

LIBRARY NETWORK REVIEW BOARD

APRIL 7, 2022

NOTE: The Library Network Review Board (LNRB) is composed of eight New Jersey librarians, four appointed by the State Librarian and four appointed by LibraryLinkNJ (LLNJ). LNRB meets at least annually and advises the State Librarian on matters pertaining to necessary or desirable statewide and inter-regional programs or services; and types of interaction and linkage of the New Jersey Library Network with interstate and national library networks.

The LNRB met, along with members of the State Library, on April 7, 2022. The agenda consisted of the State Librarian's report; library network budget updates; statewide database statistics; a review of LibraryLinkNJ activities; and reports from Newark Public Library and Rutgers Libraries regarding their statewide services activities.

State Librarian Jen Nelson reported on ARPA expenditures; the upcoming new LSTA plan; the review of e-resources for a new three year contract; the ebook summit held with LLNJ and the Library Construction Bond Act. Chief Operations Officer Sheri Shafer and Finance Manager LaKia Allen reported on the network aid budget which is primarily spent on support of LibraryLinkNJ; JerseyConnect; JerseyCAT and statewide services and support provided by State Library staff from Lifelong Learning, Library Support Services and the State Library's Law Library. Bob Keith reported on e-resource statistics which were lower for FY 20 and FY 21 due to COVID.

Ralph Bingham presented a written report from LLNJ. He focused on statewide delivery, the NJLA equity scholarships which LLNJ is helping to support; the joint NJSL/LLNJ/NJSL EDI Town Hall; the "Ready for Anything" grant program; their current strategic planning process and MentorNJ meetups.

Members of the Newark Public Library (NPL) and Rutgers Libraries explained the services they offer to libraries statewide. Newark offers reference services in the areas of art, business, music, New Jerseyana, U.S. Patents and U.S. Documents. NJSL has done a social media campaign on these services and NPL is working on a brochure. A representative of Rutgers Libraries explained the role they play in interlibrary loan services, with requests being accepted through JerseyCAT, Docline and other ILL platforms. It was suggested by the board that network services provided by these two libraries be publicized more heavily to the library community. To that end, summaries of this meeting will be sent to the public library directors' list, the State Library's newsletter NJSL Direct and a session held with the library directors and trustees monthly checkin. Additionally, in the future, board members expressed interest in a field trip for NJ librarians to NPL; sessions at the NJLA conference on NPL services; and the ability to post information on NPL services on their library's web site.