

**LONG RANGE PLAN OF SERVICE  
EDEN LIBRARY  
2023 -- 2027**

**Mission**

The Eden Library serves the educational, informational, and recreational needs of library users in the Town of Eden and surrounding areas. Its mission is to provide books and other printed materials, programs, and electronic resources for citizens of all ages. The library strives to achieve the highest level of service and free access for all in a comfortable atmosphere that inspires curiosity and fosters lifelong learning.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**GOAL I: Secure funds for the implementation of the Eden Library's goals.**

**Objective A:**

Support strategies of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library system that maintain pressure on the County of Erie and State of New York to continue library funding at reasonable levels.

**Objective B:**

Continue semi-annual book sales; explore other fundraising activities such as a library gala, author dinner or library night at a local restaurant.

**Objective C:**

Encourage local citizens to provide monetary support for the Eden Library through memorials and commemorative gifts to the Eden Library Foundation:

- i.) promote use of Smile Amazon charitable contribution designation.
- ii.) place memorial gift cards in appropriate venues within the community.
- iii.) purchase appropriately themed books with funds provided through memorial donations from community groups.

**Objective D:**

Collaborate with the "Friends of Eden Library" to provide additional support for library activities within the Town of Eden.

**GOAL II: Work with the Central Board and special committees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library to implement the system's strategic plan and the system's five-year plan of service as it applies to the Eden Library.**

**Objective A:**

Continue to advocate for our community library and its significant role within the Town.

**Objective B:**

Actively review all materials regarding the strategic plan and their relevance to contractual arrangements with the Central Library system.

**Objective C:**

Work with the other rural libraries in Southern Erie County to strengthen our roles and demand equal services for library patrons; insure that the needs of the rural population are being met.

**Objective D:**

Review NYS guidelines annually to ensure that the minimum state standards are met.

**GOAL III: Provide library materials in a variety of formats which adequately serve the informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs and demands of the Eden community.**

**Objective A:**

Survey patrons concerning activities and programs that they would like to see implemented.

**Objective B:**

Maintain and update the book and audio-visual collections to reflect the interests of the community.

**Objective C:**

Working within the BECPL system, implement greater accessibility to computer-based information resources for library patrons.

**Objective D:**

Partner with the Eden Schools and other community groups to supplement their resources for all grade levels.

**GOAL IV: Foster staff development and productivity to continue to offer quality informational services to the Eden community.**

**Objective A:**

Maintain good communication between staff and library director.

**Objective B:**

Encourage library director to enact needed programs for various age groups such as book clubs, children's groups, senior citizens, computer classes, and early literacy programs.

**Objective C:**

Encourage staff to attend seminars or to receive additional training in areas that are of interest to them and would ultimately benefit library patrons.

**Objective D:**

Actively identify interested patrons who can help with special projects; utilize student volunteers who are involved in community service projects.

**GOAL V: Foster Board development.**

**Objective A:**

Encourage board of trustees to actively participate in the Association of Contracting Library Trustees (ACT) and to attend local and/or state workshops for trustees.

**Objective B:**

Identify individuals in the community who could become candidates for future vacancies on the Board.

**Objective C:**

Ensure that all board members are current with public service oath of office and that all board members are in compliance with NYS continuing education requirements.

**GOAL VI: Keep abreast of changing technology in the provision of materials, information and patron access.**

**Objective A:**

Continue to educate patrons in the use of the electronic catalog, databases, self-check out and other electronic information media. Offer frequent computer classes through BECPL to patrons.

**Objective B:**

Monitor system changes in Internet policy and adopt any needed revisions to local policy.

**Objective C:**

The popularity of E-readers and other electronic devices continues to increase, ensure that local staff are well trained and can help patrons access BECPL materials on these devices.

**GOAL VII: Upgrade and maintain Eden Library facilities and equipment.**

**Objective A:**

Maintain annual schedule of checks on heating, air conditioning, electrical systems and overall building conditions.

**Objective B:**

Perform annual review of insurance coverage with the town.

**Objective C:**

Keep the Town Board informed of Library budget process and any reductions in funding that may have an impact on the ability to maintain the building in an appropriate manner.

**Objective D:**

Maintain contact with the Town Board and keep them apprised of any scheduled long-range maintenance needs for the library building.

**Objective E:**

Replace shrubs and trees that are lost to weather damage and predators. Explore the option of using community volunteers to help with maintenance of the existing beds and landscaping.

**Objective F:**

Work with town administrators to establish a schedule of maintenance and any needed repairs for the parking lot. Re-stripe parking spaces designated for use by handicapped.

**Objective G:**

Consider renovating the basement for additional meeting space.

**Objective H:**

Investigate the possibility of adding lighting on the library's sign for better visibility.

**GOAL VIII: Promote public awareness of the Eden Library's services and programs.**

**Objective A:**

Submit articles and photos about activities at the Eden Library to The Sun.

**Objective B:**

Advertise special programs in the Eden Pennysaver and utilize electronic billboards at the Main

Street School and American Legion when appropriate.

**Objective C:**

Provide an appealing interior and exterior environment for library patrons.

**Objective D:**

Increase programming for adults through guest speakers. Canvas patrons for individuals who might present a program.

**Objective E:**

Keep information about the Eden Library updated on the Town of Eden web site, BECPL web site, and social media.

**Objective F:**

Promote services and equipment that the library has for those with assistive needs, including large print books and audio books.

**Objective G:**

Encourage public advocacy for libraries as needed.

**Objective H:**

Continue to organize the library's records and memorabilia in the archival boxes and albums purchased through a grant from the Eden Community Foundation.

**Objective I:**

Explore additional ideas to improve circulation and attendance at Library programs.

**GOAL IX: Establish the Eden Library as a vital information and social center for the Town of Eden.**

**Objective A:**

Create an index of town organizations and committees along with contact information that could be accessed through the library's web site or in a paper file at the library.

**Objective B:**

Encourage community groups to use the library's meeting room.

**Objective C:**

Use social media as a way of providing patrons with information about library services and programs.

**Objective D:**

Create an outdoor reading area that could be utilized during the warmer months.

*Adopted June 22, 2022*