

Library Board

The Library Board is responsible for governance of the library. It exercises general control of the library's funds and property and sets policy, rules and regulations for the conduct of library affairs.

Library Board Meetings are held regularly, usually at 5:30 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month, in the West Fargo Public Library.

Library Board Members (2015)

Joseph McNelis, President
Katie Eskro, Vice President
Duane Hanson
Karla Knutson
Sarah Volk

Library Staff

The West Fargo Public Library has a staff of 8 full-time employees and additional part-time employees, for a total of 12.5 FTE.

Full-Time Staff

Sandra Hannahs, Director
April Ide, Assistant Director
Lauren Nephew, Librarian (Children's Services)
Kathy Vander Vorst, Librarian (Adult Services)
Janice Bober, Administrative Assistant
Anna Lynch, Circulation Coordinator
Mary Jo Moorhead, Library Specialist
Mary Murray, Library Specialist

"My two favorite things in life are libraries and bicycles. They both move people forward without wasting anything. The perfect day: riding a bike to the library."

Peter Golkin

2016: The Year in Stats

- The Library was open 3,162 hours in 2016
- 30 Public Internet computers-including PCs and laptops
- Public computer sessions—11,263
- W-fi sessions — 119,523
- 49,393 library visitors (est.)
- 6,044 reference questions
- 10,735 registered patrons
- 134,964 total circulation
- Interlibrary Loans:
 - 755 items loaned to other libraries
 - 556 items borrowed from other libraries

2016 Highlights

- In June, the library celebrated 45 years of service to West Fargo residents.
- After 11 years of use, soft seating in the library was re-upholstered to give the building a fresher look.
- The library's Technology Plan was updated in 2016.
- Through a survey, West Fargo residents expressed strong support for the potential establishment of a branch library for children, theoretically located in the southern part of the City.

Facility

The West Fargo Public Library is located inside the Lodoen Community Center, a facility owned and maintained by the West Fargo Public Schools. The 24,000 square footage occupied by the library is light and pleasant, with an open floor plan.

The space includes collections, public computers, the West Fargo Historical Center, the Homework Center, meeting rooms, and offices.

The library and its furnishings exhibit the normal wear-and-tear expected after 11 years of use. While repeated leaking from the roof has been a problem, damage to materials and furniture has been limited.

The library's lease with the West Fargo Public Schools will expire on August 31, 2017. The Library Board and City of West Fargo leadership have been working to extend it.

2016 Annual Report

January 1 — December 31, 2016

West Fargo Public Library



"Painting like Michaelangelo In the Sistine Chapel"

West Fargo Public Library
109 3rd Street East
West Fargo, ND 58078
(701) 433-5460

www.westfargolibrary.org



WEST FARGO
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mission Statement

By connecting individuals with information, and with each other, the West Fargo Public Library enriches lives

Vision Statement

We envision a strong, cohesive West Fargo community where people live, learn, grow, and succeed together!

Programs

In 2016, 11,637 patrons attended library programs and events. Popular activities included:

- Summer Reading Program, based on the theme of “On your Mark, Get Set, Read!”
- STEM events held in partnership with the Inspire Innovation Lab. Topics included Grossology, Zombie Science, Makey-Makeys, and Science of Pirates.
- “Learn about the Masters” art series for children, with picture viewing, discussion, and painting.
- Woodcarving with carver Bob Lawrence.
- One Book, One Community—a metro area reading program offered in collaboration with other local libraries.
- The library’s annual Caramel Apple Day!

In addition, patrons enjoyed book clubs, technology classes, film series, and arts & crafts activities.

The library also conducts a wide range of outreach activities. In addition to regularly visiting daycares and senior centers, we’ve participated in Share a Story at Rheault Farm, the Lodoen Kindergarten Center Family Nights, MSUM’s Heritage Education Commission’s Family History Workshop, and more.

Exhibits

In 2016, the library displayed exhibits on a number of topics:

Quilts	Man Toys on Display
Vintage Aprons	West Fargo School Sports
Hand-Carved Santas	Hmong Cultural Exhibit

Services

Demand for proctoring services remains strong, with 233 exams proctored in 2016.

Notary public services were added in 2016.

Collections

The West Fargo library offers patrons a wide range of informational and recreational materials for all ages. We provide both physical items (books, magazines, CDs and DVDs) and an online collection (eBooks, eAudiobooks, eVideo, eMusic, eMagazines), most of which can be accessed via any Internet connection or downloaded onto a computer or mobile device.

The electronic collection is composed of:

eBooks	27,229
eAudiobooks	8,095
eVideo	1,063
eMagazines	143
Online Resources	48

Online Resources provide free online access to thousands of popular magazines and academic journals, as well as online courses, fiction for adults and children, movies, and music. In 2016, we added Morningstar, an online resource for financial research. The ND State Library discontinued some databases for financial reasons, resulting in the loss of our library’s access to those resources, including the Literary Reference Center and Learning Express.

The physical collection is composed of:

Books	61,004
Magazine subscriptions	186
Audio (audiobooks, music)	3,057
DVDs	6,124

The library also provides technology for public check-out. In 2016, we added launchpads (educational tablet computers for children), assistive technology, and updated iPads. The library’s holdings now total 106,820 items.

2,142 items were weeded from our collections in 2016. This represents 3.05% of library holdings. 12,255 new items were added.



Friends of the Library in the West Fest Parade

Strategic Plan 2015-19

The library’s current strategic plan was drawn up in 2014, to span 5 years. The Library Board conducted its annual review of the plan in May of 2016, and confirmed its goals at that time. Steps taken in 2016 in pursuit of the expressed goals include:

- 1) Development of a marketing plan for the library, conducted with the help of MSUM’s Flypaper Advertising Agency.
 - Initiation of a regular e-newsletter to library patrons, with the intent of promoting library events and under-utilized resources.
 - Enhanced use of social media to engage patrons.
- 2) Identification of volunteers and partners to present book clubs, STEM training, and other programs.
 - Volunteers regularly lead book clubs and assist with outreach.
 - The Inspire Innovation Lab partners with the library on many STEM activities.
- 3) Professional development days were held in 2016. Training topics have included customer service, emergency response and drills, library technology, reference resources, and procedures.

“My grandma always said that God made libraries so that people didn’t have any excuse to be stupid.”

Joan Bauer, Rules of the Road

2016 Budget

Revenue: \$1,091,981

City: \$1,036,043

State: \$38,745

Other: \$17,193

Expenditure:

Total Staff: \$593,159

Salaries, Social Security, retirement, and health insurance

Collections: \$151,249

Books, magazines, audio-visual, and online resources

Total Operating Expenditure: \$1,006,610