

CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MISSION

- To assist children, parents, teachers and other adults in utilizing the Children's Services Department and its resources and to encourage the love of reading by providing access to books and programs that children will enjoy.

COLLECTIONS

- Added 9,292 new books to the Children's Services Department in all areas of the collection. This resulted in a total print collection for the Department of 80,352 items.
- Added 1,418 audio-visual items in a variety of formats. This resulted in a total audio-visual collection of 9,171 items.
- Weeded 13,115 books and 864 audio-visual items from the collection in order to maintain a collection that fits in the current shelving.
- Added the Video Game collection in September 2007 and added 240 Wii, GameCube, Playstation 2 and Playstation 3 games.
- Added the Preschool Music Kit collection with a donation from Kiwanis which included 8 bags with enough musical instruments for a classroom, a book, and an activity/ song binder.
- Circulated 306,308 items at an average rate of 25,526 per month.
- The changing needs of the community have continued to be met by the purchase of an increasing number of books on CD, DVDs, and hanging book bags with CDs.
- Withdrew the puzzle and LeapPad collections from the department to make room for more popular collections and because they were no longer popular with patrons.

SERVICES

- Presented 291 storytime sessions to a variety of age levels reaching 7,357 participants with an average attendance of 25 per program.
- Offered 35 programs by outside performers that were attended by 1,408 people.
- Planned a variety of reading clubs throughout the year including the Summer Reading Program that involved 2,285 children in an age-appropriate club to encourage their reading and love of books, the Winter Reading Program that involved 200 families in a program to encourage families to read together and the Wolves Read-to-Succeed Club that reached 88 school-age readers.
- Introduced 13,082 children to fun and educational games on our Early Literacy Computer Stations.
- Awarded 369 Reading Patches to children during the 2007-2008 school year. Children signed-up for 757 patches and were invited to turn them in next fall if they did not finish by the end of May. 49% of all the patches signed-up for were awarded, down from 50% in 2006-2007, 54% in 2005-2006 and 53% in 2004/2005, but the same as 2003/2004.
- Introduced 4 groups that involved 142 children (school classes, scout troops, etc.) to the services and programs offered at the Library.
- Traveled out of the Library to present 396 programs in the Community to help strengthen library support including school visits, preschool visits and special events reaching 8,640 people.
- Encouraged Library participation with a Children's Book Week Scavenger Hunt (96 participants), a TV Turnoff Week activity (77 participants) and a Summer Reading Club Bookmark contest (287 participants).
- Filled 4 Special Requests as part of our readers advisory efforts.

- Conducted the Battle of the Books program that encouraged children to expand their reading tastes and levels with the 60 books from the Battle list. The Battles involved all 8 elementary schools in 12 “battles” and one celebration which brought 1,127 people into the library.
- Filled 259 School Loan Requests for 2,087 items as well as pulled an additional 931 over the course of 42 loans for homeschool families.
- Ordered books for 29 book clubs in the community, resulting in 183 books being pulled or sent from other libraries.
- Offered curriculum support with 183 books, which were put on Room Reserve through 15 Assignment Alerts. Website Links were provided from the Children’s Services Homepage to further assist the students for 15 school assignments during the year.
- Served 10 preschools with monthly Preschool Loans which included a total of 3,206 books brought to the schools through 96 loans.
- Presented the following special events:
 - Preschool Fair 247 participants
 - SRC Sign-up Day 896 participants
 - SRC Celebration 348 participants
 - Holiday Open House 615 participants
 - Harry Potter Extravaganza Thousands

PERSONNEL

- Max Esparza graduated high school and left his job as a student page to attend college.
- Kristen Bartel changed from student page to substitute after graduating from college.
- Megan Gluchman joined us as a student page in August 2007
- Bess Featherstone joined us as a student page in February 2008