

Legislative Changes

by State Librarian Mary Soucie

The legislative session concluded on April 30, 2023. There were over 900 bills that the legislators considered this year. SB2050 was pre-filed by the State Library in December and included changes to Century Code related to public libraries, the Library Coordinating Council, state documents and State Aid for Public Libraries. SB2050 was signed by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State. The bill will become effective on May 15th after the Governor signs SB2013, which is the budget bill that includes the Department of Public Instruction, the State Library, Vision Services/School for the Blind and the School for the Deaf/Resource Center.

We know that the Public Library community is eager to have access to the application. The application will open on May 15 and will close on June 16. We will hold the annual State Aid webinar on Thursday, May 18, at 11:00. We will review the changes to the application and answer questions. The recording will be posted to our YouTube channel. [Registration](#) for the webinar is required to receive the link.

There are several changes to the State Aid for Public Libraries program. The State Library has updated the State Aid application form to streamline the process and in accordance with the changes mandated by SB2050. Libraries will still need to enter their total actual expenditures and other funds received in the library fund for the preceding year. Libraries will have to answer the qualifying questions. Several questions have been removed or reworded and several have been eliminated.

The most notable change is that the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirement has been repealed. The MOE is a barrier for public libraries, especially the small, rural libraries. There were 17 libraries out of 84 total that were ineligible in 2022 due to not meeting maintenance of effort. One library missed the requirement by less than ten dollars. There is still an incentive for local funding in the funding formula since the amount of funds allocated to each library are based on the level of funding provided at the local level.

Another notable change to the State Aid program is that the State Library will obtain the mill levy from the State Tax Commissioner rather than the local library providing the information. A section was added that allows the State Librarian to adjust the grant formula based on a successful appeal by a public library determined to be ineligible. This recalculation would be done the next time the formula payment is computed. The State Library will be creating an appeal process. If a library is deemed ineligible this year they should submit an email to ndsladm@nd.gov to begin the appeal process.

In addition to the MOE being repealed, 40-38-10 was also repealed. This section allowed a community under 2,500 residents to appropriate dollars for the purchase of library books and periodicals without legally establishing a public library. There are no communities in North Dakota that utilized this section of the law. If a community does not have a local public library, they may either legally establish a library as outlined in 40-38 or contract for library services with another community that has a public library.

Section 40-38-09 was also amended. This section requires the library board to submit an annual report to the city or county before July 1st each year. The language has been updated to include library materials beyond books and periodicals.

We believe that the State Aid process is greatly improved for the local libraries as well as for the State Library with these changes. If you have questions or comments, please reach out to me at 701-328-4654 or msoucie@nd.gov.



WE ARE HIRING

North Dakota
State Library

**Information Services
Assistant**

Closing Date: May 8, 2023

Join our team of dedicated professionals at the State Library, where we provide pathways to information and innovation by making connections, strengthening communities, and enriching lives!

In this position, you will provide book vending machine management, perform tasks in shipping and materials management, and assist patrons at the Information Services Desk for circulation and reference.

[More Information](#)

Advocating for Libraries

By State Librarian Mary Soucie



I enjoy visiting Washington, D.C. every time I've been lucky enough to do so. In early March, I attended the spring meeting of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), or the state librarian's association. I am always grateful to network with my COSLA colleagues and doubly so when it includes meeting at the Library of Congress. We learned about the collections and services available from the Library of Congress and the National Library Service, which is the division of the Library of Congress that we partner with to provide the Talking Books Service to blind and print-disabled North Dakotans. We also spent some time in the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress, which is always a favorite spot of mine to visit when in D.C. The day wrapped up with an update from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), our federal partner, and the Schools, Health and Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB) about broadband, BEAD grants and the FCC Map of Anchor Institutions.

I was joined in D.C. by Tressa Graves from the Energy and Environmental Center at UND and a representative of the North Dakota Library Association (NDLA). Tressa and I visited the offices of Senators Hoeven and Cramer and Representative Armstrong. We met with legislative staff to discuss the amazing things happening in North Dakota Libraries; we presented the infographic about state and academic libraries. We thanked the legislators for their support of libraries, specifically the Library Services and Technology Act, which includes the Grants to State program and ARPA monies. We shared an overview of how we use LSTA monies and reviewed how we used ARPA dollars. We talked about Broadband as a Human Right and the Dollar Per Capita initiative, while acknowledging that is a big ask and we recognize it will take time to build to that level.



I am grateful to NDLA for supporting Tressa joining me in D.C. I always appreciate the Legislative Staff taking the time to meet with us to discuss North Dakota libraries.

North Dakota Beanstack Training

We will be holding a webinar on May 11 at 11:00 AM for any public library staff who will be using Beanstack for reading challenges/summer reading programs. Rebekah from Beanstack will go over basic information and ways to use the platform, answer questions, and work through any issues you have.

[Register Here](#)

Upcoming ND State Library Webinars

[Lifelong Learning with Universal Class](#)

Tuesday, May 16 (2:00 PM – 2:30 PM)

Universal Class is a continuing education resource provided by the North Dakota State Library. Universal Class contains over 600 professional development and personal enrichment online courses. This webinar will examine Universal Class and how this resource can benefit your patrons and your community.

[Discover EBSCOHost: Research at Your Fingertips](#)

Thursday, May 25 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

EBSCO provides many different types of Online Library Resources. The EBSCOhost research platform provides access to full-text articles, citations, and abstracts. While the content of the different EBSCOHost databases contains different information, the interface is the same, so once you learn to use one, you can use the others. When finding articles for patrons, the EBSCOHost databases are a go-to resource for articles. This webinar will explore the features of EBSCOHost that apply to all the different EBSCOHost databases. We'll also explore the content of these different databases.

All Together Now Quilt

There's still time to get your quilt blocks in! For those libraries who want to participate, please send your 9x9 quilt block that represents your library to the State Library before May 31.

Mailing Address: ND State Library; C/O Lexi Whitehorn; 604 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck, ND 58505.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lexi at 701-328-4663 or awhitehorn@nd.gov.

ND Battle of the Books

Registration is now open for the 2023-2024 ND Battle of the Books!

****This is for school libraries only.**



[Sign Up!](#)

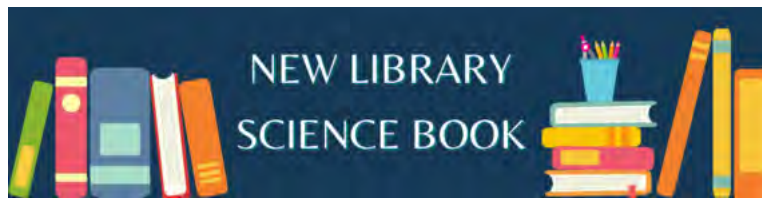
Libraries and Veterans Toolkit

In an effort to help librarians just getting started working with veterans, as well as those looking for new ideas to bring to their libraries, the Libraries and Veterans National Forum created an online toolkit.

This toolkit contains lesson plans, best practice documents, program outlines, collection development policies, and more to help librarians.

This toolkit makes it easy to browse by library type, resource type, programming audience, and topic, and each program includes a description, suggested duration, timing, resources needed, cost estimate, and audience.

[Click Here for the Toolkit](#)



"Podcasting : A Practical Guide for Librarians" by Junior Tidal



"Podcasting: A Practical Guide for Librarians" guides librarians through the process of creating a podcast. Libraries can take advantage of learning how to digitally record their podcasts, which can highlight library collections, connect with patrons, provide library instruction, and market library services across the Internet.

[Reserve This Book Today](#)

Recommending National Library Service Materials

Did you know Talking Books patrons can request materials to be added to the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled's collection? It's simple!

If you are looking for a particular book and it turns out it isn't available yet, you have two options.

- You can contact the North Dakota State Library's Talking Book Readers' Advisor at 701-328-1408 or tbooks@nd.gov.
- NLS patrons can complete the [Book Recommendation Form](#) to recommend books that are not in the collection.

Recommendations are reviewed for possible addition to the collection by the NLS Collection Development team.

[Learn More](#)

New Items Added to Digital Horizons

A highlight of the items added to the various digital collections of the North Dakota State Library.



University of North Dakota men's cross country team, 1967



Howard R. Wood, N.D. Lieutenant Governor, circa 1919



Portrait of Minnie Nielson, circa 1919



Portrait of Carl R. Kositzky, 1919

Gordon and Emma Anderson Collection

- Bruce Anderson in a football uniform, 1965
- Crosby junior varsity basketball game, Noonan, N.D., 1965
- Duane Anderson running with his portable radio, early 1960s
- University of North Dakota men's cross country team, 1967

North Dakota State Documents

- Report of the Home Builders Association, 1922
- Report of the North Dakota Industrial Commission, 1921
- The North Dakota Industrial Program, 1921

Political Prairie Fire

- Frazier Says Farewell; Not at Inaugural [1921 - newspaper article]
- Home Builders Association law, 1919
- Howard R. Wood, N.D. Lieutenant Governor, circa 1919
- My Business is Education, Not Politics [1919 - newspaper article]
- O. E. Lofthus, N.D. State Examiner, circa 1919
- Portrait of A. C. Townley, 1922
- Portrait of Carl R. Kositzky, 1919
- Portrait of George A. Totten, Sr., circa 1919
- Portrait of Gov. Arthur G. Sorlie, 1920s
- Portrait of Gov. L. B. Hanna, 1910s
- Portrait of Gov. R. A. Nestos, 1920s
- Portrait of John N. Hagan, circa 1919
- Portrait of Minnie Nielson, circa 1919
- The North Dakota Industrial Program, 1920
- Thomas Hall, N.D. Secretary of State, circa 1913
- William Langer, N.D. Attorney General, circa 1919

[Visit Digital Horizons](#)



Summer School Accelerator: STEM and PBL Models that Work

This week's Teaching Tidbit is a review of a school librarian webinar. (For monthly school librarian webinars, visit [here](#).)

Summer School Accelerator: STEM and PBL Models that Work was hosted by edWeb and led by John Moye and Rachelle Dené Poth. John Moye is the co-founder and CEO of [Lobee Learning](#). Rachelle Dené Poth is a middle school educator and elementary summer school coordinator. This learning opportunity contained a combination of polls and lectures. There was a slight push for using Lobee Learning resources; however, the focus highlighted the importance and effectiveness of using STEM and Project-Based Learning activities in summer learning programs.

[Continue Reading](#)

Upcoming Free Webinars

[Empowering Learning: Motivation, Metacognition & Mindsets \(Education Week\)](#)

Tuesday, May 9 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

[Lack of Access 101: How public libraries combat disparities and bridge the digital divide \(Network of the National Library of Medicine\)](#)

Friday, May 12 (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

[Academic Libraries and Mental Health Series \(Clarivate\)](#)

- Tuesday, May 16 (10:00 AM) - The Role of Libraries in Supporting the Next Generation of Mental Health Professionals and Researchers
- Tuesday, May 23 (10:00 AM) - Positive Mental Health: How Libraries Can Help Their Communities Thrive

[Disability Accommodations in Libraries \(Niche Academy\)](#)

Wednesday, May 17 (1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

[School Librarians Lead Learning and Transformation \(WebJunction\)](#)

Tuesday, May 23 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

[Promoting Voter and Civic Engagement at Your Library \(WebJunction\)](#)

Tuesday, June 6 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM)

[Library 2.023: Banned Books and Censorship \(SJSU School of Information\)](#)

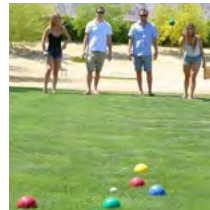
Thursday, June 8 (2:00 PM - 5:00 PM)



Bocce Ball

Bocce Ball is a family-friendly game and great for honing the entire family's math and science skills. Practice keeping score, measuring probability, and mentally calculating angles, distance, force, and momentum.

This kit includes eight Bocce balls, one white pallino ball, one measuring cord, one bag, and a folder with instructions and questions to think deeper about STEM topics.



[Reserve This Kit Today](#)

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library,
a Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

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ISSN: 1068-5383

This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and
Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as
administered by the North Dakota State Library.

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www.library.nd.gov

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BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov. Times referenced in the Flickertale are Central Time.

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