

MEMORANDUM:

To: Winnefox Library System Trustees
From: Mark Arend, Assistant Director
Subject: Report of System activities
Date: 21 May 2019

The following is an update of activities since our last meeting. I would be happy to provide further details at our meeting, or feel free to give me a call or send an email in advance.

Technology Support Services: One of the most popular Winnefox services is computer support. We purchase computers for libraries, install programs, and maintain protective software such as anti-virus. Because we are buying for a group of libraries we have been able to get computer at a lower price than a library buying on their own. We have just formed a buying group with other library systems to get even better pricing from Dell Computers and now libraries will be able to save an additional \$100 to \$200 on most computers. Network Manager/PC Support Specialist Pete Hodge has been instrumental in setting this up.

Legislative Update: The Governor has proposed an increase in library system funding in the 2019 – 2021 biennial state budget. If approved, there would be an increase of \$1,500,000 for each of the next two years. I will keep you informed as the budget process continues.

Library Summer Reading Programs: *A Universe of Stories* is the slogan for this year's summer reading programs. Many libraries now have programs for teens and adults, as well as the traditional children's programs. Libraries put a lot of effort into their summer programs both because it increases library use and because it's good for the children. Research shows that children who participate in a public library reading program over the summer start the school year ahead of those who don't. Studies have shown that failure to read well by the end of third grade is linked to higher dropout rates.

Winnefox supports our libraries by:

- We have an SLP registration app that many of our libraries use
- Organizing group purchases of materials
- Printing reading records and promotional materials
- Assisting with bookings of performers

Trustee Training Week Webinar Series: Save the week of 12 August for the fifth annual Wisconsin Trustee Training Week webinars. Each day from 12:00 to 1:00 you can participate in a great online session. More information is available on the training website: <http://www.wistrusteetraining.com/>
Trustee Training week is sponsored by all 16 Wisconsin Library Systems.

Library News: Endeavor director Becky Pfile is graduating from the UW Milwaukee School of Information Studies with a Master of Library & Information Science. She has been accepted to their PhD program and will be starting this fall.

Christine Lyon has been hired as the new director in Green Lake. She will be starting in June.

Libraries in Green Lake and Marquette Counties are each sponsoring County-Wide Read programs for the second year in a row. The Marquette book is *Dead Jitterbug* by Victoria Houston; the Green Lake book is *Shotgun Lovesongs* by Nickolas Butler. Both authors are Wisconsin residents.