



2022 Library Visit Interview Form

Library Name: Oregon Public Library

Certification Grade: 1

Date of visit: 11/18/2022

Library staff present at the visit: Jennifer Endres Way

SCLS staff present: Michelle Karls

Amount of time spent at visit: 45 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?

- Pretty good, but a lot of germs going around amongst the staff right now
- Groundbreaking for the library happened this week (feels like it's going to happen!)
- Village did a compensation study to make sure they are paying competitive wages, made staff feel important and appreciated

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

- ORE New Building:
 - Project started June 2018
 - Hired architect first and began fundraising until the pandemic (Stopped for 6-9 months), this shifted their timeline
 - Construction market has changed. Prices have gone up.
 - Redesigned their original plan to fit budget.
 - Site change, originally was 2.5 acres downtown in residential area to 7 acre site. (9 months of political process involved)
 - New timeline: construction will take a year, trying to figure out schedule, switch gear (electrical) takes a long time to get
 - Positives of new site: Prairie restoration, enough room for expansion, bike path, next to a park, plans for a Story walk, better views, etc.
 - Trying to do this as fast as they can without overwhelming staff
 - Digging starts November 28
- Relabeling and weeding collections for the move.
- Expanding Literacy English is a learned language and Spanish collections. Not sure the best way to promote those since they don't have a Spanish speaking person on staff. Hoping to hire new Teen librarian position.
- Shawn, Jean and Mark are helping them facilitate a Visions and Values exercise for staff.

(Employee training, retention and evaluation)

- Change management, working on culture building, and preparing for the move to make things easier on both staff and patrons
3. Are there service changes or new services from the last two years that you plan on continuing?
- Host hybrid (in-person/live streaming) programs for patrons with their local cable access channel. The program recordings are also uploaded to their YouTube channel for patrons that want to view them on-demand.
 - Karen has a partnership with a local nature alliance and will be hosting a native plant speaker at the library. This is very popular in their community. She also has an author series and Ripple programming.
4. How can SCLS help?
- Kara mentioned that any information on training for Literacy, ELL, and Spanish Collections for Adults.
 - How to develop and promote collections?
 - They are having trouble finding publishers that offer high/low readers for adults.
 - Emily is currently working on this, but she missed the old computer ordering inventory (SCLS used to inventory computers when they were ordered). With the new inventory, they are missing the ability to get a report that will list correct warranty dates, etc. (Hard to tell how old their PCs are from current reports)
 - Craig and Deb have been great with helping her with the new building (very responsive!)
 - She really appreciates that when SCLS needs information from libraries, libraries are given a two week turnaround (very helpful, more time to communicate with staff).
5. Is there anything else you'd like to share or discuss?
- SCLS staff are open and she usually talks to them directly on her own before the annual visit comes up. This is a testament to the great staff and services we offer.

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

- Pilot for Local Holds – They are participating. They are not a fan but wanted to participate in the pilot to help come up with parameters and see how it worked for ORE. Their vote will come down to the implementation process. (Don't want their patrons to suffer based on it.)
- She mentioned several times how great SCLS staff are.
- She didn't get as much feedback from her staff this time (people out sick) so it was a short visit. She is also very busy with the new building.