

MEMORANDUM:

To: Winnefox Library System Trustees
From: Clairellyn Sommersmith, Director
Subject: Report of System Activities
Date: 3 December 2025

Staff News: Winnefox will soon be hiring an ILS Specialist. Melissa Klein, who worked for Winnefox for 11 years, resigned on December 3. Her expertise will be missed. We hope to get a job ad out this month.

Winnefox has hired a new ILL page and sorter, Cathy Stevenson.

As the year is coming to a close, staff are beginning to prepare for: the closing of the financial books for Winnefox and the four systems we support; 2025 end-of-year statistics; pre-populating the libraries' Annual Reports; planning the Winnefox Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be held in Green Lake on Tuesday January 27, and we will discuss Winnefox staff's goals for the coming year and their alignment with the new strategic plan.

Since our last meeting, I had the opportunity to attend two library board meetings: one in Campbellsport to discuss board duties, and one in Oxford to discuss county funding.

System News: All five counties in Winnefox have approved their budgets. All 30 libraries received their full budgetary requests for 2026 from their home counties. I am grateful for a smooth budget season from supportive county boards.

Brandon Public Library reopened their expanded and remodeled library following a year long construction project. It is a beautiful new space, doubling the library's square footage with a meeting room, fireplace reading area, and children's play space. The Winnefox Board will have the opportunity to meet in Brandon early next year.

Rachel Fuller has been hired as the new director of the Fond du Lac Public Library. Her first day was December 1st. She was most recently the Deputy Director of the Urbana Free Library in Illinois.

We held our last All WALs meeting of the year on Tuesday December 9. One of the items discussed was the updated and modified WALs participation agreements that will replace the Principles of Participation. Look for this document at our January meeting.

State News: Winnefox will be offering up to 12 scholarships to member libraries to attend Library Legislative Day. Librarians, trustees, and other supporters are welcome to apply for these scholarships. Library Legislative Day will be held in Madison on Tuesday February 10. Registration is now open. [Library Legislative Day \(wisconsinlibraries.org\)](http://wisconsinlibraries.org)