting 35 blood and 3 marrow donations. As a point of comparison, a similar drive held at a neighboring library resulted in 7 blood donations. Plans are underway for a summer drive.
- Regular visits to Jane Perelman Apartments, which is a HACC building located at 1900 Sherman, are picking up steam. I visit monthly with mobile library hour during which time residents can get library cards, checkout library materials, and learn about programs and services. This month, I saw 11 residents who checked out 14 items and issued 1 new card.
- Computer classes at Blake Manor and Primm Tower resumed. The structure of the class will change slightly as Eduardo Gomez, our new Tech Trainer, takes over weekly instruction in February. I will continue to visit monthly with mobile library services.
- January ended on a high note, as our new Latino Outreach Librarian, Miguel Ruiz joined EPL on 1/30. Miguel will bring his knowledge, expertise and fresh ideas to bear in his new role, specifically targeting services to Spanish speaking Evanstonians.

Neighborhood Services highlights from Connie Heneghan include:

PROGRAMS

WINTER BREAK ACTIVITIES AT THE BRANCHES

We continued our winter break activities including: Making Bird Feeders, STEAM Saturday: Arctic Animals and Snow Bingo.



CAMS BOOK GROUP

The following letter was sent to Bridget Petrites after the CAMS Book Group skyped with the author for the November meeting. This group continues to grow under Bridget's leadership.

Cams Book Group

Bridget Sweeney received this email from Jon Fasman author of The Geographer's Library, the CAMS December book discussion title.

From: Jon Fasman <jonfasman@gmail.com>
Date: December 6, 2016 at 4:43:56 AM CST
To: Bridget Petrites <bridgetpetrites@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: **Eternal gratitude**

Dear Bridget: Actually, I'm the one who owes you and your book group an immense debt of gratitude. You see, for the past six years I have hardly written any fiction at all. Part of that is because of the demands of my reporting job and family life. But the wind went out of my sails several years back after the book I mentioned failed to sell. I turned away from fiction writing--or rather I let myself be carried away from it by work and family.

Speaking with your book club reminded me that writing fiction can be a force for good: it can give people pleasure, bring them together and help them talk to each other. It has inspired me to work harder. If I do manage to finish my Burma book, it will be partly because of our talk this morning.

May I please ask you to share this note with the people who showed up this morning, and let them know how much I appreciate their having taken the time to read my book and speak with me?

As I said on Skype, I am moving back to the US this summer, and hope to visit Chicago in the autumn or winter. I will certainly let you know when I do.

Very best wishes -

Jon



Sign Language Group meets at CAMS on Mondays starting in January.



Weatherization Program provided by Citizens for a Greener Evanston and the Central Street Neighbors Association

MEETINGS

Visited **Foster Senior Group at Fleetwood-Jourdain** to check out and return books, audiobooks and DVDs. Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 (C Heneghan)

Central Street Neighbors Association board meeting, Jan 4 (C Heneghan)

Web Training with Dave Jordan, Jan. 5 (C Heneghan, B Petrites, K Little, R Surbrook, P Shapiro)

Community Conversation at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Jan. 10 (C Heneghan)

Summer Reading Meeting, Jan. 12 (C Heneghan)

Neighborhood Services Staff Meeting to finalize plans for Summer Reading and Spring Break, Jan. 12 (C Heneghan, B Sweeney, P Shapiro, N Engel, K Little, R Surbrook)

Admin Team, Jan. 12 (C Heneghan)

ESP Demonstration, Jan 12 (C Heneghan, N Engel, B Sweeney, K Little, P Shapiro)

Admin Team, Jan 12 & 26 (C Heneghan)

CCS Circ Meeting at Glenview Public Library to view Circulation Functions of Polaris, Jan. 13 (C Heneghan)

Ask Exercise at Robert Crown, Jan. 16-18 and 23-26 (C Heneghan, J Bojda, L Williams, J Skwerski, M Meyer)

Robert Crown Planning, Jan. 17 (C Heneghan)

Library Board Meeting for presentation on Digital Literacy, Jan. 18 (C Heneghan)

PAS (CCS) Meeting at Niles Public Library to view Readers Advisor Functions of Polaris, Jan. 19 (C Heneghan)

Visited the St. Athanasius Book Group to bring copies of The Other Wes Moore and tell them about some of the **Evanston Reads** programs, Jan. 19 (C Heneghan)

Gmail Webinar, Jan 20 (C Heneghan)

Directors and Managers Meeting at the Civic Center Jan. 24 (C Heneghan)

Floor Wardens with Division Chief Pat Novak, Jan. 24 (C Heneghan)

Collection HQ demonstration by Betsy Beyer, Jan. 26 (C Heneghan, B Petrites, K Little, N Engel, P Shapiro)

Senior Spelling Bee Planning Meeting, Jan. 27 (Barb Levie, C Heneghan)

Adult Services highlights include:

- As we continued to look for ways to connect with new adults, Ben Remsen hosted:

The League of Graphic Novel Readers will read What It Is by Lynda Barry. It asks, how do objects summon memories? What do real images feel like? These are the questions posed by this innovative exploration of the creative process..

- Our partnership with Northwestern University's Middle East North African Studies program continues to provide topics of interest. We welcomed 130 community members to:

Evanston Public Library and Northwestern University's Middle East and North African Studies (MENA) present the latest in our continuing series of lectures regarding the culture, politics, religion, and society of the Middle East and North Africa. This evening, Professor Bassam Haddad will examine US policy toward the Middle East at a critical juncture in the region's history, with an emphasis on cases in which the United States is directly involved. He will draw on a decades-long history of US relations with the region and will address the prospects for US Middle East policy under a Trump administration.

Bassam Haddad is Director of the Middle East and Islamic Studies Program and Associate Professor at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. He is the author of *Business Networks in Syria: The Political Economy of Authoritarian Resilience* (2011) and co-editor of *The Dawn of the Arab Uprisings: End of an Old Order?* (2012) and *Critical Voices* (2015).

He is Executive Director of the Arab Studies Institute, Founding Editor of the Arab Studies Journal, and Editor of Jadaliyya (<http://www.jadaliyya.com/>). He was co-producer/director of the award-winning documentary film About Baghdad. He serves on the Board of the Arab Council for the Social Sciences and is Executive Producer of Status Audio Journal.

My thanks to Dr. Brian T. Edwards and the MENA team for this partnership with EPL and to Lorena Neal for her continued work with me on the logistics of producing our MENA Mondays.

Technical Services highlights from Tim Longo include:

Here is the Tech Services Report for January 2017.

Items Added

Adult at Main=1183
Adult at North=45
Adult at CAMS=21
Total adult items=1249

Juvenile at Main=1295
Juvenile at North=97
Juvenile at CAMS=15

Total juv items=1407

YA at Main=323
YA at North=54
YA at CAMS=8

Total YA items=385

Total items added to collection in January=3041

January 2017

Carts Ordered:

Carts Ordered:

- Titlesource 360:

Evanston RW Adult Fiction: 6253.09
Evanston RW Adult Nonfiction: 17694.30
Evanston PL Fiction- Mystery & Detective: 1967.21
Fantasy: 1182.33
Poetry: 178.15
Romance: 649.93
Urban: 79.69
Main AY Fiction: 2793.41
Main AY Nonfiction: 204.44
Popular Paperbacks: 78.44
Poly: 2789.39
Rotary: 349.33
Travel: 1705.43
Non-CLS Purchases: 2219.61
Non-CLS Most Wanted: 413.93
Most Wanted: 1870.41
North: 3317.96
Adult Re-Order: 710.33
Misc: 6603.10
Staff Purchases:

- Amazon: 523.33
- Overdrive: 4,784.41

Patron Requests:

Received 16 patron book requests for the month of January. Will purchase 13 of the titles suggested.

Received 4 patron eBook requests for the month of January. Will purchase 4 of the titles suggested.

Received 5 patron audiobook requests for the month of January. Will purchase 1 of the titles suggested.

Donations:

Adult Gift Books Added to the Collection: 159 (55 were Chinese donations)

Adult Gift CDs Added to the Collection: 19

Grubby Books Replaced by Gift Books: 37

Grubby Audiobooks Replaced by Gift Audiobooks: 2

Local Authors Added to the Collection: – 3

- Joanna Kurowska (Intricacies)
- "Marco Polo" by Anita Koester (a recent winner of EPL's Hirshfield Poetry contest) Here's a link to where the book can be order -- <http://www.hermeneuticchaospress.com/marco-polo.html>
- "Memory of a Girl" by Aozora Brockman (a fairly recent NU grad with long-term connections to Evanston and the poetry scene). Here's the link -- <http://backbonepress.org/chapbooks/>

Weeding:

Books Sent to Repair: 27

Audiobooks Sent to Repair: 2

Most Wanted Titles Weeded: 38

Most Wanted Titles Added to the Circ Collection: 12

Damaged Books Weeded: 268

CDs Weeded: 3

Audiobooks Weeded: 1

Additional Old Travel and Test Books Pulled: 11

Old Editions of New Books on Standing Orders Pulled: 7

Books Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc. : 13

Audiobooks Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 5

CD-ROMs Sent to be Relabeled, Cataloged, etc.: 1

Lost Books Replaced: 12

Weeding Outdated 2013 Travel Titles

Weeded: 78

Weeding Plan for Nonfiction (000s)

Missing: 81
Weeded: 331

Weeding Plan for Nonfiction (100s)

Missing: 85
Weeded: 716

Weeding Plan for Nonfiction (200s)

Missing: 4
Weeded: 121

Displays

1/1 – First Floor: 2017 Health and Wellness
1/1-1/15 – Second Floor (Front) : Remembering Carrie Fisher
1/10-1/29 – Second Floor (Front): Winter Books
1/30- Second Floor (Front): Books by Writers from the 7 Countries Trump Has Banned
1/1-1/10 – Second Floor (Back): Judge a Book By Its Cover
1/10-1/31 – Second Floor (Back): Future Books

Staff Display:
January - Lorena

Meetings:

1/11 – Betsy met with selection staff members at Renee’s urging to discuss diverse collections. Traded ideas and sources. Renee will be providing the minutes of the meeting.
1/12 – Betsy met with selection staff to show how to work ESP. Tim led the Library Admin Team meeting
1/13- Tim met with the EPL Cataloger Team. Tim at conference call with ETHS in regards to mobile hotspots.
1/16-Tim at EPL Restructuring Team meeting
1/18 - Tim and Betsy at Evidence-Based Selection Planning February 2017 Upgrade web meeting.
1/19-1/22 – Betsy attended ALA Midwinter Conference. Meetings found in attachment.
1/24- Tim at EPL floor warden training
1/26 – Betsy met with North Branch staff and trained them on Collection HQ
Also met and trained two members of Renee’s staff on how to use Collection HQ
1/27- Tim at Illinois Sirsi Dynix User Group meeting

Volunteer Services update from Mary Kling includes:

- Interviewed 10 volunteers
- Checked references of six volunteers
- Received requests for additional volunteers from Staff (Children’s, Books on Wheels, Circulation, Admin, Free Book Distribution)

- Placed new volunteers in Books on Wheels, Admin, Free Book Distribution
- Monitored Volunteer Evanston website for referrals and verification of hours logged by volunteers
- Attended quarterly meeting of CALVAN at Skokie Public Library
- Compiled volunteer hours for 2016
- Met with 11 current volunteers
- Participated in Volunteer Management Webinar
- Updated volunteer information in Raiser’s Edge

Volunteer Hours:			
Assignment:	2015	2016	
AbleNet	0	165	
Board of Trustees	404	400	
Book Sale	4320	4704	
Books on Wheels	200	195	
CAMS	957	888	
Children's	306	401	
Circulation (includes Concierge)	2206	3115	
Community Organizations Maintenance	30	40	includes data transfer to website
Computer Drop-in	100	143	
Court-mandated Community Service	60	38	
Development	875	653	
Donated materials sorting	0	330	
Flyer Delivery	52	18	
Free Book Delivery	420	638	
Free Book Packers	208	163	
Fund For Excellence Committee	230	250	
North Branch	2325	1936	
NU Groups	88	94	
Periodicals	12	40	
Plant Care	8	63	
Readers of Evanston	113	125	
Rotary International	26	0	
Single Events	18	68	

Storytelling Festival	257		178	
Summer Festivals	20		8	
Surveys	16		32	includes data entry post-survey
Tech Help w/Seniors	15		0	
Tech Services	542		458	
The Loft	280		504	
United Way	18		0	
Volunteer Coordinator	98		0	no longer volunteer opp
Weeding	51		16	
TOTAL HOURS	14204		15663	

Upcoming events of note:

- We are pleased to welcome Michael Berns, Brian Cox, and Roland Lieber as the next featured artists in our ongoing exhibition series Local Art @ EPL. Their striking photography exhibit is currently on display on the 2nd floor of EPL’s Main library where you can catch it through the end of February.
- Friday, February 17, 2017 – 10:00am
Bring your infant, 1 or 2 year old to our popular sing - a - long story time, this time at Gibbs-Morrison Cultural Center at 1823 Church Street, followed by free play. First Slice Pie is located at Gibbs-Morrison and they sell lunch and/or pie after The Young and the Restless ends.
- Wednesday, February 15, 2017 – 7:00pm
The History Book Discussion Group will read The Pope and Mussolini: The Secret History of Pious XI and the Rise of Fascism in Europe, by David I. Kertzer. A joint biography, based on access to newly opened archives, this book challenges the conventional history of the Catholic Church’s relationship to fascism’s emergence. Winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Biography.

Excerpts from patron feedback:

Subject: Re: Eternal gratitude

Dear Bridget: Actually, I'm the one who owes you and your book group an immense debt of gratitude. You see, for the past six years I have hardly written any fiction at all. Part of that is because of the demands of my reporting job and family life. But the wind went out of my sails several years back after the book I mentioned failed to sell. I turned away from fiction writing--or rather I let myself be carried away from it by work and family.

Approved April 19, 2017

Speaking with your book club reminded me that writing fiction can be a force for good: it can give people pleasure, bring them together and help them talk to each other. It has inspired me to work harder. If I do manage to finish my Burma book, it will be partly because of our talk this morning.

May I please ask you to share this note with the people who showed up this morning, and let them know how much I appreciate their having taken the time to read my book and speak with me?

As I said on Skype, I am moving back to the US this summer, and hope to visit Chicago in the autumn or winter. I will certainly let you know when I do.

Very best wishes -

Jon

Sent from my iPhone

From Martha Meyer

Dear Martha and all,

I just wanted to say Thank you and Congratulations on such a great success of the New Year celebration! I deeply appreciate your effort in making this happen for the Chinese community in Evanston, this means a lot to us. And congratulations on such a great turn out! We had a lot of fun and this is a great way to kick off the new year!!

Thank you,

Jieda, Emma and Family

||

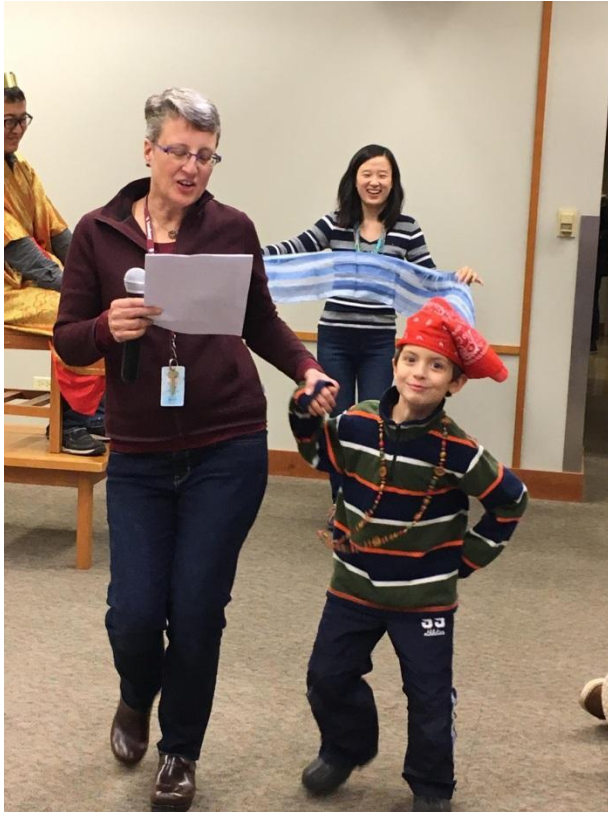
Hi Martha.

Hope the message finds you well.

I apologize for not showing up for the event. I heard a lot of good things about it and congratulations on another big success. And I know many Chinese families enjoyed the event very much....

Thanks again for keeping me in the loop for the events. I feel so proud of you and Jessica and always appreciate your kindness to our Chinese community.

Best regards,
Wendy



Martha Meyer, the narrator of the English side of the *Rooster and the Dragon, a Chinese Folk Tale*, assisting rooster with his strutting along the river near where Dragon was swimming.



Jessica Iverson and Martha Meyer, the organizers of Chinese New Year, flanking Dr. Yang's daughter who did a traditional dance for the 123 participants in the Chinese New Year program.

2. **Thanks for service with the Park School Community:**

Sad news	
	Jan 29
Donna Murphy <murphyd@district65.net>	

Martha,
I wanted you to know of the passing of my student Kyra on 1.20.17.
She enjoyed her library trips and your readings. Attached is a picture of you reading to her and the class which I included in a photo album I made for her family after her death. You have not seen Kyra recently because she has been ill and homebound since the midway point of the last school year. She received homebound tutoring from us throughout this time.
What you do for our students is of great value.

Thank you,
Donna

Picture of me singing with Kyra about a year before her death:



From Andi Altenbach, filed under kids say the darndest things:

When we were almost to the end of the day on a Sunday, a dad was trying to coax his son (around 4) to leave the play area and explaining that the library was closing. When the little boy saw me walking by as I was cleaning up, he said, "But where will the librarians go???"