



Library Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2026 12:30 pm

Via zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85948600690?pwd=1326mAtyXfrLnHjBtxLZLrU1aWLITc.1>

District 1-Fischer (President)	District 4- Howells (Vice-President)	District 7- Aoh (Secretary)
District 2- vacant	District 5- Bennett	At-Large- vacant
District 3- Kubiak	District 6- Grove	At-Large- Groves

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2026**
3. **Public Comment- (limit to 15 minutes)**
4. **Library Reports**
 - a. Report of the Director- Jessica Spitulski
 - b. Staff Reports- none
 - c. Review of Financial Report-
 - d. Statistical and Other Reports-
 - e. Report of District Consultant-Jessica Church
 - f. Report of County Council Liaison- Terry Scutella
 - g. Report of Friends of the Library- Karen Miller
 - h. Report of Erie Regional Library Foundation-
5. **Unfinished Business-**
 - a. None
6. **New Business-**
 - a. None
7. **Adjournment**
8. **Appendix**
 - a. Announcements
 - b. News Articles

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2026

3. Public Comment- (limit to 15 minutes)

4. Library Reports

a. Report of the Director- Jessica Spitulski

- Upcoming Library Closures
 - Monday, February 16 (President’s Day)
 - Friday, March (Battle of the Books)
- Children’s Renovation Update
 - Public Information Sessions
 - Construction documents finalizing. Bid planned to go out soon
 - <https://eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/MeadChildrensLibraryReno>
 - Planning started for anticipated closure during construction
- HIRT Auditorium
- Strategic Planning Process
- Staffing Updates-
 - Literacy Librarian- new librarian coming on board Tuesday, February 17.
 - New Hires- 3 part-time clerks started at Blasco, Tuesday, February 3.
 - Part-Time Floater position- applications under review
 - Library Assistant- applications under review

b. Staff Reports- none

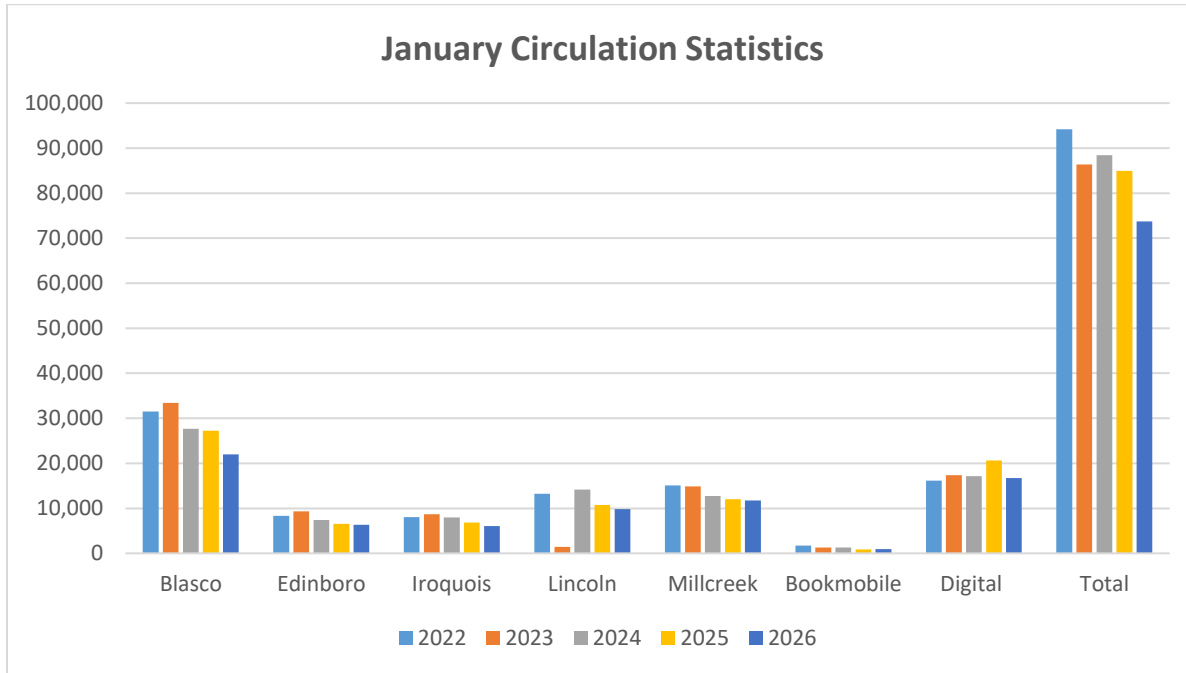
c. Review of Financial Report-
Report not available at time of agenda.

d. Statistical and Other Reports-
January 2026 Statistics

Numbers Snapshot

- 698 new cards issued, including **228 new school cards**
- 1767 WiFi logins, 2642 public PC logins across locations ↓9% from 2025
- 28,741 Patron visits ↓5% from January 2025
- **155 programs, 4 Outreach programs 1875 attendees.**
- Desk questions

Month	Type	Directions	Collection	Electronic	Program	Research	Total
Jan	In person	977	1204	537	398	301	3417
Jan	Online	2	2	0	2	0	6
Jan	phone	462	410	232	254	286	1644
		1441	1616	769	654	587	5067



* 9/2/25 Bayfront Road closure. * Jan 2026- reduced public parking.

January Circulation Statistics

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Blasco	31,483	33,397	27,668	27,238	21,966
Edinboro	8,364	9,328	7,438	6,586	6,360
Iroquois	8,083	8,682	7,974	6,875	6,089
Lincoln	13,261	1,459	14,160	10,758	9,839
Millcreek	15,106	14,867	12,719	11,993	11,764
Bookmobile	1,716	1,288	1,287	851	928
Digital	16,179	17,366	17,153	20,645	16,752
Total	94,192	86,387	88,399	84,946	73,698

e. [Report of District Consultant-Jessica Church](#)

District Services Report as of February 6, 2026

Updates for ECPL LAB Report

Submitted by Jessica Church, District Consultant

Updates from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL)

Governor Shapiro gave his initial budget address with level funding proposed for library lines:

- \$2.749 million for the State Library
- **\$75.47 million for the Public Library Subsidy**
- \$3 million for Library Services for the Visually Impaired and Disabled (LAMP)
- \$3.071 million for Library Access (POWER Library and Interlibrary Delivery Service)

This address is the start of budget conversations with the PA House and Senate.

District Updates

District Advisory Council members met on February 3 to discuss a review of district services, member library needs and interests, and preliminary items for the upcoming 2026-2027 negotiated agreement. Each spring, the 16 District member libraries vote upon a negotiated agreement, which guides the initiatives and spending for District Services. Highlights include:

- Interlibrary delivery in Erie and Crawford Counties
- Rotating large print and rotating Playaway/Wonderbook collections
- Circulating hotspots at all member libraries
- Professional development opportunities for boards, executive directors, and staff
- Financial support for Libby content for both counties' OverDrive platforms, as most of the ebooks and audiobooks are shareable through the reciprocal lending agreement
- Consulting services for member libraries on a wide range of topics depending on individual need

The District Advisory Council meets Tuesday, April 7 to vote on agreement and budget.

- f. [Report of County Council Liaison- Terry Scutella](#)
- g. [Report of Friends of the Library- Karen Miller](#)
- h. [Report of Erie Regional Library Foundation-](#)

5. Unfinished Business-

- a. None

6. New Business-

- a. None

7. Adjournment

8. Appendix

- a. [Announcements](#)

The next board meeting will be Monday, March 16, 2026, at 12:30pm via zoom.

- b. [News Articles](#)

Book sales help Erie County Public Library fund programs. When to go

February 5, 2026 | Erie Times-News: Web Edition Articles (PA)

Author/Byline: Nicholas Sorensen, Erie Times-News | Section: News

540 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1180, grade level(s): 10 11-12

[Read News Document](#)

The Friends of the Erie County Library exceeded its funding goal in 2025.

Last year, according to a Friends' winter newsletter, the nonprofit raised over \$82,000 to fund the Erie County Public Library literacy program, branching services for adults and youth, outreach and staff development.

The Friends of the Erie County Library is dedicated to the advancement of the Erie County Public Library. The nonprofit has 524 members and more than 100 volunteers and has an annual goal of raising \$80,000 toward library programming.

Last fall: Find used books and more at Friends of Erie County Library's fall 'S-Book-tacular' sale

Record-setting Great American Book Sale

The 2025 Great American Book Sale set a sales record of \$90,741. The annual book sale is the top source of revenue for the Friends of the Erie County Library.

The Great American Book Sale also earned \$4,205 in sponsorships and \$1,941 in donations.

The total net profits were \$81,103.

Small books sales make great profits

Before expenses, the smaller book sales raised \$17,883. Those sales included:

- * February Book Lover's Sale: \$5,474
- * May Swing Into Spring Sale: \$6,522
- * October S-Book-Tacular Sale: \$5,837

The net sales from the Bayfront Bookshelf Gift Shop totaled \$21,873.

Additional revenue from Friends of the Erie County Library

Generated by online sales by Abe Books, Erie Gives, donations and income from the Blasco Library workshops, additional revenue from Friends of the Erie County Library includes:

- * Abe Books online sales: \$3,454 after expenses. This comes from the Friends' online sales portal.
- * Erie Gives: \$17,882 which are donations and matches through the Erie Community Foundation.
- * Membership donations: \$7,815
- * Income from Blasco Library computer classes: \$579

What book sales will take place in 2026?

The Great American Book Sale will return to the Flo Fabrizio Ice Center at the Erie Zoo, 527 W. 38th St., in June 2026. The sale is scheduled for Sunday, June 14, through Thursday, June 18, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Friday, June 19, the sale will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be more small book sales this year to help generate revenue for the Erie County Public Library.

All small book sales will be held in the Admiral Room at the Blasco Library at 160 E. Front St.

The first small book sale of 2026 will be the Book Lover's Sale held on Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Feb. 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Feb. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Following the Book Lover's Sale is the Swing Into Spring Sale on May 21 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., May 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and May 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The third and final small book sale will be the S-Book-Tacular Sale on Oct. 15 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Oct. 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Oct. 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

From June 2025: Erie's Great American Book Sale arrives. Everything to know about 6-day event.

Spring Book Drive 2026

The Spring Book Drive this year will take place on April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Flo Fabrizio Ice Rink at 257 W. 38th St.

Details regarding donations and drop-off procedures can be found on Erielibraryfriends.org.

Nicholas Sorensen can be contacted at Nsorensen@usatodayco.com.

WQLN Q-Readers Newsletter- February 2026



Q-Kids Readers Kit

February 2026



Shining a Light on: Iroquois Branch Public Library

This month, I had the opportunity to learn more about the Iroquois Branch Public Library. Located in the Lawrence Park area, the library was designed with train-station–inspired architectural details that reflect the community’s strong ties to train manufacturing. The Iroquois Branch Library is a small, peaceful space where the staff take great pride in creating a welcoming environment. They love that they can greet many of their patrons by name, helping the library truly feel like a community hub.

Iroquois features a wonderful children’s library and a community room that hosts several engaging weekly and monthly programs for families. One of their weekly offerings is **WEE Build Block Party**, held every Tuesday from 10–11 a.m. This program invites children and their caregivers to enjoy unstructured play with puzzles and blocks—encouraging kids to build, unbuild, and explore together. Another popular weekly program is **Family Story Time**, held every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Designed for children under 6 (though older children are welcome to attend), this lively program includes great stories, songs, and a craft. Iroquois also supports older kids with a **teen program every Tuesday at 3 p.m.**, where teens can participate in creative activities such as painting and sewing. In February, they even have a special *Sew a Valentine* program planned. One of Iroquois’s beloved monthly programs is **Read to a Therapy Dog**. Every **first Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.**, children are invited to read aloud to Neela, their wonderful therapy dog, in a relaxed and encouraging setting. In addition to these programs, the library opens its community room every other



Thursday at 10 a.m. for families to relax and enjoy a kid-friendly movie. In February, **Annie is scheduled for February 12**, followed by **Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse on February 26**.

With so much to offer families and children of all ages, the Iroquois Branch Public Library is well worth a visit. Be sure to check them out—and don't forget to add your visit to your Q-Kids Readers Log!

