

**Kyle Public Library
Long-Range Plan
2016 – 2021**

Vision Statement

The vision of the Kyle Public Library is to promote improved literacy in Kyle for all ages, provide multiple avenues to access intellectual material, and serve the community through an open and welcoming facility while providing quality programming.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Kyle Public Library is to serve as a resource for informational, educational, recreational and cultural enrichment by providing the community with convenient access to books, periodicals, audiovisual materials, technology and information services. These services are made available to patrons of all ages and backgrounds.

History

Up until the late 1950's, Kyle, Texas was without a public library. In the late spring of 1956, Mrs. Agnes Golumbeski, at that time a home economics teacher in Kyle, asked Bobby Word and Blanche Richmond to come to the Kyle Home Economics cottage to discuss putting together a summer book program for the children of the town. This had never been done before in Kyle, and Mrs. Word and Mrs. Richmond approved of the idea.

Mrs. Word and Mrs. Richmond kept the school library open for the summer, reading stories and checking out books for children who began to come in increasing numbers. That was the beginning of the Kyle Public Library. When the summer was over, the two women decided that the successful summer program could be expanded into a library for the entire community.

Mrs. Word approached Dr. Elizabeth Stallman, head of the library school at the University of Texas in Austin, for advice about how to start a library. Dr. Stallman taught Mrs. Word the basics of library organization and was very helpful and encouraging about the prospects of a library in Kyle.

Mrs. Word and Mrs. Richmond gathered a small group of people, including Frances Sledge, Charlene Dorman, Mrs. Gerhard Schulle, Margaret Thiele, Mrs. Gerald Brugink, and Riso Millhollon. Around 1958, this group came to be known as the "Friends of the Kyle Library." The Friends asked various citizens of Kyle to donate their private books for the community's good.

Lex Word, then the owner of the Bon Ton Grocery Store, offered a room in the back of the store to the Friends. Volunteers opened the library, which had a separate alley entrance from the store, one evening a week and occasionally on Saturday mornings to check out books and offer story times for children. More books continued to be donated, and Mrs. Word went to the State Lending Library in Austin every three months to retrieve and return new, different books for the community.

Population Served

The Kyle Public Library delivers free library services to any resident of Hays County. The Texas State Library assigned population for Kyle is 41,800, and the estimated population of the City of Kyle is 35,733. Therefore, the Library serves 6,067 people who are residents of Hays County. The racial makeup of the city was 47% white alone, 6% African American, 1% Native American, 1% Asian, and 45% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race.^[1]

The Hays Consolidated Independent School District reports the following:

- Hays CISD will reach 20,000 enrollment by 2018
- 5-year growth = 3,320 students
- 2018 - 2019 enrollment = 20,529
- 10-year growth = 7,219 students
- 2023 - 2024 enrollment = 24,428

Service Response

A service response is what the Library does for, or offers to, the public, of all ages, in an effort to meet specific community needs. Decisions include the resource allocation implications of choosing a particular service response. The following service responses were selected for the current planning cycle.

- **General Information:** the Library offers general information to meet the information needs of the public to a broad array of topics encountered in work, school and personal life.
- **Current Topics and Titles:** the Library provides current topics and titles to fulfill community residents' appetites for information about popular cultural and social trends and their desire for satisfying recreational experiences.
- **Lifelong learning:** the Library provides lifelong learning to address the desire for self-directed personal growth and developmental opportunities.

Goals and Objectives

1. Provide users with access to Library services, programs and information resources.
 - a. Continue and enhance existing Library programs.
 - i. Preschool story time in English
 - ii. Preschool story time in Spanish
 - iii. Baby Lapsit
 - iv. Summer Reading Program
 - v. Computer literacy classes
 - vi. Interlibrary lending
 - vii. TexShare databases and card services

- b. Develop programs focusing on the Spanish-speaking population.
 - i. Continue to provide Spanish-speaking staff at the Library.
 - ii. Continue to purchase materials that are written in Spanish.
 - iii. Continue to offer story times in Spanish.
 - iv. Secure funding for a bonded translator to enhance the Spanish-language element of the Library's website.
 - c. Develop new programs for children (see Goal #2).
 - d. Develop new programs for teens and young adults.
 - i. Explore reading programs that promote an interest in literature.
 - ii. Explore innovative digital media options that promote literacy.
 - e. Develop new programs for adults.
 - i. Develop classes involving career advancement, e.g., Texas Workforce Commission, online applications.
 - ii. Provide programs for adults with disabilities, e.g., cognitive and physical challenges.
 - iii. Provide programs in English and Spanish whenever possible.
 - f. Develop new programs for seniors.
 - i. Continue to purchase large-print books and audio books.
 - ii. Create programs focusing on seniors.
 - iii. Continue to conduct outreach programs to assisted living facilities, rehabilitation centers, and hospitals.
2. Foster early reading awareness and a general love of the Library in young children.
- a. Coordinate with the Hays CISD summer school to promote reading during the summer.
 - b. Expand staff and volunteers to support additional story time programs or time slots.
 - c. Expand story time outreach programs into the community, e.g., day care facilities, preschools, schools and hospitals.
 - d. Provide reading lists for parents of preschool children to assist them in selecting quality literature.
 - e. Create programs that teach parents methods for developing literacy skills in young children.
 - f. Develop art programs to encourage creative expression for both children and young adults.
 - g. Obtain summer reading lists from schools to assist children and parents in locating recommended reading.
3. Provide information to the community about Library services and materials.
- a. Maintain an informative and user-friendly website that is regularly updated.
 - b. Utilize social media platforms to inform and engage the community.
 - c. Conduct events to publicize Library services.

4. Identify, acquire and maintain a balanced collection of print and media materials that meet the needs and the interests of the community.
 - a. Review and evaluate the circulating collection.
 - i. Deselect part of the collection monthly.
 - ii. Inventory the collection annually.
 - b. Track collection use and utilize results to improve the collection.
 - c. Increase the collection to two items per capita over the next five years.
5. Review and evaluate the reference collection.
 - a. Deselect outdated reference materials.
 - b. Update the reference collection with current titles.
6. Provide training for Library staff in print and electronic reference services.
7. Monitor technology trends and implement those that best serve the needs of the community.
8. Develop and maintain a well-trained and effective professional and volunteer staff to assist patrons in all aspects of Library services and programs, and provide staffing levels appropriate for the Library's service responses and mission.
9. Support Library staff training as a key component in providing outstanding Library services.
 - a. Offer training and development opportunities to improve and enhance the integration of technology, customer service, readers' advisory, and reference services.
 - b. Encourage staff to seek training through the Central Texas Library System, webinars and other programs.
 - c. Incorporate recommended training and development opportunities into the annual performance appraisal process.
10. Seek partnerships with city, school district, county, state and private organizations to promote awareness of Library services and to explore opportunities for cooperative initiatives.
 - a. Determine which organizations are best suited to further the Library's strategic goals, and budget appropriate funding for memberships, e.g., the Kyle Chamber of Commerce, Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide, the Texas Library Association, and the American Library Association.
 - b. Maintain active memberships in the selected organizations in order to receive full benefit of the investment.
 - c. Communicate with local schools about available services and materials.
 - d. Enhance cooperation with schools and civic groups for joint programs, tours and class visits.
 - e. Promote services and programs through social media and local newspapers.

- f. Collaborate with area colleges and universities to encourage internships and volunteering to enhance ongoing programs, develop special projects, and increase funding resources and training.
11. Seek ways to make the Library services more accessible to patrons, e.g., bookmobiles, Little Free Libraries on city property, express libraries, and summer branches in schools

Approved by the Kyle Public Library Board 10.13.2016