

BARRINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Cooperation Policy

The Library Board of Trustees understands that no single library can provide all materials and services needed by our patrons at all times. Therefore the Library recognizes the benefits of sharing resources through various cooperatives and statewide consortiums.

1. Library Cooperatives & Consortiums

The Barrington Public Library will belong to the Suncook Area Library Cooperative (SILC). The dues are \$250.00 per year, to be budgeted for annually. SILC is an audio/visual cooperative that rotates bags of DVDS and audio books on CD for use by the member libraries on a three-month rotating basis. All dues go to purchase materials and cases, and educational opportunities such as speakers which enhance the member librarians' knowledge of library practices. They meet 4 times per year to swap items and discuss issues. Other consortiums will be considered as they become available to see if group purchasing can bring down overall costs for services for all member libraries.

2. New Hampshire Statewide Library Development System

The Library has chosen to affiliate with the New Hampshire Statewide Library Development System of the New Hampshire State Library. Services to us include Inter-Library Loan from member libraries; van delivery service; technical assistance for the statewide union catalog, access to the State Library's professional staff for technology and policy assistance, and the ability to join in on statewide purchases of databases and other online services (such as Overdrive) for lower fees than single licensing would allow. We must provide reciprocal ILL borrowing, be active in selection and policy decisions for consortium purchases, and abide by all rules for maintaining records in the statewide union catalog.

3. Barrington School Libraries & Town Educational Committees

The Library recognizes the need to work with the Barrington schools to best provide services to the children of the community. In order to facilitate this cooperation, the library will work with the school librarians and other school officials to determine how the institutions can best work together. The Library will do its best to provide materials useful to students, but it cannot provide all curricular needs of the schools. The Library staff will set aside particular materials for class projects, deliver books to the schools according to a yearly ILL agreement, and work to provide library staff visits to the schools on a regular basis for students and teachers to learn how to use our resources. Tandem projects, grants, and educational classes will be explored in conjunction with the schools as well. The library will also actively work with other town formed educational groups seeking to provide similar enrichment activities to the citizens of Barrington.

4. Professional Organizations

In recognizing the need to not only cooperate with other libraries, but also the value in networking with other librarians, the Library will encourage and support its professional staff in joining professional organizations and attending meetings, conferences, and workshops of these organizations.

5. Home School Families & Non Profit Groups and Individuals

The library will work with home school families and local home school organizations to provide curriculum support and enrichment to these students. We will keep them informed of upcoming events, provide ILL services with fewer limitations for home school families, and will provide programs and materials geared for this population. The library will work with other non-profit education-based groups and individuals when doing so will provide the residents of Barrington with more cost effective programs and services.