

**BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY
REPORT OF THE CITY LIBRARIAN
For the Month of January 2025**

The Bridgeport Board of Education has booked library meeting space at each branch to hold community forms where the public can attend and ask questions of the new Interim Superintendent.

The Fiscal Year 2026 budget cycle started in January and all reports were submitted to the Office of Policy and Management per deadlines.

Recertification for the Passport Acceptance Program was completed. An all-day passport fair has is being planned for some time in the spring.

Library directors of large urban Connecticut public libraries have been discussing the formulation of guidelines that library staff can follow should they receive visits from non-local law enforcement agents such as ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement). I am working on a draft for Bridgeport Public Library staff and will seek guidance from the City as I move forward with the guidelines.

We are meeting with vendors such as Total Communications to implement a Voice over Internet (VoIP) system at the library. Our network infrastructure has been upgraded to support such a system, and now is a good time to start the transition to VoIP with the East Side Branch renovation underway.

Staff have prepared and disseminated program information for Black History Month. Another significant program date is February 1, Take Your Child to the Library Day, and activities and programs will be held at each branch.

Regular meetings, planning and activities that are ongoing include:

- Digital Navigation Regional Sharing Grant
- Computer Classes at each branch
- Total North -Logo and Marketing Plan
- The Klein – Final Concert of the Series – Rhonda Denét
- Assessment of Staff Trainings

The Islamic Center held a Muslim Heritage Celebration event non January 24. The Library sent staff to attend with information on library programs and services. The vent was well attended and we are happy to extend our outreach to the Islamic Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Braithwaite
City Librarian
February 19, 2025