

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Library Advisory Board

**FROM:** Dennis Quinn, Director of Library Services

**DATE:** Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**SUBJECT:** August Director's Report

Greetings Board members! Our August meeting will be held next Thursday evening, August 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the Meeting Rooms at the Library.

The topic of the month is our recently-completed season of summer activities and programs, including our annual Summer Reading Challenge. In many ways, summer is one of the highlights of the year for public libraries, as we support learners of all ages in staying engaged. This year's reading challenge saw higher participation than any year on record at the Cozby Library, with over 5,000 reading logs distributed, over 1,200 free books given away as 10-day reading prizes, and over 800 entries for the grand prizes. I reported in June that our kickoff party had the highest attendance of any summer with approximately 400 attendees, and now can say the same for our closing party on July 30<sup>th</sup>, which drew an estimated 650 attendees.

Amidst the bustle of summer activities, staff have also been hard at work on various efforts related to facility maintenance and service access. Several shelves on the east side of the main library area were shifted in order to achieve ADA-compliant spacing. One of the circular wall alcoves in the Toddler Zone was repaired and refurnished. Staff have worked with the City's Facilities team and the City's contracted HVAC company on several adjustments to the Library's HVAC system for better temperature and humidity regulation. An additional coin/bill acceptor has been installed in the document center, to better accommodate multiple simultaneous users in that service area, and also to minimize service impact due to depletion of change coinage. Staff have made adjustments to the Library's program/room reservation platform to improve the accuracy of space availability.

Our cloudLibrary consortia group (cloudLink) continues to grow, which provides more access to eBooks and eAudiobooks for our residents. We currently have over 60 member libraries who have joined, representing communities from all over Texas. The entire collection now numbers over 222,000 shareable items, consisting of approximately 156,000 eBooks and 66,500 eAudiobooks. The estimated worth of the collection is over \$3.1 million.

Lastly, the hiring process is currently underway for the Library's vacancies in the roles of Teen Librarian and Library Clerk. Applications will be accepted through August 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **Workload Indicators**

Visitor count in June and July has been the highest since the pandemic, and comparable to an average pre-pandemic month.

Summer is also one of the seasons the Library typically sees an increase in new visitors. Staff has been glad to welcome newcomers to the Cozby Library and to the Coppell community in general, and to guide them in navigating and using the library's services. This can be seen in an increase in new account signups and staff-customer interactions.

More detailed statistics will be provided by the time of our meeting next Thursday.

## **Programs and Events**

Aside from the summer reading challenge, June and July saw the return of many long-time favorite summer performers and presenters, including the Dallas Zoo, KidsNotes, and James Wand.

Craft program attendees tried their hand at metal foil art, crocheting, painted mason jars, yarn wrapping and more. Elementary and Middle schoolers used Minecraft and Roblox to explore principles of game design, coding, development, and 3-D modeling. Teens continued exploring a variety of "adulting" topics such as personal finance, college preparation, and situational awareness. The Friends of the Coppell Public Library sponsored a class on growing cacti and succulents, led by Gina Woods, a Dallas County Master Gardener.

The Library also served as the location for a series of City Council Budget Workshops in June and Youth Allies meetings in July.

While regular weekly and monthly programs continue, the August program calendar is typically less busy than June or July, as many students and families direct their attention toward the upcoming school year. A "Campout" Family Storytime will be held in the Town Center Plaza next Tuesday (August 9<sup>th</sup>) at 6:30, with a Family Game Night in the Library the following evening, August 10<sup>th</sup>. Educational classes for adults and seniors will cover topics such as parenting, mindfulness, optimizing your home Wi-Fi network, and brush calligraphy. The Library is hosting an exhibit of works by a local artist, Meera Thamaran, through the month of August.

## **Agenda Overview**

- Minutes: The Board will consider approval of the minutes of June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.
- Amended Policy Guidelines: The Board will review and consider approval of amendments to the Library's policy guidelines governing reservation and use of the Library Meeting Rooms, Conference Room, Business Center, and Study Rooms.
- Six Questions: The Board will have an opportunity to discuss

- Reports: The Board will receive reports from Youth Advisors, Board members, and the Friends of the Coppel Public Library.

### **Library Board Goals & Objectives**

1. Participate in the implementation of the strategic plan
  - a. When needed, recruit volunteers to assist with programs or Library services
  - b. Identify potential community partners
2. Support and promote the Friends of the Coppel Public Library
3. Promote the Library by active individual participation in Library programs, outreach and community events
  - a. Attend Library Programs and Council meetings
  - b. Represent the Library Board at City and civic events
  - c. Actively use social media to market Library activities

### **OUR VISION**

*The Cozby Library and Community Commons is the heart of the community where citizens are empowered to Imagine, Discover, Engage and Achieve in an environment that cultivates curiosity, collaboration and creativity.*

### **OUR MISSION**

*We serve our community by helping our citizens develop their talents, acquire knowledge, embrace their passions, and fulfill their dreams*