Prairie River Library District

Strategic Plan
2020-2022

Approved by the Board of Trustees November 26, 2019
Preface

The Prairie-River Library District is comprised of small-town libraries in Nez Perce, Idaho and Lewis counties and is a partner in the Valnet consortium, sharing resources and technology with libraries in north-central Idaho and south-east Washington.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Prairie-River Library District is to provide appropriate materials, resources, and staff to meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the patron. Toward that end, the staff of the Prairie-River Library District will endeavor to provide prompt, friendly service with courtesy and respect to all.

Strategies and Goals

Access and Awareness

- Review and seek methods to further expand branch hours to improve patron access.
- Explore ways to provide services to patrons outside of library spaces and hours.
- Increase the percentage of patrons with library cards within the district.
- Improve and standardize marketing of the library through a variety of promotional mediums and social media.

Collections

- Support literacy, the arts and STEAM education in all forms and iterations.
- Purchase materials across formats that are relevant to community needs and interests.
- Perform ongoing collection development and maintenance according to established policy.
- Invest in electronic formats such as eBooks and eAudiobooks to meet the growing patron demand.

Community Impact

- Ensure district branches are vibrant and welcoming gathering places for their communities.
- Assist district branches in recognizing the unique needs of every community served.
- Engage the Nimiiipuu people and devise strategies to connect library services with tribal members.
- Support early literacy and school readiness initiatives within communities.
Growth and Development

- Implement a full range of staff support and professional development.
- Contribute staff time to supporting the Valnet consortium and its operations.
- Increase library support through the Board of Trustees, friends of the library groups, volunteers, etc.
- Partner with city councils and friends of the library groups to update and improve facilities as opportunities arise.

Integrity

- Provide equitable and honest services to all patrons and actively listen to feedback.
- Provide patrons with up-to-date and unbiased knowledge, resources and tools to help inform decisions.
- Maintain patron privacy, confidentiality and intellectual freedom.
- Ensure sustainability through a judicious stewardship of finances and resources.

Lifelong Learning

- Offer programming and outreach that responds to needs and creates meaningful experiences.
- Provide services that support academic success, career readiness and life.
- Incorporate multi-generational features into service, program and outreach design.
- Build connections and maintain collaborative partnerships with local and state service providers; local schools and pre-schools, community resource and senior citizen centers, Nez Perce Tribe, Idaho Commission for Libraries, Idaho Humanities Council, etc.

Technology and Innovation

- Explore automated options to improve the patron experience.
- Enhance the range of products offered on branch public computers and devices.
- Introduce tools for staff that strengthen their ability to meet library goals and patron needs.
- Design an equipment replacement schedule to ensure technology is routinely kept up-to-date.