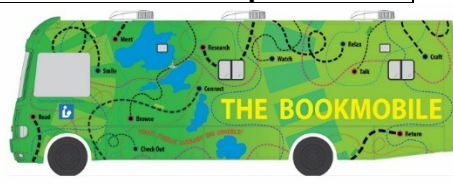


Dane County Library Service

August 2026 Director's Report



Bookmobile & Junior

Summer Reading Program has been no less than amazing! We have 537 children signed up on the Bookmobile as of this writing. Kids are excited for the dumpling squishies, 3D printed snakes and Pokemon keychains! Crafts have also been very popular, even with the hot weather and cancelations. A big thank you to Allison, our summer craft intern from Boys & Girls Club Dane County!

Jr has been delivering crafts and services around the County, visiting Country Creek Childcare Center and Mary Lake Montessori each month. Every Friday, Jr makes visits to Windsor and Don's Mobile Manor delivering crafts and summer reading program.

Dream Bus

Not to be outdone by the Bookmobile, the Dream Bus WE READ program has been popular, as well! We have great interest in our new talking books collection. These books have flat speaker devices inside the book that allow kids to read along as they listen. Visitors are engaged by the Question of the Week and love spinning the wheel for a prize! Marian, DC Extension/Career Pathways Intern, does a great job of engaging kids in the weekly craft.

Staffing

The entire staff is thankful for our summer craft interns, Allison & Marian, as well as Louis & James, who are in their final summer at DCLS. I am thankful to the staff for being flexible during our staffing and weather challenges!

Violence Prevention Grant

Planning has started on our Literacy Mentorship program. A small staff cohort have discussed a basic curriculum for mentors and readers who participate. We have met the other VP grantees and are working on service collaborations. Receiving this grant has plugged DCLS into a whole network of connections in the communities we serve with the Dream Bus; we are excited to get the service underway.

Partners in Community Grant

DCLS is leading the planning of a PIC Grant through the DC Office of Civil Rights. Partnering together, the Dane County libraries hope to receive funding to promote a county-wide push for residents to get library cards. Through this project, we hope to better align with one another on fine/fee policies and practices to remove barriers to library access. We hope to identify why people don't visit. SCLS directors are also interested in this topic, so we have an opportunity to provide a model for others to use.

Madison Public Library Subcommittee on DC Formula

I presented an overview of the operating and facility formulas to the Madison Public Library Board in February. MPL has formed a subcommittee to discuss the formula further; I attended their first meeting on July 27. At their August meeting, they will invite the firm hired to review the formula, Rethinking Libraries to attend and talk more about their findings. The subcommittee has asked me to attend this meeting, as well.