Dunkerton Public Library Policy: **Acceptable Library Behavior Policy**

Adopted: September 29, 2011 Reviewed: July 29, 2019

The Dunkerton Public Library encourages people of all ages to visit the library. Those who choose to use the library and its resources have the right to expect safe and comfortable environment that supports and encourages the appropriate use of services offered by the library.

No person shall engage in any conduct that disturbs or interferes with the legitimate use of the Library, including, but not restricted to the following:

1. Willfully annoy, harass, or threaten another person.

2. Behave in a disorderly, loud, or boisterous manner.

3. Interfere with another person’s passage within the Library or on library grounds.

4. Consume or possess alcoholic beverages, or use or possess controlled substances on library grounds or be under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances in a manner that causes public disturbance.

5. Possess any firearm, knife, any device which could be used as a weapon or other weapon prohibited by City Ordinance or State Statutes.

6. Deface or destroy library property.

7. Sleep as well as eat, drink or smoke in the library (unless eating or drinking is specifically allowed in an area or at a particular activity).

8. Remain in the Library without authorization after regular closing hours.

9. Solicit funds or panhandle.

10. Interfere with others’ use of the Library through poor bodily hygiene that is so offensive as to constitute a nuisance.

11. Bringing unauthorized animals into the Library except as required by persons with disabilities.

12. Use skates or a skateboard in the Library or entrance.

13. Play audio equipment at a volume that is disturbing to other users.

14. Campaign, petition, interview or survey patrons or staff in a manner that is disruptive to Library activities.

15. Willfully expose patrons and staff to offensive images or language.

16. Use of the Library’s telephone for long distance calls or for extended periods of time.

17. Use of cell phone cameras or other unauthorized cameras in the Library.

18. Attachment or use of private equipment to download or obtain website images or to obtain information about other patrons from public access computers, such as spyware.

19. Staying at the library by a student when not in attendance at school due to an illness.

20. Interfering with the Library’s right to maintain a clean, pleasant and safe facility.

In most cases, patrons who are behaving inappropriately in the library will be given one warning and asked to behave in an appropriate manner. Patrons who refuse to behave more appropriately after one warning will be asked to leave the library. Serious violations, which include behaviors that are absolutely unacceptable, do not require a warning, but can result in the loss of library privileges for as long as the director deems necessary.

In the cases in which a patron poses a clear danger to her/himself or others, deliberately violates the law, or refuses to leave the library after being asked to leave by the librarian, the police will be called to handle the situation.

In extreme cases where a patron is consistently disruptive every time he/she visits the library, the Director will bring the matter to the attention of the Board of Trustees who shall decide on any further action.

 Unattended Juveniles

Children under the age of 10 years will not be left unattended in the library. Such children must be accompanied by an adult or child over the age of 13 who will be responsible for the younger child's behavior and safety.

If the responsible adult or teenager cannot be located, after reasonable attempts to contact the parents or guardian, law enforcement will be notified and the unattended child will be placed in the custody of the responding department. This action is necessary for the safety of the child.

Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children while in the library. Children should never be left waiting outside after the library has been closed and the staff has departed.

The library staff may use their discretion as to waiting a few minutes after closing for parents who are late picking up their children. Under no circumstances should staff members transport unattended children to any other location. If a responsible adult does not pick up the child at closing time, laws enforcement will be notified and the child will be released to the custody of the responding department. .

Reviewed July 29, 2019

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Curt Thomas, Board President