



2022 Library Visit Interview Form

Library Name: Columbus Public Library

Certification Grade: 2

Date of visit: October 26, 2022

Library staff present at the visit: Lindsey Ganz

SCLS staff present: Kayla Linke, 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. How are you and your staff doing?

They are doing well. A new Youth Services Coordinator was hired 6 months ago (Helen Wirka). They are now working on hiring a Marketing Assistant. Amy was working in this position but is going to be a Library Assistant. They have one applicant that seems promising.

They have had a couple people with COVID, but staff have been advised to stay home if they are sick so it hasn't been too bad. They are having in-person programs.

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

Both roofs are being replaced (main and annex buildings). They are going to bid with City Hall (who also is getting a new roof) so they are hopeful that they will get a good contractor. They have been leaking. Both buildings are from 1912 and need frequent upkeep...leaking radiator, plumbing, power surges.

Some offices have been rearranged. Marketing and Youth Services are together downstairs and Director and Adult Services are together upstairs.

3. Are there service changes or new services from the last two years that you plan on continuing?

In 2020, they started a virtual project with 10 Columbia county libraries with Columbus leading. They had shared virtual programming and are still doing a couple a year. Anyone is able to attend these, and they even had people from outside of the country attend before.

4. How can SCLS help?

Columbus is working on a Strategic Plan, and Shawn and Tim have been helping with that. Tracie has also been helpful answering questions. All SCLS staff have been great.

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

Columbia County dropped their funding to 70%, which is the minimum they can work with.

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

Columbus Public Library has an active YouTube channel where they share instructions for take-and-make kits, board games, etc., as well as fun videos. One video has gotten 22k views.