

Meriden–Ozawkie Public Library
Library District #1 County of Jefferson State of Kansas

Strategic Plan – 2021-2023

Mission Statement

Weaving modern technology, traditional library resources and friendly service into the fabric of a progressive community.

Vision Statement

The Meriden – Ozawkie Public Library reflects the community it is committed to serve. The library offers equal access to life-long learning and intellectual freedom to a diverse population.

Strategic Priorities

Four strategic priorities guide the Meriden-Ozawkie Public Library in our efforts to provide excellent services to the community. Each initiative includes a series of goals and objectives.

Strategic Priority #1: New Building. A new building will enhance the experience of the community.

Goal: Create a library building that meets the needs of the community we serve.

1. Develop adaptable space(s) for innovative programming.
2. Adjust environment to encourage community conversations and social engagement.

Goal: Develop a comprehensive plan for a new library.

1. Complete a needs assessment to identify space requirements for a new building.
2. Give the community an opportunity to help plan a new building that will meet their needs.
3. Work with the sub-committee of the library board tasked with designing the new facility.
4. Work with community partners to develop a sustainable funding model.

Strategic Priority #2: Programming & Outreach. The Library will explore and test new avenues to promote programs and reach new patrons.

Goal: Increase patron access to materials beyond the library building.

1. Promote the use of homebound services.
2. Engage Ozawkie city leadership in conversation to identify alternatives for servicing the Ozawkie community.

Goal: Develop Children's and Young Adult programming that will inspire discovery and life-long learning.

1. Reevaluate the summer reading program to accommodate the need for virtual and in-person programming.
2. Implement year-round makerspace activities and provide virtual programming to stimulate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) with an emphasis on coding.
3. Collaborate with librarians and district leadership from USD 340 to meet youth needs outside the classroom.

Goal: Provide Adult programming to enrich patron's lives and empower them to pursue their own goals.

1. Foster relationship building among senior patrons through access to social space and activities.

Strategic Priority #3: Technology & Collections. The community will have access to timely, innovative resources that meet their information and entertainment needs.

Goal: Introduce more patrons to convenient electronic resources.

1. Increase number of patrons possessing a Kansas State Library card.
2. Market and provide instruction on the use of electronic resources available through the State Library (databases, eBooks, audiobooks, etc.), and Next search catalog (Hoopla, Flipster, Lynda).
3. Increase usage of electronic resources.

Goal: Establish the library as the technology educator of the community.

1. Monitor technology trends and introduce patrons to the latest applications and resources through passive training materials and in-library training.

Strategic Priority #4: People. Library will support itself with well-prepared staff, board, and volunteers.

Goal: The Library will be a model for staff and board development.

1. Library staff will complete at least four (4) continuing education opportunities each year.
2. Library board members will exceed NEKLS (Northeast Kansas Library System) training expectations for library boards.

Goal: Engage community volunteers in library development and programming.

1. Develop volunteer opportunities.
2. Refine and implement a training plan for volunteers.

Goal: Nurture library-community engagement.

1. Foster a robust relationship with our community sub-committees that support our library.
2. Continue to encourage philanthropic giving to the library.