

BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY
REPORT OF THE CITY LIBRARIAN
For the Month of December 2022

In this evening's Board Packet, please see the Staff Association's requested Library Holiday Hours for calendar year 2023 for the Board's approval.

We continue our hiring efforts, with Beardsley Branch and the Librarian III position among the highest priorities at this time. We will continue working on the part-time positions that are yet to be filled.

I have been asked to give a presentation at January's meeting of the Connecticut Libraries and Partners for Digital Equity. Many libraries are interested in our digital navigator model of delivering services, and it is a great honor to be asked to share the progress of our pilot.

We are waiting for the delivery of equipment, including servers, in order to complete our network upgrade.

We have a promising candidate for the Support Specialist 2 position. Interviews have been completed, and I conducted an in-person walk-through of Burroughs-Saden Library with our preferred candidate (Paula Keegan, North Branch Manager was also in attendance.) We have notified HR of our intentions to move forward with this candidate and have asked HR to commence the onboarding process, with an estimated start date in early February.

Senator Blumenthal has expressed an interest in visiting Bridgeport Public Library during "Take Your Child to the Library Day." This is an exciting development and I will keep the board informed as the plans become firm.

The Security Service Bid has gone out on Bidsync and a Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the City Hall Annex on January 11, 2023. The Bid opening is on January 25 at 2:00 pm.

Overall, we have had a very good calendar year and look forward to the new year when the Beardsley Branch opens (Soft Opening expected March 1). Ongoing community outreach, library app development, the Grand Opening of the Beardsley Branch, and our Digital Navigator Pilot Program are among the many initiatives that will keep our staff and the community engaged in the new year.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Braithwaite
City Librarian
January 17, 2023