

HIGHLIGHTS OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY2026

Library patrons across the district will have convenient access to quality services:

Libraries serve everyone in the community. The FY26 budget includes funds to maintain, and enhance as possible, the collections, programs and services our public has come to expect, and ensure convenient access to them.

Staff are our greatest asset; staff make all library services possible:

Library users receive high quality personalized assistance with reference/reader's advisory services, circulation of quality materials, and developmentally appropriate, quality programming for all ages. Our friendly staff are readily available to assist library users in finding answers, obtaining needed materials, accessing technological resources, enjoying quality program experiences and meeting other people/families in libraries that are close to home. The FY26 budget provides for wage increases for hardworking and skilled staff, facilitates training, and covers expected insurance increases.

We continue to expand access to quality resources in print and digital formats with readily accessible content. We continue to offer a wide variety of books, media, and our "gear" collection. We continue to invest in technology: hotspots, VR, 3D printers, high speed Internet/WiFi, Launchpads, WiFi enabled tablets/laptops, and more:

The library offers a great selection of books for all ages as well as a variety of other materials in various formats, e.g. DVDs, music, audiobooks, magazines, large print books, video games and gear. We will work to raise awareness of valuable online resources such as financial information, genealogy databases, and newspapers. The equipment budget maintains public computers and circulating hotspots. Our mobile branch will expand opportunities to take materials and services into neighborhoods across the district.

\$1,650,000 is budgeted for carry-over into FY27 to ensure uninterrupted regular library services from Oct. 2026 through Jan. 2027:

The District does not receive major tax monies until the end of January of each year. This enables us to keep all library branches open to provide services in those months before the money is received.

Public libraries provide vital, cost effective, recreational and educational services to residents. Libraries help prepare children for school, assist in workforce development and bolster the economy. Paying tax to support library service is a solid investment, paying dividends to individuals while building community. A library card is the smartest card in any wallet. Our goal is for everyone in our district to own and use a library card!

*\$120 year (tax support) might buy 5 hardcover books, or 6 private children's art/music classes, or 8 months of digital subscription, or 2 tickets to a concert...**OR** it provides essentially **unlimited year-round access to a wide variety** of educational and recreational resources: books, magazines/newspapers, audiobooks, music/movie discs, videogames, computer resources, ebooks/audiobooks, streaming music and video, **and** all ages programming! We will work to increase cardholders/users.*

The Budget Hearing is Tuesday, August 19th at 6:00 pm, immediately following the monthly Board Meeting, at the Lake Hazel Branch Library at 10489 W. Lake Hazel Rd., Boise, ID, and streamed via Zoom. To gain the Zoom invitation or for more information on the budget, please contact Mary DeWalt at mdewalt@adalib.org / 208-473-2774 by 4 PM on the 19th.

IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO SERVE YOU; WE WELCOME YOUR IDEAS AND COMMENTS