



Latah County Library District

Technology Plan

Latah County Library District (LCLD) is committed to providing access to information for all patrons and recognizes that technology is an integral part of expanding this access.

As of 2006 the LCLD is a participating member of the VALNet (Valley Automated Network) consortium of public and school libraries as well as a member of the regional Washington-Idaho Network (WIN) multi-type library consortium. Through shared catalogs and consortium borrowing services, print and audiovisual resources formerly available in only one location can be accessed locally through direct online request.

On its website the LCLD offers access to subscription databases and links to reviewed Internet sites. In its seven libraries the LCLD currently maintains 33 public access computers and 10 online public access catalogs (OPACs). All libraries are also wireless hotspots.

Goal 1: All District libraries will have public use computers with Internet access.

Objectives

- a) Ensure that patrons at each of the LCLD libraries will have at least one dedicated OPAC station and three dedicated Internet access stations available
- b) Provide trained staff at each LCLD library who can aid patrons in use of computers

Activities

- 1) Continue to replace computers that are between 4 – 5 years old (Business Manager, annually)
- 2) Continue to provide appropriate training for staff who work with the public (Access Services Manager, ongoing)

Goal 2: All District libraries will make information not owned by the District electronically available to the public.

Objectives

- a) Continue to improve access to periodical literature available through full-text databases
- b) Continue to improve access to the Internet and other forms of electronic information

Activities

- 1) Maintain active membership in the VALNet library consortium (Director, ongoing)

- 2) Continue to train staff and patrons in use of LiLI electronic resources (Adult Services Manager, ongoing)
- 3) Continue to improve portals on District website that provide access to other catalogs and electronic resources (Youth Services Manager, ongoing)
- 4) Appropriately maintain or increase subscriptions to full-text electronic resources (Adult and Youth Services Managers)

Goal 3: All District libraries will provide public access to electronic information resources using reliable and new technologies.

Objectives

- a) Stay current on technology advancements, determining when they should be provided in the District

Activities

- 1) Ensure that adequate funding is allocated to technology: (Director, ongoing)
See appended budget.
- 2) Invest in new technologies as they become available if they will improve efficiency and service to the public (Management team, ongoing)
- 3) Continue to seek improved user interfaces to make information more inviting and easily accessible to both young people and adults (Management team, ongoing)
- 4) Identify the most cost-efficient and effective way to address technology issues within the Library District (Business Manager, ongoing)
- 5) Set up internal training programs to keep staff skilled in current technological advancements (Management team, ongoing)

Evaluation

The Board of Trustees and staff of the Latah County Library District commit themselves to revisiting the Technology Plan each year, to evaluate its progress and funding status; and to add goals, objectives, and activities as the need for them arises.

Publicity

The implementation of the Technology Plan will receive appropriate publicity in the form of press releases to local news media, information pieces in Friends of the Library newsletters, brochures, posters, etc.