

MEMORANDUM:

To: Winnefox Library System Trustees
From: Clairellyn Sommersmith, Director
Subject: Report of System Activities
Date: 19 September 2024

Director Activities I am prepping for the Trustee 101 presentation that I will be leading with Mark Arend, retired Winnefox Assistant Director and member of the Winnefox Library System Board. Our presentation will be on Saturday October 5 at Ripon Public Library.

Winnebago County's 5-year agreement with Winnefox is up at the end of the year, and I am meeting with the UW Education, Extension and Ag Committee, and Winnebago Library Directors to finalize the new agreement.

Between now and our system board meeting in December, all 2025 County Budgets will be finalized. In the interim I have been attending, and will be attending, County Board meetings to be on hand to answer questions about the libraries' budget requests for next year.

Staff News: The Technology staff have begun to update the Winnefox Library System Technology and Resource Sharing Plan, which needs to be done every five years. [Wis. Stats. 43.24 \(2\) \(m\)](#) requires Wisconsin public library systems to plan with the Division for Libraries and Technology and with participating public libraries and other types of libraries in the system area regarding library technology and the sharing of resources.

Upcoming system training includes: the All-WALS meeting on Tuesday October 29 and Clerk-a-palooza on December 3.

Mary Schneider, Administrative Specialist II, is currently out for the month due to knee surgery.

Library News: Ethel Everhard Memorial Library and Ripon Public Library are hiring new directors. Eliana Luke left the library in Westfield to be the Teen Librarian at Oshkosh Public Library. Desiree Bongers, who served as the Ripon Library Director for almost 20 years, has taken a position as Clerk of Courts with Winnebago County.

State News: The WLA Conference will be held on November 5-8 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay. This year's theme is *All In: Include and Innovate*. With LSTA funding, Winnefox is offering scholarships for member library staff and three Winnefox staff will be attending as well. If you are interested in attending, please let me know. You can find more information on the WLA site: <https://www.wisconsinlibraries.org/2024-wla-conference>

The Department of Instruction has hired a new person at the Division for Library & Technology. Teresa Schmidt, previous director of the Mercer Public Library, is the new Public Library Administrator Consultant. She will be hosting a "Ask Us Anything" for new library directors at the end of October and will be organizing a New Director Boot Camp in spring 2025.²⁵⁹