

### Discovery

We encourage and support the exploration of new ideas, fostering a love of discovery through resources, programs, and services.

### Curiosity

We nurture the inquisitive spirit by providing opportunities for individuals to explore, ask questions, seek knowledge, and explore ideas.

### Respect

We value the dignity of all individuals and treat everyone equally with kindness, courtesy, and fairness.

### Learning

We promote an environment where our community members can expand their knowledge, enrich their perspectives, refine their abilities, and acquire new skills.

### Creativity

We encourage imagination and innovation through programs that inspire artistic expression, original thinking, and passion building.

### Equity

We provide fair, impartial, and just access to our resources, experiences, and services.

### Diversity

We embrace the unique differences of every person and recognize the strength it brings to our collective experience.

### Integrity

We act with honesty, transparency, and accountability in all that we do, upholding the trust placed in us by the community.

### Collaboration

We believe in the power of working together and combining our community's collective knowledge in new and interesting ways.

### Communication

We commit to actively listen to our community and provide open, clear, and respectful dialogue to build greater understanding by all.



## A Strategic Plan For West Florida Public Libraries 2024 - 2027

**Vision:** Be the welcoming heart of our diverse community where all come to learn, discover, create, and connect.

**Mission:** Engage all community members in meaningful exploration, learning, and fun by providing equitable access to a wide range of resources, programs, equipment, and services.

**Lori NeSmith, Chair**  
**Kenneth "Blaine" Wall, Vice Chair**  
**Liza Campbell, Member**  
**John Bullock, Member**  
**Robin Reshard, Member**

# Goals *and* Objectives

## **Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning**

- Create learning opportunities with strategic partners to maximize Library and community resources
- Develop programs to engage and connect residents across cultures and ages
- Partner with volunteers, local groups, and businesses, to increase awareness of library resources and activities, and create potential programs
- Maximize, streamline, and invest in systems, processes, and technologies to provide each user a great library experience

## **Create Young Readers: Early Literacy**

- Maintain an age-appropriate pre-literacy collection for children from birth to 5 years old
- Provide specialized computer stations and software geared toward young children
- Increase awareness of parent-teacher collections
- Partner with community organizations for early literacy initiatives
- Highlight early literacy resources to schools, daycare centers, and early literacy agencies
- Promote early literacy resources and programs in-house, Online, and through media outlets

## **Stimulate Imagination: Reading, Viewing, and Listening for Pleasure**

- Build diverse collections of materials in a variety of formats
- Provide exposure to new subjects through programming with hands-on activities linked to library resources
- Conduct or partner to provide book discussion groups

## **Understand How to Find, Evaluate, and Use Information: Information Fluency**

- Provide reliable, equitable access to public computers, software, and high-speed Internet connections and technologies
- Assist the people of Escambia County in developing the skills to find, evaluate, and use information
- Encourage discovery and promote information literacy

## **Be an Informed Citizen: Local, National, and World Affairs**

- Be a community information hub providing citizens the information and access needed to make informed decisions
- Promote community engagement and collaboration through displays, guides, and postings to the library website and social media

## **Discover Your Roots: Genealogy and Local History**

- Expand genealogical and local history collections
- Continue programming to capitalize on Escambia County's unique history and culture
- Encourage living connections between past and present