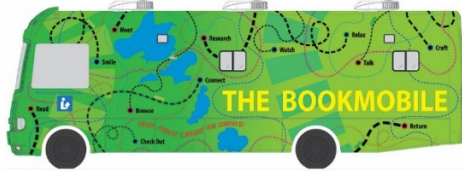




Dane County Library Service

October 2022 Director's Report



Bookmobile.

The Bookmobile is well into its fall schedule. Friday Zoo stops continue through October. Friday also sees the addition of a stop at Grosbeak Park in an attempt to connect with residents.

We were sad to say goodbye to Lex Gee, Bookmobile Library Assistant and driver, who left in September for a research opportunity. We are lucky to have LTE Emily Baer step into the Wednesday Cottage Grove route with John Nondorf.

The Bookmobile Bash on September 17 was a huge hit, with terrific music by Cruisin Round and tasty ice cream from Chocolate Shoppe. Thanks to all the volunteers and staff who made this event a success, and thank you to the Friends for their financial support!

Dream Bus.



The Dream Bus is busy on its new fall schedule, which includes the near and far west side on Mondays, near south side on Tuesdays, Sun Prairie on Wednesdays, north side on Thursdays and east side on Fridays. Summer staff members Emily Baer, James Glenn and Louis Hilson have stayed on to staff Dream Bus routes.

Beginning November 1, the Dream Bus will resume weekly visits to Capital High west, east and parent locations. These alternative high school locations don't have their own formal libraries, so the Dream Bus collection helps to offer more choices to the students who attend these schools.

Readmobile news.

I am working with the Purchasing Department to select requirements for the Ford Chassis that will open for ordering in October.

Dane County growth and impact on library funding

As mentioned at our last meeting, I made a calculation error on the 2023 minimum appropriation for libraries. After feedback from libraries already mid-budget, I consulted with Rex Owens, Library Board President. We arrived at the decision to use the initial figures and work with libraries getting close to their minimum appropriation on how to address the future. I have been in conversation with Middleton, Verona and Sun Prairie in particular about how equalized values will affect them in the future.

I discovered that I can get preliminary equalized values as early as April, when municipalities submit them to the Department of Administration. I plan to give libraries a preliminary look at what their minimum appropriation may be for 2024.

There are several aspects of how Dane County equalized values affect library communities, including disproportional increase compared to the population; library ranking within the DCL Standards; cost per capita support; and capital project planning. I plan to look at these factors more closely and bring it to the Library Board for discussion in early 2023.