



2023 Library Visit Interview Form

Library Name: Monroe Public Library

Certification Grade: 1

Date of visit: 8/9/2023

Library staff present at the visit: Suzann Holland

SCLS staff present: Mark Jochem

Amount of time spent at visit: 45 minutes

Suzann's pre-written responses in Blue. Additional responses in Black

[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?

We are trying to add a variety of options for materials. Items such as playback devices, vinyl, hobby exploration kits, and more are increasing in interest. Our patrons finally understand that we are fine free. We are bringing in a new employee soon – we are always excited to have a new mind in the hive.

Adding new items to the archival collection.

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

We will be completing our interior renovation project at long last. This will give us fresh new spaces and added room on the 2nd floor. We are also hoping to get our lockers to work the way they are supposed to and to offer a new education program for our team.

Starting in October, they will be adding to their kits collections, additional vinyl records, and the American Girl doll collection. Will likely be calling up Deb and Craig for design and technology advice regarding the remodel project.

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

We have had a few complaints about materials lately, but none evolved to the point of the person asking for a form. We see the climate across the country and we are holding our breath that we remain fortunate in this regard. We are also feeling school board pressure to abandon the building we share and join them at the forthcoming new high school building.

Suzann was worried about foot traffic, especially during the COVID years, however now it is rebounding. She'll see at Annual Report season the full scope of the rebound.

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

I think we are handling things well! The biggest impediments to achieving our goals are unavoidable staffing shortages and funding. We appreciated the continuing innovations that SCLS is making, which inspire us every day!

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

I would love for the SCLS team to take some time to settle into the new headquarters and do a little planning. After that, perhaps looking at a new ILS. I am neutral on that, but I'm hearing a lot of discussion about it. I'd love to know what the possibilities are.

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

Nothing that I can think of!

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