

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

We continued our efforts to collaborate with Bridgeport Public Schools; to date, we have achieved the following:

- Monthly meetings scheduled with key BPS personnel to coordinate efforts such as library card sign up, classroom visits, and school visits to BPL library branches and dissemination of library communications and announcements.
- Bridgeport Public Library's website is now linked prominently on all individual school websites.
- Plans for all first graders this year to visit the library and get library cards.
- Discussions of long-range collaborations, such as student access to BPL Online resources and a Teen Advisory Board collaboration with representation on the library board.
- The City Librarian toured the new registration center at Housatonic CC.
- The City Librarian recorded two PSAs at WPKN Radio for Library Card Sign Up Month and for general announcement throughout the year (with Matt Blaine.)

The Library's Media Communications Committee has been charged with rolling out the new logo on the webpage. They are also looking at the webpage to catch errors, broken pages and other issues. We will also have the Media Committee play a large part in assessing the current website and developing specs for an RFP/Q to be submitted to the Purchasing department in early 2026.

We have a library intern with a background in graphics, and she is assisting in designs for new library cards.

Brian and I are continuing conversations with Comcast's donation's division as they consider how they can support the library's Digital Navigator program and the eSports Program, currently at the North Branch and run by Coach Don Wilson. We met Brad Palazzo at the North Branch with Bina Williams attending.

I met with Nadine Douglass, our social worker's supervisor. We discussed a variety of topics relevant to Nellie's duties as a library social work that is staff member of the Clinical Services Department of the City. I believe the new reporting structure is a very good change for everyone, and our patrons will be able to benefit from improved connections to resources and referral programs. Also, Nellie will receive the professional support that she needs as a library social worker.

I will be attending a Manager and Department Head Retreat sponsored by the CAO's office on September 24 & 25 to be held at the University of Bridgeport. The retreat will require two full days; therefore, the Assistant City Librarian in charge of the day-to-day during my absence.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Braithwaite
City Librarian
September 17, 2025