

**WEST SENECA PUBLIC LIBRARY
LONG RANGE PLAN OF SERVICE
2024-2028**

MISSION STATEMENT

Connecting our diverse community with library resources that enrich, enlighten and entertain.

VISION

The vision of the West Seneca Public Library is to be deeply rooted in the community: promoting partnerships, fostering the development of a literate and informed citizenry through free and equal access to cultural, intellectual, recreational and informational resources, planning for the future, and making the most effective use of funding.

LIBRARY PRINCIPLES

The West Seneca Public Library will:

- Provide open, equal and free access to information in accordance with the American Library Association’s “Library Bill of Rights.”
- Deliver timely, confidential and customer-oriented service to meet the informational and educational needs of the community.
- Promote lifelong learning by encouraging all children and adults in the enjoyment of reading and discovery.
- Be a welcoming space for all members of our community;
- Contribute to the region’s economic vitality by assisting individuals, businesses and government.
- Listen to the entire community in pursuit of the Library’s Mission.
- Manage resources effectively and be accountable to its funding sources.
- Pursue the private and public funding necessary to fulfill the Library’s Mission.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal I:

To provide materials in a variety of formats to meet the informational, educational and recreational needs of all members of our community.

- A. Actively maintain a collection of popular materials, including current, high-demand and high-interest materials in a variety of formats for persons of all ages.
- B. Conduct regular analysis of usage patterns which will inform collection review, maintenance and purchasing.
- C. Encourage the community to suggest specific materials for purchase both online and in-person, fostering a strong connection between people, materials and the library.

Goal II:

To focus programming, public services and collaborations towards community needs.

- A. Analyze attendance patterns and encourage community feedback.
- B. Provide educational and/or entertaining programming of interest to the community.
 - a. Early Literacy: Provide birth to school-age children with diverse programs and services designed to enrich, enlighten, educate and prepare children for school.
 - b. Youth Services: Ensure innovative youth programs and services to provide diverse experiences, respond to current interests, and support education.
 - c. Adult Literacy: Create a lifelong learning environment where adults can reach a level of literacy allowing them to achieve their personal, family, and work goals through education, empowerment, and engagement.
- C. Work with local organizations (i.e. schools, senior citizens center, etc) on a regular basis to coordinate rather than duplicate community service efforts.
- D. Offer activities, programs and resources of interest to the community in the Makerspace.

Goal III:

To establish partnerships with local organizations in order to foster collaborative relationships

- A. Create relationships which fill a need for a potential partner and in turn enable the library to offer a new or enhanced service to our users and the community.
- B. Reduce duplication of efforts between the library and potential partners.
- C. Promote library services to both established users and underserved/nonuser groups in our community.
- D. Explore possible partnerships with organizations, educators or individuals who would make use of or offer instruction within the Makerspace.

Goal IV:

To be a welcoming and useful physical space for the community.

- A. Continue to assess, analyze and reorganize the library building and facilities to provide for and meet the needs of our community.
- B. Offer activities, programs and resources of interest to the community in the Makerspace.

Goal V:

To promote public awareness of library activities, services and needs.

- A. Produce an annual report to the community on activities and programming.
- B. Regularly inform and showcase for the community library events, successes, news and needs through a current and timely online presence (via the library web page, events calendar, social media and news outlets).
- C. Continue to issue and expand the news and monthly calendar, including current hours, upcoming events, promotion of noteworthy library resources, etc.

Goal VI:

To secure adequate funding.

- A. Communicate needs to the B&ECPL Administration, Central Library Board and elected officials for adequate funding.
- B. Explore potential sources of funding, i.e. grants, donations, collaborations, etc.
- C. Keep the Friends of the West Seneca Public Library informed of library activities and needs.

Goal VII:

Maintain exemplary communications with officials associated with or responsible for the Library.

- A. Encourage elected officials (local, county and state), to actively support the Library's mission and roles and secure adequate funding.
- B. To maintain an open line of communication with the Central Library Board and B&ECPL Administration.
- C. To have representation attend all Association of Contracting Library Trustees (ACT) meetings.

ALA Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Approved by the West Seneca Public Library Board of Trustees on May 16, 2019.
Adopted on June 26, 2019. Revised and re-approved October 18, 2023.