



2022 Library Visit Interview Form

Library Name: Deerfield Public Library

Certification Grade: 3

Date of visit: August 24, 2022

Library staff present at the visit: Leah Fritsche

SCLS staff present: Tamara Ramski

Amount of time spent at visit: 40 minutes

[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 good! They are glad to have a full year of being back to nearly normal behind them and are feeling positive about how things are currently going.

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

The library is working on a building expansion project. They are currently working with an architect firm on the design. The village decided they need a new building too, and that project was given priority over the library’s project. Leah thinks their project might happen in 2025. She is aware of the services Deb provides and will reach out to her when they need assistance.

They are in the beginning stage of planning a community read for Deerfield for 2023 library week. They will collaborate with the school district in picking a theme and selecting books appropriate for all ages.

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

They adjusted their hours. They are open the same number of hours, but adjusted when they are open. Staff and patrons are happy with the adjustments. They are open more evenings, which allows for later programs and gives patrons more time in the library after work.

Using Beanstack has been a good experience for them and their patrons. They plan on continuing to use Beanstack throughout the year, not just for summer programming.

They will continue offering curbside pickup.

4. How can SCLS help?

Leah's response to this was "keep doing what you are doing". She is very appreciative of SCLS' services and of SCLS staff. The services SCLS provides are of a great value and make it easier for her staff to do everything they need to do.

She stressed that not only does she like using SCLS' services, she appreciates the opportunity to be a part of SCLS by serving on committees.

She likes the way SCLS brings big and small libraries together and makes collaboration from staff at different libraries possible through events like the All Directors meetings.

She is grateful for the grants SCLS applies for and administers on behalf of libraries.

She specifically mentioned a few SCLS staff whose services she is thankful for. Deb's design and printing. Jean for making CE and learning opportunities available. She appreciates the flexibility of having these offered both in-person and virtual. Craig was a great help with creating a media kit.

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

We talked about the possibility of the library collaborating with their historical society on a local history digitization project.

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

Leah said it has been fun to meet (in-person) the families who got libraries cards (online) during the closures. Many were new to the community during COVID and forming relationships with them has been nice.

Summer reading and programming had more in-person participation, but still some hybrid, and it went well. They like using Beanstack.

They had a kids versus adult reading contest to see who reads more. The kids won, and they will be having a party to celebrate.