

Hello Mustang Parents!

We are looking forward to another busy school year. We are always excited to fill the library with teens after school. Over the years we have developed some guidelines and rules in order to serve our teens, families, and adults to the best of our ability. We'd like to inform you of these here.

Please do not use the library as your pick up spot after school. While we understand that after school pick up can be chaotic, there are simply too many kids and cars and we would like everyone to stay safe. We ask that anyone waiting for a ride wait on the sidewalk on School Street or inside the library. To keep the door clear, people will not be allowed to wait in the foyer or under the awning. If your child is waiting for you inside, please park in a parking spot and come inside to get them.

From 3:15-5:15 we reserve the main areas of the library for those who are quietly playing with young children, working on homework, using the computer, or reading books. We have split the library up so that there is an area for everyone. Want a quiet "traditional" library? That's the upstairs. We ask that students enter the building through the lower level so that the upstairs can remain quiet. Want to work on homework or play with your young kids? That's the downstairs. If you want to socialize at the library, as so many of our teens do, we have two additional areas for that: The Chat Room and Teen Zone.

The Chat Room is for junior high and high school students to socialize and is open every day for about 2 hours after Memorial Junior High School lets out. We will have daily activities to enrich the students' time here. We will also have board games and coloring pages available for those who do not want to participate, as well as laptops for those who own a Lansing Public Library card in good standing.

The Teen Zone is for high school students in grades 9-12 only and is open from 4:00-6:00 as staffing allows. It has comfy seating and a Wii-U and a PS4 for the teens to play. Teens must have a school ID or library card to enter and will be asked to sign in.

We reserve the right to ask any patron who violates our Behavior Policy to leave library property. If a patron continually violates the policy, a patron may be banned from library property for a longer period of time. If they do not obey that ban and continue to come onto library property, the police may be called and a ticket for trespassing may be issued.

At peak hours, off-duty police officers volunteer to help the library handle crowds and enforce policy. This allows the librarians to focus on helping patrons use the library. Say hello to Chief Murrin when he's here!

Respect: Respect for self, for staff, for other patrons, and for library property is the basis of our rules and any behavior deemed disrespectful may result in consequences. A few things to remember are:

Do not be disruptive by speaking loudly, swearing, running, or listening to media without headphones.

Please do not eat inside the building as it can be messy for the books, computers, and tables.

Keep your things with you at all times. The library is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

We have zero-tolerance for fighting—whether real or in play. Even roughhousing often leads to injury.

If some members of a group violate the behavior policy, all members of that group may be subject the same consequences. Each person is expected to understand the rules and remove themselves from

situations that violate them. Any individuals who do not remove themselves from the situation are subject to consequences given to the group as a whole.

Children in 5th grade or below MUST be accompanied by a caregiver over the age of 18. If they are here alone, we will help them call an adult. If we cannot contact an adult, we will have to contact the police to bring the child home. Teens in 6th grade and older may use the library unaccompanied.

Some rules are specific to using library services:

Children under the age of 18 must own a library card in order to use a computer.

Patrons may not use each other's library cards to access a computer—even if they are related.

Bicycles must be in the bike rack. We encourage patrons to use a bike lock as we have had bike thefts in the past. If a patron does not have a bike lock, they may borrow one from the desk to use while they are at the library.

The full behavior policy is available on our website www.lansingpl.org click About Us, then click on Library Policies and Mission, then click on Behavior Policy. We want the library to be a place for everyone to use. We hope that by adhering to the above stated guidelines, we can continue to make the library a comfortable place for everyone in our community. Any questions can be directed to the following people:

Emily Laidley, Head of Youth Services

Debbie Albrecht, Library Director

Please share this information with your student. Thank you very much and we look forward to a great school year,

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