

Belleville Area District Library Board
Regular Meeting Agenda
December 12, 2023 at 7:30 PM

The Belleville Area District Library Board will meet in person in the library's 2nd floor Conference Room.

Agenda:

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Cichewicz, Fleming, Hughes-Grubbs, Juriga, Peters, Priest, Stoudemire
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve November 14, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes
5. Public Comments
6. Approve 2024 Regular Board Meeting Dates
7. Approve 2024 BADL Closure Dates
8. Committee Reports
 - A. Building-Cichewicz
 - B. Bylaws-Juriga
 - C. Finance-Stoudemire
 - D. Marketing-Hughes-Grubbs
 - E. Personnel-Priest
 - F. Policy-Fleming
 - G. Art
9. Approve Accounts Payable
10. Director's Report/Comments/Communications
11. Trustee Comments
12. Chair Comments
13. Adjournment

Any citizen wishing to provide input or ask questions about any agenda item may speak during the meeting's Public Comments section or forward comments to the Library Director in advance by leaving a message at 734-699-3291 or via the Contact Us link at www.belleville.lib.mi.us. Any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting may contact the library at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, using the above contact information.

Next Regular BADL Board Meeting: January 9, 2024, at 7:30 PM

**Belleville Area District Library
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** The following board members were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Alma Hughes-Grubbs, John Juriga, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest, and Tanya Stoudemire. Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy.
3. **Approve Agenda:**
Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Priest, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Approve October 10, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Juriga, to approve the October 10, 2023, minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Public Comments:** Don Sherman introduced himself. He has been an automotive journalist and would like to donate his 900+ collection of automotive, motorcycle and motor sport books to the library. He wishes to donate the entire collection and for the books to all be shelved in one convenient location with a plaque.
6. **Committee Reports**
 - A. **Building:** The library's analog phone lines are partially working. Dean Kokkales is in touch with the lighting manufacturer regarding ordering a new flagpole light fixture and/or replacement parts for the existing fixture.
 - B. **Bylaws:** No report.
 - C. **Finance:** Stoudemire reported that the first quarter budget to actual report shows that the library is under budget.
 - D. **Marketing:** No report.
 - E. **Personnel:** Will meet soon regarding the director's evaluation.
 - F. **Policy:** No report.
 - G. **Art:** Michele Montour presented the rotating art schedule for 2024-2025. She reported on the incident where one piece of art from the BACA exhibit was vandalized and an item stolen.
7. **Approve Accounts Payable:** Motion by Stoudemire, seconded by Cichewicz, to approve the accounts payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
8. **Director's Report:** See attached.
9. **Trustee Comments:**
Stoudemire – Congratulated Mary Jo on being a Grand Marshal at the Winterfest Parade.

Hughes-Grubbs – Also congratulated Mary Jo. Commented on the outstanding state of the community event that she attended.

Cichewicz – Went to the Friends' book sale and they were hopping.

Priest – Glad the library is doing cookies and hot chocolate for Winterfest.

Juriga – Was happy that the community recognized Mary Jo with the Grand Marshal honor.

Fleming – Looks forward to seeing Mary Jo in the parade. Is happy to have the full board present.

10. Chair Comments:

Peters – Wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

11. Adjournment:

Motion by Juriga, seconded by Priest to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Belleville Area District Library Board 2024 Meeting Dates

The Belleville Area District Library Board meets in the library's 2nd floor conference room on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm. (The Board will meet virtually if any state or local COVID indoor gathering restrictions are in effect).

The 2024 meeting dates are as follows:

January 9, 2024

February 13, 2024

March 12, 2024

April 9, 2024

May 14, 2024

June 11, 2024

July 9, 2024

August 13, 2024

September 10, 2024

October 8, 2024

November 12, 2024

December 10, 2024

(Notices of special meetings will be posted at least 18 hours prior to any special meetings).

Belleville Area District Library
167 Fourth Street
Belleville MI 48111
(734-699-3291)

**Belleville Area District Library
2024 Closed Dates**

Monday, Jan. 1: New Year's Day

Monday, January 15: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Sunday, March 31: Easter

Monday, April 29: (Staff Training Day)

Monday, May 27: Memorial Day

Thursday, July 4: Independence Day

Monday, Sept. 2: Labor Day

Monday, Nov. 11: Veteran's Day

Thursday, Nov. 28: Thanksgiving

Friday, Nov. 29: Thanksgiving

Tuesday, Dec. 24: Christmas

Wednesday, Dec. 25: Christmas

Tuesday, Dec 31: New Year's Eve

Belleville Area District Library

Date: 12/04/2023

Time: 10:51 AM

Page: 1

Operating:

Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Description	Amount
11/14/2023	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Supplies	354.13
11/14/2023	APPLIED INNOVATION	Printer/Copier Usage	790.36
11/14/2023	BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICH	Dental	989.16
11/14/2023	CITY OF BELLEVILLE	Water & Sewage	174.21
11/14/2023	CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS	Fax Service	293.36
11/14/2023	DC LAWN & SNOW	Lawn Service 10/5-11/2	260.00
11/14/2023	DEMCO	Office Supplies	99.38
11/14/2023	DTE ENERGY	Gas/Electric Sumpter	158.82
11/14/2023	FBH ARCHITECTURAL SECURITY, IN	Electronic Key Cards	415.00
11/14/2023	JENNIFER RICHARDSON	ALA Dues Reimbursement	130.00
11/14/2023	KELLY SKINNER	Program Supplies	72.83
11/14/2023	LINDSAY LORE	PLA Conference Registration	547.00
11/14/2023	NIKKI PICKERAL	Program Supplies	61.47
11/14/2023	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	Office & Building Supplies	1,214.28
11/14/2023	T-MOBILE	21 lines mobile internet	7,232.40
11/14/2023	UNIFIRST CORP	Maintenance/Mats	143.32
11/14/2023	UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES INC	October Placements	145.80
11/14/2023	UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE	Newsletter Postage	2,000.00
11/14/2023	WASTE MANAGEMENT OF MI, INC	Dumpster Service	418.50
11/14/2023	CITY OF BELLEVILLE	Sewer Repair	4,628.00
11/28/2023	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Books & Supplies	302.50
11/28/2023	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Books	193.16
11/28/2023	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Books	100.67
11/28/2023	DTE ENERGY	Electric Service 4th St	2,922.49
11/28/2023	DTE ENERGY	Gas/ Sumpter	630.71
11/28/2023	ENVISIONWARE, INC	Fax Overage	42.75
11/28/2023	FRIENDS OF THE BELLEVILLE AREA	October Payout	1,329.20
11/28/2023	GA BUSINESS PURCHASER LLC	Alarm Service Sumpter	49.05
11/28/2023	LINDSAY LORE	ALA Membership	79.00
11/28/2023	METCOM, INC	Pens	998.80
11/28/2023	NATIONAL TIME AND SIGNAL	Fire Alarm Battery Replacement	620.16
11/28/2023	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	Building Supplies	391.63
11/28/2023	OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY	Maintenace Service 12/23-2/24	1,202.04
11/28/2023	PIONEER LANDSCAPING AND LAWN	Library Weeding	350.00
11/28/2023	RICHARD'S PLUMBING & HEATING	Plumbing Repair Sumpter & Main	775.00
11/28/2023	SHARON DUCKWORTH, CPA	Accounting Services	1,025.00
11/28/2023	STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY	Long/Short Term Disability Plan	635.91
11/28/2023	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	Oct Bookbilling	20,706.97
11/28/2023	UNITED HEALTHCARE	Health Insurance	15,789.35
39	Checks Total:		68,272.41
39	Bank Total:		68,272.41
39	Grand Total:		68,272.41

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

December 2023

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

November: Adults: 12 Youth: 18

LIBRARY VISITS	2023/24	2022/23	% change
November	10,152	9,090	11.68%
Fiscal Year	58,782	51,743	13.60%

TOTAL CIRC	2023/24	2022/23	% change
November	20,464	20,047	2.08%
Fiscal Year	108,666	108,215	0.42%

ADULT PROGRAMMING	2023/24	2022/23	% change
November	130	137	-5.11%
Fiscal Year	539	611	-11.78%

YOUTH/TEEN PROGRAMMING	2023/24	2022/23	% change
November	371	274	35.40%
Fiscal Year	1,942	1,512	28.44%

ALL AGES PROGRAMMING: November: 0 Fiscal Year: 450

REF. QUESTIONS	2023/24	2022/23	% change
November	1,523	1,405	8.40%
Fiscal Year	8,185	7,492	9.25%

INTERNET USE	2023/24	2022/23	% change
November	833	937	-11.10%
Fiscal Year	5,290	4,794	10.35%

YOUTH/TEEN INTERNET	2023/24	2022/23	% change
November	249	183	36.07%
Fiscal Year	1,469	887	65.61%

BUILDING: The library's analog phone lines are all finally working.

A new flagpole light fixture is on order as well as a spare glass cover for any future issues.

DONATION: I consulted with our adult services librarians regarding Don Sherman's generous offer of his automotive collection to our library. We informed him that we would not be able to accept his entire collection, but we would be willing to evaluate it for specific titles that we could add to our library. I also gave him contact information for the Benson Ford Research Center and the Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum. We further discussed having him do a library program for us, as he possesses a wealth of automotive history and knowledge.

PROGRAMMING: Winterfest was a great success! Kids enjoyed cookies and hot cider at the library before the parade and a visit from Santa after the parade. The library staff marched as characters from *A Christmas Carol*, complete with the ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future!

YOUTH SERVICES: Our "farm market" that the youth services department set up for Harvest Fest has been transformed into the Belleville Bakery. When I substitute at the children's reference desk, I have seen first hand how well this active play area is being used. Many children run right past the computers to go play in this area. They are learning colors and numbers as well as how to cooperate with others. Parents and grandparents interact with their kids, and we even have a tutor who uses this area to teach addition and subtraction. For more information, I have attached an article about dramatic play in the library as well as a photo of our play station.

STAFF: The library welcomes back Claire Castle as a library intern. Claire was a circulation clerk who left us last spring. She has begun her Masters' degree in Library and Information Science at Wayne State University. Interviews are also underway for a Library Assistant, and the Library Monitor position has been posted. Circulation Department Head Lindsay Lore is also beginning her MLIS at Wayne State this January.

Play at the Library

October 20, 2022 | By: Communications Staff

By Kara Pauley

Families with young children who visit the library may have noticed that there are many ways to play—from the play areas to imaginative activities in Storytime. Why are the librarians at the St. Joe County Public Library so focused on play? It is one of the most powerful ways that children learn to read.

But play does so much more than that. According to a [School Readiness Presentation Paper](#) by the Bay Area Discovery Museum, play helps children prepare for school and beyond by helping them build high-concept and critical thinking skills (math and science) as well as social-emotional skills. Coming out of the pandemic (or at least the phase of self-isolation), children are in more need of play experiences than ever before.

Though children may have their own toys at home, engagement with others is critical for rich play experiences that expand vocabulary, challenge their thinking, and develop social skills. Children especially need to play with other children, not just their parents or even their siblings. Learning to play with a new friend puts a child in a situation to gain empathy for someone they don't know. It can also give a child the experience of working through tough emotions when things don't go their way or practicing self-control when they need to share a toy.

Two key types of play are dramatic play and constructive play. In dramatic play, children are taking on different roles they see in everyday life and modeling their actions after adults. According to Will Erstad from [Rasmussen University](#), dramatic play supports self-regulation, conflict-resolution, and literacy development. Through this kind of play, children are doing more than playing pretend, they are learning to identify objects and get along with others.

Constructive play revolves around building with objects, such as blocks, and goes through several stages. Although constructive play nurtures STEM skills, it also has a profound effect on language. In a paper written for the [Association for the Library Services to Children](#), Sue McCleaf Nespeca says, "Children are deciding what to build and selecting different sizes and shapes of blocks, but also are communicating with their peers and with adults."

Over the past year, the library has taken steps to create diverse play experiences for families. One of the most notable is the special play area at Main Library called Tiny Town—a play village that includes a cafe, a car shop, a market, and an animal rescue. These shops are filled with toys and props children will need to interact and role

play. Many families return several days a week or stay for several hours, and children have plenty of opportunities to make new friends and learn to coexist in the play space.

The library also has self-contained Playtime programs. Playtime is an opportunity for parents and children to engage in reciprocal play (playing collaboratively) which is one of the most effective ways that children make connections and build critical thinking skills. Since Tiny Town focuses heavily on dramatic play (role playing, modeling, and pretending), often STEM toys are brought out for Playtime. However, we also have dedicated toys for dramatic play during Playtime, such as baby dolls. It is amazing how something as simple as a doll sparks the imagination.

In Storytimes and other programming, we are always thinking about play and the ways that we can incorporate it. We like to lean on guided play, which means that we will facilitate, but we want children to make their own choices about how they will accomplish a craft, challenge, or activity. Come and see what we have in store for you and your child to engage together in meaningful plays that are sure to become treasured memories.

Kara Pauley is the Early Literacy Librarian at the St. Joe County Public Library. Her areas of expertise include storytime instruction, exploratory play, and inclusive programming and services for children with disabilities. Check out some of her favorite books to read for Storytime.

Sources

Erstad, Will. "6 Reasons Why Dramatic Play Matters." Rasmussen University. May 2022. <https://www.rasmussen.edu/degrees/education/blog/why-dramatic-play-matters/>

Nespeca, Sue McCleaf. "The Importance of Play, Particularly Constructive Play, in Public Library Programming." *Association for Library Services to Children*. September 2012. https://www.ala.org/alsc/sites/ala.org.alsc/files/content/Play_formatted.pdf

Rood, Elizabeth Ed.D. and Helen Hadani, Ph.D. *Reimagining School Readiness*. Bay Area Discovery Museum. <https://bayareadiscoverymuseum.org/resources/educator-resources/library-toolkit>



www.everylibraryinstitute.org/parent_perception_librarians_released

Parent Perception of Librarians Survey Results Released



Parent Perceptions of Librarians Survey 2023

[Donate](#)

The EveryLibrary Institute, a public policy think tank for libraries, and Book Riot, the largest independent editorial book site in North America, announce the results of a comprehensive survey of parents about their perceptions of librarians.

November 28, 2023

The "[Public Libraries and Book Bans - Parent Perception Survey](#)" gathered insights from 1,527 parents and guardians with children under 18 in two surveys during October and November 2023. The surveys asked parents and guardians about their perception of librarians' trustworthiness as professionals and curators of a library collection. The results are detailed in a new report from EveryLibrary Institute and Book Riot.

Top-level findings are:

- An impressive 92% of parents, grandparents, and guardians trust librarians to curate appropriate books and materials.

- 90% of parents report being comfortable allowing their child to select their own materials and 96% feel their children are safe within the library.
- 83% agree that librarians know what books children would love; 77% agree that librarians are friendly and approachable; 77% agree that librarians make the library a place for fun and creativity; and 85% agree that librarians support children's learning.
- 91% of parents and guardians say that they trust public librarians and 86% find school librarians trustworthy.
- Parents are of mixed opinion on whether they think public librarians have a political agenda:
 - Yes, and they should = 35%
 - No, but they should = 9%
 - Yes, and they should not = 12%
 - No, and they should not = 44%
- 85% of parents report being satisfied or very satisfied with librarians

The [survey results](#) demonstrate that librarians in schools and public libraries are trusted by families of various backgrounds and income levels and are valued in society. Librarians are valued in society and are central to education and communities. They foster safe, engaging environments that support learning and creativity, with their expertise and warmth resonating deeply with parents nationwide.

"This survey shows how out-of-touch politically motivated book banning and censorship groups are," said John Chrastka, EveryLibrary Institute Executive Director. "Contrary to the narratives that so-called parent rights groups are advancing, parents across America value librarians' roles in our communities and our children's education. Pro-censorship groups do not represent the vast majority of parents or guardians in their beliefs about librarians, reading, education, and civil society."

"Book Riot is excited to continue collaborating with EveryLibrary Institute on this important project. This survey is the next step in our shared goal of championing literacy, supporting libraries and librarians, and learning about parental perceptions of the work that librarians do," said Vanessa Diaz, Book Riot Managing Editor. "It's a natural extension of Kelly and Danika's tireless efforts in spreading awareness of the state of censorship and books bans in the US, and we hope as ever that this research will both educate and be a catalyst for change."

"We are once again excited to partner with EveryLibrary on assessing and understanding parental perceptions of the public library," said Kelly Jensen from Book Riot. "This series of surveys further our knowledge on what libraries are doing right and allows us to see where and how we can advocate for better understanding the roles libraries play in the lives of the average person. We continue to be thrilled to see the vast majority of parents think that the public library is a safe place for their children."

Please review the complete survey findings at https://www.everylibraryinstitute.org/parent_perceptions_librarians_survey_2023. This survey is the second in a series of three focusing on parents and libraries. Please watch for additional surveys on perceptions of school libraries in the coming weeks.

About EveryLibrary Institute

The EveryLibrary Institute is a library think tank and professional network that is focused on improving and supporting the future of library funding in the United States and abroad. Our primary work is to create effective programs, original research, and relevant training programs that enable public libraries to serve their diverse communities and school libraries to create equity in education. Please visit everylibraryinstitute.org.

About Book Riot

Book Riot is North America's largest independent editorial book site, providing coverage of books, literature, and reading culture. With a dedicated team of contributors, Book Riot offers engaging content, recommendations, and discussions on various literary topics, including diverse and inclusive reading experiences. Please visit bookriot.com.

EveryLibrary Institute

EveryLibrary Institute is a 501c3 organization that supports library funding in the United States.

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NATIONAL

Michigan Supreme Court to hear arguments on 'adopt-and-amend'

DECEMBER 7, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

By Colin Jackson



The Michigan Supreme Court hears arguments on Thursday, over whether lawmakers violated the state Constitution when they used the "adopt-and-amend" tactic on a 2018 minimum wage initiative.

Carlos Osorio/AP

Michigan Supreme Court justices are set to hear arguments Thursday morning in a case involving a controversial legislative bait-and-switch tactic known as "adopt-

and-amend."

The "adopt" part involves lawmakers taking advantage of a provision in the state constitution that allows the Legislature to adopt ballot initiative language into law before it has a chance to go before voters. The initiative then comes off the ballot, since it no longer needs a vote on Election Day — it's already law.

The "amend" step comes after the election, in the same legislative session, when lawmakers change that new law before it has a chance to take effect.

Sponsor Message



Strategy used against minimum wage initiative

The case before the court on Thursday dates back to 2018, when Michigan's then-Republican controlled Legislature adopted two ballot measures that would have raised the state's minimum wage and set rates for earning paid sick time.

But right before the governor's office switched to Democratic control following the election, the Legislature gutted both policies.

The two groups behind those ballot initiatives, Mothering Justice and Michigan One Fair Wage, argued that the Legislature's changes violate the Michigan Constitution.

For years, the state has stood behind a 2018 opinion from then-Attorney General Bill Schuette, a Republican, in which he wrote that the adopt and amend tactic was okay.

"[L]egislatively enacted initiated laws are subject to the same processes regarding amendment as legislation drafted by the Legislature. And since nothing in the Michigan Constitution prohibits the Legislature from amending legislation it drafts during the same legislative session in which it was enacted, it follows that the Legislature may do so as well with respect to an enacted initiated law," Schuette wrote in his opinion.

Lawsuits claim violation of state Constitution

Mothering Justice and One Fair Wage eventually sued to have their policies restored to their original form and nullify the former Attorney General's opinion, and in July of 2022, the Michigan Court of Claims declared the adopt-and-amend process unconstitutional.

Sponsor Message

"To hold otherwise would effectively thwart the power of the People to initiate laws and then vote on those same laws—a power expressly reserved to the people in the Michigan Constitution," Judge Douglas Shapiro wrote in his decision.

His ruling was supposed to take effect in February of this year, after a delay intended to give the state and employers time to adjust. Before that could happen, the lower court ruling was overturned on appeal.

Writing for the three-judge appellate court panel, Judge Christopher Murray reasoned the Legislature's reasoning for subsequently amending the laws after adopting them were irrelevant.

"A constitutional law does not become unconstitutional because it was passed with a bad intent," Murray wrote.

State Supreme Court hears arguments on Thursday

Now, it's up to Michigan's Supreme Court to decide the future of adopt-and-amend, the state's minimum wage, and sick leave accrual.

Under the current version of state's minimum wage law, workers are set to make \$10.33 an hour starting next year, with tipped workers earning \$3.93 an hour.

If the law were to be restored to its original form, employees would see an increase to over \$13 an hour, regardless of tipped status.

For sick leave, employees would earn at least one hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked, up 40 paid hours in a year for small business employees and 72 hours per year for all other employees.

The state Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on Thursday.

Colin Jackson is a reporter for the Michigan Public Radio Network.



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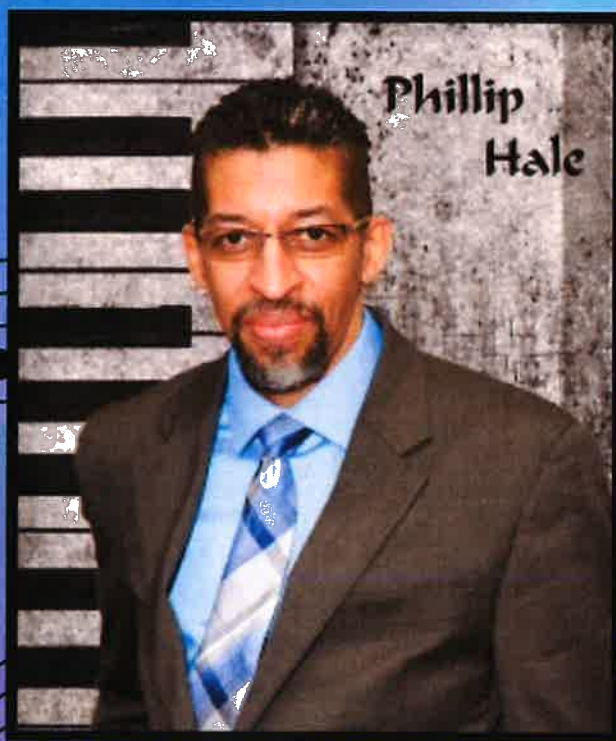
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PHIL HALE Jazz Night

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10TH @ 7 PM



WE BRING THE JAZZ CLUB TO YOU!
ENJOY SOULFUL SOUNDS AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.

PRESENTED BY
BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY & THE JAZZ FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

167 FOURTH STREET, BELLEVILLE, MI 48111 734.699.3291 - WWW.BELLEVILLE.MI.US



BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY STORYTIMES



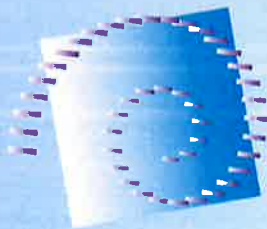
**January 16 - February 22
March 11 - April 18**

**Family Storytime (all ages)
Mondays, 6:30 pm**

**Toddler Time (2-4)
Tuesdays, 11 am**

**Baby Storytime (birth-2)
Thursdays, 10 & 11 am**

**Saturday Storytime (all ages)
Last Saturday of the Month, 11 am
Jan. 27, Feb. 24, & Mar. 30**



**167 Fourth St,
Belleville, MI 48111**

Register online or call 734-699-3291

TEEN

LIBRARY.

VIBES

That's
a
vibe

Second Wednesday of the month,
2:45 - 3:45 pm
New activity every month.

January: Candy Vibes
Join us in making candy
sushi. Looks like sushi, but
colorful and alllll candy!

Join us after school, make
sushi, eat candy, hang out.

