



## 2023 Library Visit Interview Form

**Library Name:** Albertson Memorial Library (Albany)

**Certification Grade:** 3

**Date of visit:** 10/24/2023

**Library staff present at the visit:** Melissa Everson

**SCLS staff present:** Vicki Teal Lovely

**Amount of time spent at visit:** 1 hour

**[Please limit this section to the answers to the specific questions, and include as much detail as possible. Report other information or observations in the “other information” section below.]**

1. What's new and/or innovative at your library?

They upgraded their technology in the community meeting room. A board member applied for a grant and they received \$4,000 for an AV system: a large TV, stand, sound system, DVD.

2. What are the next projects (big or small) on your library's to-do list in the coming year?

They are looking at mobile hotspot kits for patrons to check out. They have some money targeted for technology in their donations for this.

The board would like to have some of their resources digitized. She has Tamara's contact info for when she's ready. The family that built the library is pushing for this. They would partner with the Albany Historical Society.

They had someone who worked on “genrefying” the picture books over the summer. This will have to wait for some other projects to be done in order to implement this. They have been weeding.

Their outreach coordinator works at Brodhead and they have a “library of things” collection and wants to get that started at Albany. They need to make sure they have the policies behind it, especially in regard to liability.

They would like to start a puzzle exchange. They will rely on the community for this.

The only section left to weed is the young adult section.

3. What challenges or concerns is your library facing now and in the near future?

They are struggling. They plan programs for kids and adults that they think people would like. But, they are having difficulty with attendance. How do they get the community involved in their programs? What are they doing wrong? Perhaps they need to poll their community to find out what they want. They might partner with Brodhead, except they are in director transition. They feel like they have the right ideas, but can't get people to attend. They have a library author coming that is in honor of patron who passed away. Their library use and patron counts continue to climb.

4. How might SCLS help your library or staff with your challenges, concerns, or projects?

Help with getting community members in the library for programs.

5. What would you like to see SCLS focus on or prioritize in the coming year?

Couldn't think of anything.

6. Is there anything else you'd like to share or discuss?

Since she started as director, it is working out well with the revision of the positions. The Assistant Director took on certain aspects of the director role (the Assistant Director position was created for this purpose). They communicate well and it's working!

Their computers are always busy. They have a computer refresh plan that has not been kept up since before the pandemic. They may need to add another station.

**Other information gathered at the visit (interesting tidbits, general impressions of the library, or alternative topics:**