

2011-2013
Republican Valley Library System
Plan of Service

Mission Statement

The Republican Valley Library System (hereinafter referred to as The System) will provide service to libraries of all types to achieve their fullest potential in the areas of advocacy, information dissemination, leadership, technology and resource sharing.

PRIMARY SERVICE ROLE: Professional Consulting

Goal 1: The System will provide professional consultation for System members.

Objectives:

- A. The System Director will make personal contact with as many library directors, school librarians, and academic librarians as possible in the System.
- B. The System Director will visit all libraries and media centers that have new directors/school librarians.
- C. The System office will maintain a database of current RVLS member library information.
- D. The System office will act as a referral center for technology and information services.
- E. The System will publish articles related to library services and concerns in *VALLEYTALK*.
- F. The System will provide a toll-free number to the System office for member use.
- G. The System will provide the System Director with a car for System business use.
- H. The System Director will provide general consulting (telephone, email, and in person) with system member libraries upon request.

Outcomes:

- A. New library directors/school librarians will be met and welcomed to RVLS.
- B. Current member library information will be available online and in hard copy format if requested.

SECONDARY SERVICE ROLE: Supporting Collection Development

Goal 1: The System will provide support and assistance in selection and maintenance of library materials.

Objectives:

- A. The System Director will publish recommended book lists/titles in *VALLEYTALK* and on the email list.
- B. The System Director will consult with member librarians/school librarians on the importance of weeding and preservation.
- C. The System office will provide professional selection tools.

PRIMARY SERVICE ROLE: Training and Support

Goal 1: The System will provide opportunities for continuing education for System library personnel, trustees and administrators.

Objectives:

- A. The System will advertise opportunities for continuing education through *VALLEYTALK*, the web page, and on the email list.
- B. The System will continue to cooperate with other Systems to provide programming.
- C. The System will route professional journals among its members.
- D. The System will offer Universal Service Fund discounts/e-rate participation training.
- E. The System will support the NLA Pre-conference program (in cooperation with the regional library systems).
- F. The System may provide scholarships for continuing education relating to library work.
- G. The System members will be surveyed for training topics.

Outcomes:

- A. Multi-system pre-NLA conference programming will continue.
- B. RVLS members' survey will include request for training topics.

SECONDARY SERVICE ROLE: Supporting Juvenile Services

Goal 1: The System will provide assistance in developing and improving children's and young adult services in libraries and media centers.

Objectives:

- A. The System will sponsor a workshop to assist public librarians in planning for the summer reading program.
- B. The System Director will provide consultation regarding juvenile services.
- C. Professional journals of specific interest to children's librarians and school librarians will be purchased and routed to members. Usage will be evaluated annually.

PRIMARY SERVICE ROLE: Communicating/Connecting

Goal 1: The System will provide communication links between the System and its members.

Objectives:

- A. The System will publish a quarterly newsletter, *VALLEYTALK*, which will include timely articles of interest to librarians and school librarians and will promote System services.
- B. The System will maintain a web page and an email list.
- C. The System will sponsor informational gatherings of library/school library personnel in the System to promote coalitions/cooperation among members and to facilitate communication.
- D. The System Director will send out at least two press releases per year regarding System services and/or events. At least one of these releases will include board member names.

Goal 2: The System will actively seek input from its membership.

Objectives:

- A. The System Director will distribute a survey biannually to the membership with pertinent questions regarding all services of the System.
- B. Board members' names will be published in *VALLEYTALK* and on the System webpage so that members have access to the System's governing body.

Goal 3: The System will foster partnerships between libraries and other information services.

Objectives:

- A. The System will continue to publicize the value of cooperation between libraries of different types.
- B. The System will work cooperatively with the Nebraska Regional Library Systems, Nebraska Library Commission, Nebraska Library Association, and Nebraska Educational Media Association in promoting librarians, libraries and the services they provide.
- C. RVLS will sponsor geographical gatherings annually within the system of member librarians/school librarians to meet, greet and share ideas.

Outcomes:

- A. The biennial survey will provide RVLS with direction for future services.
- B. System librarians will feel comfortable collaborating with other system members.

PRIMARY SERVICE ROLE: Providing Reference and Loan Services

Goal 1: The System will provide access to loan services.

Objectives:

- A. Bulk loans of large print will be provided through contractual agreements with member libraries.
- B. The System will work with other library entities to obtain affordable access to electronic databases for member libraries.
- C. The System will provide bulk loans of audio books through the System office.
- D. The System will loan Wii video game equipment and games to RVLS members in accordance with the "Wii Loan Policy."
- E. The System will provide "We Speak Your Language" Spanish title collections to RVLS members.
- F. The System will loan an Ellison die cut machine to RVLS members in accordance with the "Ellison Machine and Die Policy."
- G. The System will loan presentation equipment, including Flip video cameras, a public address system, a laptop, and a projector, to RVLS members in accordance with the "Equipment Loan Policy."

Outcomes:

- A. Member libraries will have access to audio books, large print materials, Spanish language material, and equipment to enhance their local collections and programs.
- B. RVLS will promote the Ellison Die Cut machine use to all member libraries.

PRIMARY SERVICE ROLE: Providing Technology Development Support

Goal 1: The System will provide educational opportunities and technical development support relating to library technology.

Objectives:

- A. The System will assist members in investigating automation and technology grants and cooperative purchases of technology.
- B. The System will actively promote the use of online databases.
- C. The System will promote technology training opportunities to all eligible member libraries.
- D. The System will demonstrate new technologies to member libraries so they are informed on changing technology and the implications for libraries.

Outcomes:

- A. The System Director will train in current software/hardware.
- B. Member libraries will increase technology available to staff and users.
- C. Member libraries will increase the types of technologies available to provide access to materials and other resources.

SECONDARY SERVICE ROLE: Assisting in Serving Special Needs Groups

Goal 1: The System will assist library personnel in serving special needs groups in their communities.

Objectives:

- A. The System will provide for loans of large print materials through System member libraries.
- B. The System will promote services and information, and may provide materials to assist libraries in serving English Language Learners.
- C. The System will disseminate pertinent information on topics of interest (ADA, literacy, physically challenged, etc.) pertaining to serving special needs groups.

PRIMARY SERVICE ROLE: Jointly Working with Commission

Goal 1: The System Director (and System Board) will work jointly with the Commission to serve the libraries of Nebraska.

Objectives:

- A. The System will work jointly with the Commission to develop continuing education programs and services on issues identified as being important statewide and therefore provided or funded by the Commission. Those areas include but are not limited to: planning and evaluation, trustee/library board education, children's and young adult services, technology and the Library Broadband Builds Nebraska Communities (BTOP) project, library personnel management, library services for multicultural/diverse populations, leadership/mentor education.
- B. The System Director will participate in quarterly planning meetings with Commission staff.
- C. The System Director will assist Commission staff in the development of strategies and services to expand library service to all Nebraskans.
- D. The System Director will participate in ongoing discussions of policy and consulting issues related to development of statewide library and information services.
- E. The System Director will be involved in implementation of the Basic Skills program. Specifically, the system administrator will be involved in the planning and arrangement for delivery of Basic Skills classes in the System area.

- F. The System Director will participate on Commission grant review and award teams (LSTA, Continuing Education, Children & Young Adult, etc.) and attend the grant review meeting.
- G. The System will assist in the promotion and education of library staff and trustees on Accreditation and Certification Guidelines.

Outcomes:

- A. The System Director will share Nebraska Library Commission information with member libraries.
- B. RVLS will work jointly with NLC to provide Basic Skills training.

Approved by RVLS Board: 9/9/11