

**Belleville Area District Library Board
Regular Meeting Agenda
July 8, 2025 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, Jackson-Smith, Peters, Priest, Stoudemire
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve June 10, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
5. Public Comments
6. Release and Settlement Agreement – BADL and Wayne County
7. Committee Reports
 - A. Building-Cichewicz
 - B. Bylaws-Priest
 - C. Finance-Stoudemire
 - D. Outreach-Jackson-Smith
 - E. Personnel-Priest
 - F. Policy-Fleming
 - G. Art
8. Approve Accounts Payable
9. Director's Report/Comments/Communications
10. Trustee Comments
11. Chair Comments
12. 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 Information found 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: August 12, 2025, at 7:30 PM

**Belleville Area District Library
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2025**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Sharon Peters called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Roll Call: The following board members were present: Joy Cichewicz, Dan Fleming, Maria Jackson-Smith, Sharon Peters, Linda Priest, and Tanya Stoudemire. Excused: Alma Hughes-Grubbs.
Also present: Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, Library Assistant Nikki Pickeral.

2. **Approve Agenda:** Motion by Priest, seconded by Stoudemire, to approve the June 10, 2025, agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
3. **Approve May 13, 2025 Minutes:** Motion by Stoudemire, seconded by Jackson-Smith, to approve the May 13, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Public Comments:** Rosemary Otzman commented that the Fishing Derby was last Saturday, and the boy who won with a two-foot carp will be in the Independent this week.
5. **Public Hearing – 2025-2026 Budget:** The public hearing opened at 7:36 pm. Tanya Stoudemire reviewed the 2025-26 proposed budget and the proposed amendments to the 2024-25 budget. The public hearing was closed at 8:05 pm.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Building:** Otis Elevator has provided the library with a proposal for a door lock monitoring system that will address a new state code. Suchy is investigating further.
 - B. **Bylaws:** No Report.
 - C. **Finance:**
 - a. Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Stoudemire, to approve the 2025-26 Budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Motion by Stoudemire, seconded by Priest to approve the 2024-25 Amended Budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Motion by Stoudemire, seconded by Priest, to commit \$1,300,000 of the 2024 collected library millage that is in fund balance for use in the 2025-26 fiscal year's general operations (per GSAB #54, Fund Balance Reporting and Government Fund Type Definitions). The motion carried unanimously.
 - D. **Outreach:** No Report.
 - E. **Personnel:** No Report.
 - F. **Policy:** No Report.
 - G. **Art:** The library is hosting its first ever staff art display on the first floor. It is only up for the month of June.

7. Approve Accounts Payable: Motion by Cichewicz, seconded by Stoudemire, to approve the accounts payable as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Director's Report: See attached.

9. Trustee Comments:

Priest: Stated that she saw Michele Montour at the library who encouraged her to see the staff art. Now, Priest encourages the board to see it after the board meeting.

Stoudemire: Thanked Mary Jo Suchy for putting together the budget and leading the committee through the process and the hard work she puts into it.

Jackson-Smith: Is excited to be joining her five-year-old on summer camp field trips to the library for Summer Reading Programs this summer.

Fleming: Was here at the library yesterday for the farmer's market and car show. Dan expressed how glad he was the library is in the middle of it all.

Cichewicz: No Comment.

10. Chair Comments: Peters is proud of this group and organization. She is grateful to the finance committee for developing and presenting the budget. She is also grateful for all of the support the board and community has shown the library.

11. Adjournment: Motion by Peters, seconded by Fleming, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.



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GARY R. RENTROP

June 27, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Library Board Members
Belleville Area District Library
167 Fourth Street
Belleville, Michigan 48111

**Re: Release and Settlement Agreement
Penal Fine Payments by Wayne County Treasurer's Office**

Dear Library Board Members:

Enclosed for your consideration is a "Release and Settlement Agreement" between the Belleville Area District Library and Wayne County. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish the terms and conditions by which the Library allocates back to the library system that money associated with penal fines that was overpaid to the Library by Wayne County.

Some of the key provisions of this Agreement of which you should be aware include:

- The Overpayment will be reimbursed by the Library overtime and, going forward, the amount of penal fines the Library is entitled to receive will be withheld by the Wayne County Treasurer and applied to the Overpayment amount until the Overpayment is paid in full.
- There is no interest or penalty due from the Library under this Agreement. The penal fines withheld will only be applied to the actual amount overpaid to the Library.
- Wayne County shall take reasonable measures to ensure the future apportionment of penal fines is correct.

- Each year Wayne County will provide to the Library a notice of the amount of penal fines due to the Library and applied to the Overpayment.
- Executing this Agreement is not an admission of liability by either party and each party releases the other from any claims related to the Overpayment.

This Agreement is the result of negotiations between assistant corporate counsel for Wayne County and our office in consultation with Library Director Mary Jo Suchy.

If this Agreement is consistent with your understanding and intent, we recommend you make a motion to authorize Library Board Chair, Sharon Peters, to execute the Agreement on the Library's behalf.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Very truly yours,

ADKISON, NEED, ALLEN, & RENTROP, PLLC



G. Hans Rentrop

GHR/mjl
Enclosure

cc: Mary Jo Suchy, Library Director

RELEASE AND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Release and Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement") is made by and between *Belleville Area District Library* ("Library") and *Wayne County* ("County"). This Agreement is binding upon the parties, subject to the approval of the Wayne County Commission.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Wayne County Treasurer's Office ("WCTO") receives penal fine monies from multiple courts in different municipalities within the county. The penal fines are to be apportioned among the libraries on a per capita basis to be used exclusively to support the libraries located within those municipalities;

WHEREAS, at the request of the WCTO, the Library of Michigan ("LM") conducted an independent audit of the County's records and determined that over a ten (10) year period, specifically from 2014 to 2023, there was an erroneous distribution of penal fines by the WCTO that caused some libraries to receive more money than they were entitled to receive while some libraries received less than they were entitled to receive;

WHEREAS, the Library was identified as one of the libraries that received more money than it was entitled to receive;

WHEREAS, based on the independent audit by LM of Wayne County's records it was determined that over a ten (10) year period, specifically from 2014-2023, the Library was overpaid a total sum of \$122,733.64 (One Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand, Seven Hundred Thirty-Three and 64/100) ("Overpayment");

WHEREAS, the Library believes that, through no fault of its own, it may have received the Overpayment and is willing to pay back the Overpayment without interest to WCTO over time;

WHEREAS, the WCTO recognizes that a one-time payment in full of the Overpayment could have significant consequences on the operating budget for the Library and is willing to allow reimbursement of the Overpayment over a reasonable period of time;

WHEREAS, the Library believes that paying the Overpayment back in full to the WCTO is in the best interests of all library users within Wayne County;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, the Parties agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

1. Definitions. The parties agree to the following definitions:
 - (a) "Agreement" shall mean this written instrument entitled "Release and Settlement Agreement";
 - (b) "Library" shall mean *Belleville Area District Library* and includes its past, present and future members, officers, employees, and agents;
 - (c) "County" shall mean the County of Wayne, including WCTO and any and all past and present Wayne County employees, departments, divisions or affiliates, and its past, present and future executives, commissioners, elected officials, officers, employees, agents, representatives, and attorneys;
 - (d) The "Subject Matter" shall mean and include the distribution of library penal fines by the County from 2014 to 2023;
 - (e) "Claims and Causes of Action" shall mean and include any and all claims, state or federal, suits, demands, damages, expenses, loss of services, causes of action, rights, arguments, disputes, damages, liabilities, debts, accounts, covenants, agreements, or damage of any kind, costs and attorney fees that were asserted or claimed, or could have been asserted or claimed by the Library, whether known, or unknown or that may become known, arising out of or in any way related to the Subject Matter.
2. The Library will pay the WCTO the Overpayment and WCTO shall take reasonable measures to ensure the correct future apportionment of penal fines pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.
3. The parties hereby enter into a payment agreement whereby the Library's future annual penal fine revenue which it is to receive pursuant to the Distribution of Penal Fines to Public Libraries Act, PA 59 of 1964 (the "Act"), from the WCTO will be withheld by the WCTO and applied to the Overpayment until the Overpayment has been paid in full.
4. The Library shall only be responsible for the exact amount of the Overpayment and there shall be no interest, fees, or penalties of any kind associated with the Library's payment to the WCTO of the Overpayment.
5. WCTO will provide notice to the Library of the annual amount of penal fines due to the Library and deducted from the 2014-2023 overpayment amount.

6. The Library waives the right to receive any penal fine revenue until the Overpayment is satisfied and for so long as there is no breach of this Agreement.
7. Mutual Release. Parties hereby release and discharge one another from any and all Claims and Causes of Action specifically arising out of or related to the Subject Matter. This release does not apply to any claims outside the specific time period of the Subject Matter, to any future claims, and any claims or rights to enforce the terms of this Agreement itself.
8. No Admission of Liability. The parties acknowledge that this Agreement is executed as part of a compromise of a disputed claim for the purpose of avoiding the uncertainties and costs of litigation and shall not ever be construed as an admission of liability on the part of any party.
9. Approval of Commission. Library understands this Agreement is conditioned on approval by the Wayne County Commission ("Commission"). The County shall advance this Agreement to the Commission with a recommendation for approval as soon as practical from the date of execution of this Agreement.
10. Knowledge of Agreement. The person executing this Agreement on behalf of each party expressly represents that he/she fully understands the terms of this Agreement.
11. Authority to Execute. The person executing this Agreement on behalf of each party expressly warrants and represents that he/she is authorized to sign this Agreement on behalf of that party for the purpose of duly binding that party to the terms of this Agreement.
12. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the Subject Matter of the Agreement, and supersedes any prior Agreement (oral or written) between the parties. The parties further declare, represent and acknowledge that no promise, agreement or representation (express or implied) has been made in connection with this Agreement, nor has any promise, agreement or representation (express or implied) been relied upon by any of the parties in executing this Agreement, except for those promises, agreements, or representations which are expressly set forth in this Agreement.
13. Amendments & Modifications. No amendments or modifications of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by both parties.
14. Governing Law. This Agreement and any amendments shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan.
15. Library acknowledges that it has read this Agreement and voluntarily and knowingly agrees to accept its terms.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the date and year written below.

Belleville Area District Library:	Wayne County/Wayne County Treasurer's Office
By: _____	By: _____
_____ Printed Name	Sue Hammoud Deputy Corporation Counsel
_____ Title of Authorized Representative	
_____ Date	_____ Date

Belleville Area District Library

Date: 06/30/2025

Time: 5:03 PM

Page: 1

Operating:

Check Date	Vendor Name	Check Description	Amount
06/10/2025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	supplies; books & materials	1,387.32
06/10/2025	ANTHONY BROGDON	Juneteenth library program	500.00
06/10/2025	APPLIED INNOVATION	contracted services/copiers	1,429.08
06/10/2025	CHASE CARDMEMBER SERVICE	office suppl, software, books	1,083.65
06/10/2025	DANA DAVIDSON	Library Programs	250.00
06/10/2025	DC LAWN & SNOW	Lawn cutting service - May	290.00
06/10/2025	DEMCO	office supplies	161.98
06/10/2025	DTE ENERGY	Sumpter Branch heat/electricity	169.66
06/10/2025	DTE ENERGY	4th street electric	3,549.43
06/10/2025	HEIDI WOODWARD SHEFFIELD	Author Visit/ SRP Program	500.00
06/10/2025	JEFF WAWRZASZEK	Art of Magic/A2 Magic	500.00
06/10/2025	JOEL TACEY'S TIP TOP ENTERTAIN	Bubble Dance Party/Joel Tacey	550.00
06/10/2025	MI MUNICIPAL RISK MGT AUTH	liability ins 7/1/25-7/1/26	11,848.50
06/10/2025	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	office & bldg supplies	469.81
06/10/2025	RICHARD'S PLUMBING & HEATING	Sumpter sink drain repair	370.00
06/10/2025	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	Ring Central - May - telephone	508.80
06/10/2025	UNIQUE MANAGEMENT SERVICES INC	May Placements	109.35
06/10/2025	WASTE MANAGEMENT OF MI, INC	Dumpster Service	480.72
06/10/2025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	program supplies, books & matl	1,502.03
06/10/2025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES; BOOKS & MATL'S	1,455.50
06/10/2025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	BOOKS & MATL'S	750.89
06/24/2025	A PRODUCTION BUILDING SOLUTION	Building Maint/Cleaning	3,565.00
06/24/2025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES; BOOKS & MATL'S	649.14
06/24/2025	BELLEVILLE AREA INDEPENDENT	Publications/Newspapers	520.00
06/24/2025	BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MICH	Dental	1,018.42
06/24/2025 VOID	CITY OF BELLEVILLE	4th street water bill	1,771.87
06/24/2025	CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS	Telephone/fax	328.22
06/24/2025	DEMCO	office supplies	89.94
06/24/2025	DTE ENERGY	4th street gas	604.34
06/24/2025	DYNAMIC WEST ASSEMBLIES	Cotton Candy Colors program	495.00
06/24/2025	FRIENDS OF THE BELLEVILLE AREA	May 2025 payout	2,281.48
06/24/2025	GA BUSINESS PURCHASER LLC	Sumpter Alarm	62.36
06/24/2025	GORDON RUSS	Comedy Magic Show program	550.00
06/24/2025	JOE REILLY	Joe Reilly Concert program	350.00
06/24/2025	O'NEAL CONSTRUCTION, INC	Bldg/Maint, Job #: 1690	31,186.68
06/24/2025	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	office & bldg supplies	791.34
06/24/2025	OVERDRIVE, INC	books & materials	2,000.00
06/24/2025	PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPA	short and long term disability insurance	601.56
06/24/2025	SHARON DUCKWORTH, CPA	Accounting Services - June '25	1,350.00
06/24/2025	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	books & materials	19,867.51
06/24/2025	THE REPTARIUM	The Reptarium program	450.00
06/24/2025	UNIFIRST CORP	Maint. Mats	165.29
06/24/2025	UNITED HEALTHCARE	employee healthcare	19,161.37
06/24/2025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	BOOKS & MATLS	1,322.88
06/24/2025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	BOOKS & MATERIALS	338.82
06/26/2025	O'NEAL CONSTRUCTION, INC	building repair/ maint	16,901.32
46	Checks Total:		134,289.26
46	Bank Total:		134,289.26
46	Grand Total:		134,289.26

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JULY 2025

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

JUNE: Adults: 12 Youth: 10

	2024/25	2023/24	% change
LIBRARY VISITS			
June	12,846	11,330	13.38%
Fiscal Year	147,430	134,054	9.98%
TOTAL CIRC			%change
June	19,040	21,016	-9.40%
Fiscal Year	244,694	251,238	-2.60%
ADULT PROGRAMMING			% change
June	154	92	67.39%
Fiscal Year	2,234	1,817	22.95%
YOUTH/TEEN PROGRAMMING			% change
June	691	654	5.66%
Fiscal Year	5,117	7,223	-29.16%
REF. QUESTIONS			% change
June	1,852	1,773	4.46%
Fiscal Year	20,383	20,074	1.54%
INTERNET USE			% change
June	1,059	969	9.29%
Fiscal Year	11,838	12,020	-1.51%
YOUTH/TEEN INTERNET			% change
June	287	278	3.24%
Fiscal Year	3,100	3,357	-7.66%

BUILDING: I received more information from Matt Ratzow at O'Neal Construction regarding the State of Michigan updates to the elevator code. A door lock monitoring system will need to be in place by January 2028. I am obtaining additional quotes for this to compare with the quote we received from Otis Elevator.

The equipment for the vape detectors was installed and O'Neal Construction will work with us to set up the software.

PENAL FINES: Our attorney negotiated a Release and Settlement Agreement with Wayne County's corporate counsel. The proposed agreement is included in the board pack.

ACCOUNTING: Our accountant and I have provided our new accounting software company with detailed information regarding our current accounts payable and general ledger systems, and I have uploaded data samples to them. We are still on track to switch systems at the end of October.

Hilary Savage has divided up the books and materials budget for the new fiscal year and is individually meeting with all of our librarians and/or department heads who select materials in order to review their budgets.

STAFF: Former staff member Harper Klotz is returning temporarily as a part-time circulation clerk to help out while another of our staff members is on maternity leave.

PROGRAMMING: We have hit our summer stride! Our summer reading programs have started off with a bang; we talked with over 400 people at our Lake Fest booth; and Bluey was in the house! About 125 were in attendance for our Bluey party, making him almost as popular as Santa!



Librarian Karen with Bluey.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT: Over 300 people voted to name our new tortoise, and the winning name is Tort-ellini. Tort-ellini's favorite foods are lettuce, kale, bananas, and kiwi.

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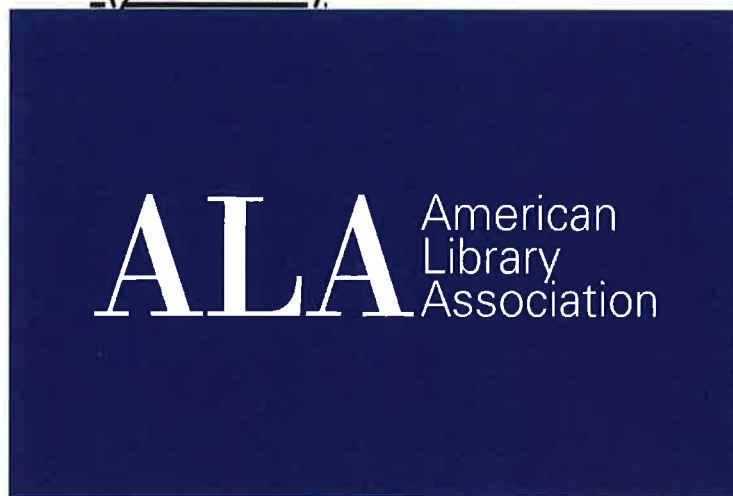
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Supreme Court Protects Federal Broadband Funding

High court's 6–3 decision upholds the Universal Service Fund, E-Rate

June 27, 2025

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On June 27, the Supreme Court upheld the Universal Service Fund, which funds the E-Rate program. The American Library

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On June 27, the Supreme Court upheld the Universal Service Fund, which funds the E-Rate program. ALA issued [a statement](https://www.ala.org/news/2025/06/ala-response-usf-supreme-court-decision) (<https://www.ala.org/news/2025/06/ala-response-usf-supreme-court-decision>) regarding the ruling that reads, in part, "The ALA applauded the [Supreme Court's 6–3 decision](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/24354_0861.pdf) (https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/24354_0861.pdf) to uphold the Universal Service Fund (USF). The system of telecommunications subsidies administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) includes the E-Rate program, which provides libraries and schools billions of dollars each year for broadband access and connectivity. More than half of all public libraries apply for funding to subsidize the cost of internet connectivity through E-Rate each



Association (ALA) issued the following statement (<https://www.ala.org/news/2025/06/ala-response-usf-supreme-court-decision>) regarding the ruling:

The ALA applauded the Supreme Court's 6-3 decision (https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/24pdf/24-354_0861.pdf) to uphold the Universal Service Fund (USF). The system of telecommunications subsidies administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) includes the E-Rate program, which provides libraries and schools billions of dollars each year for broadband access and connectivity. More than half of all public libraries apply for funding to subsidize the cost of internet connectivity through E-Rate each year.

ALA President Cindy Hohl said, "ALA applauds the Supreme Court's decision to uphold the USF and thus preserve the E-Rate program, which is a lifeline for public libraries and millions of Americans, especially in rural and underserved communities.

"Roughly 20 percent of US households still lack access to home broadband. E-Rate funding for affordable, high-speed internet at libraries and schools increases access and opportunity for families and individuals on the wrong side of the digital divide and ensures sustainability for the essential services libraries provide. Today's ruling protects equitable access to broadband connectivity through libraries and the opportunities it affords for education, employment, and civic participation in the modern era."

The justices announced the ruling in the combined cases of *FCC v. Consumers' Research and Schools, Health, & Libraries Broadband Coalition v. Consumers' Research*, reversing the Fifth Circuit Court's finding that the USF programs, including E-Rate, were unconstitutional. The Supreme Court's decision marks a major milestone in a yearslong challenge to USF. In January, ALA filed an amicus brief (https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/24/24-354/339453/20250116134013819_Nos%2024-354%20%2024-422%20ALA%20-%20Amicus%20Brief.pdf) in the proceeding in support of the program and joined other advocates and champions in defending the fund.

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“Since the program was established in 1996,” Hohl said, “E-Rate has transformed and revolutionized access to information. Virtually all libraries in the country now have high-speed broadband, which powers modern library services that range from online tutoring and employment assistance to telehealth appointments.

“Over the program’s 30-year history, ALA has worked closely with the FCC to make improvements, reduce barriers for library applicants, and ensure that E-Rate continues to meet the evolving technology and access needs of K–12 students and library patrons.

“Throughout the litigation process, ALA has been encouraged to see widespread support for E-Rate and other USF programs from Congress, state and local leaders, the applicant community, and beyond. We must continue to work with partners and national leaders to ensure that the USF remains a sustainable, predictable, and long-term source of funding and access for decades to come.”

For more information, visit ALA’s [E-Rate page](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/erate) (<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/erate>). For those attending ALA’s 2025 Annual Conference in Philadelphia, learn more about the decision at a [Show Up for Our Libraries](https://cdmcd.co/D87ZYw) (<https://cdmcd.co/D87ZYw>) panel session presented by ALA’s Public Policy and Advocacy Office staff on Saturday, June 28, 4–5 p.m.

Updated: June 28, 2025, to correct the case title Schools, Health, & Libraries Broadband Coalition v. Consumers’ Research.

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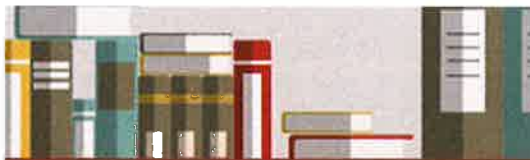
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News - Advocacy

Friday, June 13, 2025 09:01 AM

House Budget Proposes Flat State Aid to Libraries, Anticipates IMLS Funding Cuts

Yesterday, Michigan's House of Representatives moved its education budget through subcommittee, appropriations and approved the plan on the House floor. Because funding for the Library of Michigan falls under the Department of Education, the House Republicans' budget gives us our first glimpse at their plan for public library funding in the next fiscal year.

Approved in a party-line vote, the House budget bill, [HB 4576](#), preserves state aid to libraries, providing the same \$16.5 million allocation as was approved for the current fiscal year. This is in line with the Governor's original budget proposal for next year as well. Both budgets propose flat state aid to libraries in the amount of \$16.5 million.

The House budget also zeroes out the \$5.6 million allocated to the Library of Michigan through the Library Services Technology Act (LSTA), a program facilitated by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). By removing that line from the budget, House Republicans are indicating they do not expect to receive any funding from IMLS for fiscal year 2026. Unfortunately, their budget does not include any appropriation from the State of Michigan to replace those dollars.

It's important to note that the approved House bill is just the first step in a long negotiations process between House leadership and appropriation chairs. This version of the state budget will likely see many changes before a final version is adopted. As the legislature continues its work and negotiations on a fiscal year 2026 budget, MLA will be sure to keep you updated on any new developments related to library funding.

Uniting the Michigan Library Community

MLA is proud to partner with organizations serving the library community.



IMLS Update: Timeline of Key Events and Status

Since March of this year, libraries across the country have wrestled with federal funding uncertainty and the prospect of losing widely used programs and services funded by those dollars. An Executive Order seeking to eliminate the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) - the only dedicated source of federal funding for public libraries - was followed by the firing and replacement of key staff, federal lawsuits, court injunctions, and calls to action. With so many updates to this story over the last few months, we thought it would be helpful to summarize the timeline so far and the latest updates on securing IMLS funding.

March 14 - On March 14, 2025, President Trump issued an Executive Order calling for the elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The order seeks to eliminate the agency to the maximum extent allowable by law, including laying off staff and cutting programs. The Library of Michigan receives \$4.8 million in IMLS funding each year, which is used in part to fund the Michigan eLibrary and our statewide interlibrary loan system.

March 20 - Less than a week later, on March 20, representatives from the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) visited IMLS offices and swore in a new acting director, Keith E. Sonderling. In a press release announcing his appointment, Sonderling said, "We will revitalize IMLS and restore focus on patriotism, ensuring we preserve our country's core values, promote American exceptionalism and cultivate love of country in future generations."

March 31 - By the end of the month, on March 31, all IMLS staff - around 70 employees - received notice that they had been placed on paid administrative leave for up to 90 days.

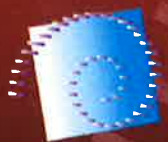
April 4 - On April 4, attorneys general from 21 states (including Michigan) sued the Trump administration to block its attempts to dismantle IMLS and six other federal agencies.

April 7 - Days later, on April 7, the American Library Association announced that it also filed a lawsuit challenging the Trump administration's gutting of IMLS.

April 30 - By mid-April, MLA had solidified plans to focus our annual Advocacy Day event on raising awareness of the potential loss of IMLS and seek replacement funding through Michigan's budget appropriation process. On April 30, nearly 150 librarians and library advocates traveled to Lansing to visit with their Representatives and Senators. In those meetings, we presented a single ask - fund the Library of Michigan's interlibrary loan program and other statewide initiatives by increasing the state's investment by \$5 million.

May 1 - On May 1, a federal judge halted the elimination of IMLS in response to the lawsuit filed by 21 state attorneys general.

May 2 - On May 2, the Trump administration released its fiscal year 2026 discretionary budget, which proposed eliminating all funding for IMLS.



BELLEVILLE AREA
DISTRICT LIBRARY



**RJ SPANGLER QUINTET WITH
JAMES O'DONNELL**

Jazz Night

**Wednesday,
July 30 @ 7:00 PM**



Scan Code to sign-up for a reminder



COMICS

ARTIST
ALLEY

COSPLAY

**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 2ND 2025**
12PM-5PM
FREE ENTRY!

ARTIST
ALLEY
APPLICATION

AGES
8-ADULT
ELIGIBLE
DEADLINE
JULY 9TH



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734-699-3291

AND MUCH
MORE

Intro to Crystals

Wed, July 16, 7 pm



a practical talk on crystals and how they can be used
in your daily life for insight and healing



scan to register



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DISTRICT LIBRARY

The Belleville Area District Library presents



BELLEVILLE LIBRARY CHESS TOURNAMENT

JULY 19 2025

in the Library's Cozadd Room.

**10
AM**

Until 5PM

**REGISTER
ONLINE**

Are you interested in testing your abilities and taking on new challenges? Come to the Belleville Library Chess Tournament and compete for honor and amazing prizes! All ages and experience levels welcome! Registration required.

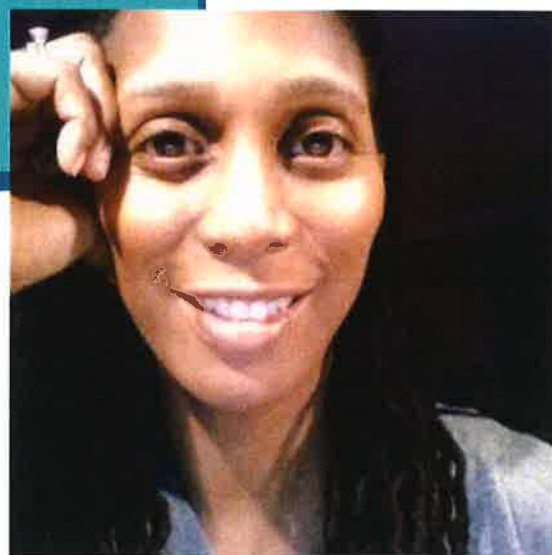
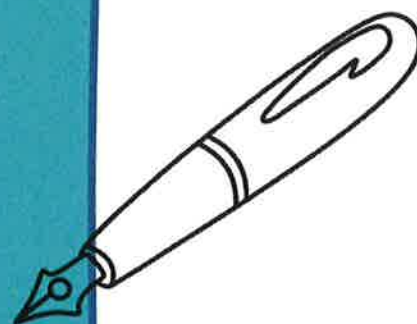


**ALL AGES
WELCOME!**

*For more info please visit : <https://www.belleville.lib.mi.us/> or call
734-699-3291*

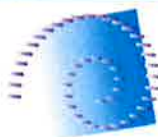
The Write Stuff Writer's Group Presents...

Summer Writing Workshops with Author Dana Davidson



SATURDAY,
JUNE 28 & JULY 19
1 - 4 PM

You are encouraged, but NOT
required to attend both workshops.
Meet in Storytime Room
in the Kids' Hub.



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DISTRICT LIBRARY**