

## VII. Operations Report

### A. State Librarian and Management Team Reports – Information item

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#### Report from State Librarian Stephanie Bailey-White

- Deputy State Librarian Dylan Baker and I hosted the first Digital Access Steering Committee meeting on January 26, 2023. Ten individuals (plus one who couldn't attend in January) representing most of the covered populations the plan will address attended the virtual meeting, and there were some good discussions. The group will meet again virtually in March or early April and likely meet in person in May.
- Information was shared with all library trustees in the state regarding the proposed Library Facilities Project funding and implications of that line item passing this session.
- January consisted of many digital inclusion meetings, personnel discussions, JFAC presentation preparation, and partner discussions.

#### Report from Deputy State Librarian Dylan Baker

- I attended ALA LibLearnX, the Library Learning Experience, in New Orleans on January 28-30, 2023. The ICfL was well-represented with Library Learning Consultant Deana Brown, School Library Consultant Jeannie Standal, and E-Resources Library Consultant Marina Rose also attending. I participated in a variety of sessions on everything from the library's role in supporting economic development and resilient communities to engaging staff in strategic and foresight planning. The ICfL team was able to have meaningful meetings with some large vendors we work with regularly, including EBSCO, OCLC, and OverDrive. I brought back several ideas I am excited to refine and develop through the rest of this year and beyond.
- We heard from our academic library customers that they wanted virtual gatherings like the MOSS Meetup more than once a year, so we put together a Winter MOSS Meetup on December 15, 2022. Planning and hosting of the event was led by Continuing Education Consultant Annie Gaines and Library Learning Consultant Deana Brown as well as Michelle Armstrong, Associate Dean of Boise State University's Albertsons Library. Forty people registered and 29 attended live. The theme of the event was centered on developing partnerships, and the agenda included a presentation from the State Board of Education, a series of panel presentations featuring different beneficial partnerships academic institutions have made, and an activity where participants developed their own elevator speech to facilitate making connections that are beneficial to the library. Feedback on this event was positive, with 100% of respondents saying they learned something, feel confident about what they learned, plan to apply what they learned, and believe that doing so will improve library services to their users. One participant shared: "This was great! I appreciate having the chance to get to know fellow Idaho academic librarians. I also liked hearing about the creative ways people are working with their communities."

**Report from Administrative Services Manager Jamie Smith**

- **Budget:** Update on the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Hearing, February 6, 2023.
- **Luma:** Luma simulations and role workshops will start in February-March. April through June is slated for user training.
  - Human Capital Management will go live on June 11, 2023.
  - Finance and Supply Chain Management will go live on July 1, 2023.
- HR Modernization is moving in concert with Luma.
- **Staff:** We are recruiting a new Buyer and hope to have someone in place by the end of February. We're utilizing a temporary Administrative Assistant to help with purchasing and fiscal needs through the end of the fiscal year.

**Report from E-Services Program Supervisor William Lamb**

- We've had a couple of openings come up in the E-Services Team in the last two months. Web Developer Ben Bibikov and Office Support Specialist Tiffany Duke have both moved on to different paths. We are actively recruiting for Ben's replacement and hope to have someone in that role in the next few weeks. Tiffany's position is being reviewed and will be posted soon.
- Digital Inclusion Consultant Chelsea Summerlin has already made a huge impact on our agency and its work. Chelsea and Library Learning Consultant Deana Brown have been taking the lead in organizing the statewide digital access coalition meetings. Additionally, Chelsea has revamped the original public Wi-Fi map that I created a couple years ago. [This new map](#) can now display which libraries in the state check out mobile hotspots and Chromebooks.
- I've been continuing to assist Library Technology Consultant Doug Baker in building his knowledge about the E-rate program, and he has taken this on full-steam. Doug continues to be a great asset to the library community with his tech knowledge.
- The IDEA collection has over 24,000 titles of which our E-Resources Consultant Marina Rose has individually audited 7,553 titles. As this collection is focused on supporting K-12 students, any new titles that are purchased are audited before being added to the collection to ensure they are placed in their appropriate age range.
- I've been working with our agency teams to come up with a technology refresh plan that meets our needs and allows us to be fiscally responsible. Historically, we have purchased a wide variety of systems based on what was on sale or available. We will now be moving to a more standardized model that aligns with the state IT department (ITS). Having a standardized model allows for easier maintenance and support. Pending legislative approval, ITS will be taking over ICfL tech support in July as part of the statewide IT modernization project. Doing this work now allows for a smoother transition in July and years in the future.

**Report from Partnerships and Program Supervisor Amelia Valasek**

- **Telehealth Initiative:** [libraries.idaho.gov/telehealth](https://libraries.idaho.gov/telehealth). Our list of participating libraries has grown to almost 20! Visit our website for specific locations. I'm pleased to report that the Blue Cross Foundation for Health has provided a third grant in 2023 to support this

initiative. The LSIF Approval Consideration (Board Document 23-43) includes more information about this grant. Otherwise, most of the projects under this initiative are currently “in progress” with the next set of major milestones anticipated for this spring.

- **Facilities Improvement Grant:** <https://libraries.idaho.gov/facilities-capital-improvements/#Grants>. We officially announced the Facilities Improvement Grant to the public library community on January 20, 2023, and hosted an informational webinar for applicants on February 8, 2023. The first phase of this project will require interested libraries to submit a letter of intent. The full application will be released in early April, when we hope to know the outcome of our budget bill. In the meantime, we have sent the library community a set of talking points for those that are interested in reaching out to their state lawmakers. The library community has been very responsive to this opportunity and so far has expressed a lot of interest in the grant. I have been busy answering questions from interested applicants.
- **Youth Services (YS):** As the supervisor for the YS team, I will now include regular updates regarding major milestones and accomplishments for this group as part of my management team report. February and March are a busy time of year for this team, as they wrap up the school year, gear up for summer, and host a variety of trainings and events. I expect to have several updates regarding YS programs at the April board meeting.
- **Tribal Libraries:** Our Youth Services Program Coordinator Kristina Taylor has been doing a lot of great work connecting with Tribal Libraries in Idaho over the last year. Recently she was invited to be on the Nez Perce Tribe’s Library Committee, which is a significant result of her efforts and will help the ICfL strengthen its knowledge and relationships to better support all of Idaho’s Tribal Libraries.

#### **Report from Talking Book Service (TBS) Program Supervisor LeAnn Gelskey**

- I attended my first Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI) board meeting as a trustee. I have a lot to learn, but I am excited for the opportunity.
- I presented to the Blind Veterans of Idaho as part of the Visual Impairment Support Group in December. The group is great and very engaged. I always enjoy their company, and they are always happy to hear about Talking Books. The meeting was held at the Garden Plaza of Valley View in Boise, and I was also able to speak to their activities director. Support materials were left for the residents.
- Display boxes and large print books were sent to the public libraries in Plummer, St. Maries, and Glens Ferry.
- The next TBS Advisory Committee meeting will be held on March 15, 2023, at the Nampa Public Library. Nampa Library staff will showcase their new Low Vision Center and offer a tour.