



Monday Morning Eye-Opener April 6, 2020

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MONDAY MORNING EYE-OPENER

FROM THE STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



April 6, 2020

From Iowa Department of Education

Great Resources For Families

State Librarian Michael Scott has this news from the Iowa Department of Education. The Department has shared a great assortment of resources for parents and families to use while school is suspended and more learning is happening at home. The button below links to a



wide variety of learning materials for PreK through 12th grade, here are just a few of them:

- Farm Food 360
- NASA Kids' Club
- BrainPop
- Virtual Field Trips
- TED Talks for Kids

From the D.E. website "...The Iowa Department of Education partnered with AEA Learning Online, the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, Iowa PBS, and the Iowa Reading Research Center to provide a variety of resources. These products cover multiple subject areas, such as literacy, computer science, fine arts, and career and technical education. The resources also address mental health and emotional well-being. This list supporting learning during COVID-19 is not exhaustive and will be reviewed and updated weekly..."

Michael Scott writes: "...I know that Iowa's public libraries are assisting parents and educators with services ranging from virtual storytimes, to online reference service, to promoting eBook and audiobook content. Because libraries are utilizing their social media platforms, they can certainly point parents, educators, and caregivers towards these educational resources..."

Thanks to Michael for this news and
thanks for your continued efforts in your communities!

Dept of Education Resources

Electronic Meetings Recap



Important Considerations for Virtual Meetings

The Coronavirus crisis has caused countless disruptions to "life as we knew it" in our personal lives and work lives. Public library directors and staff have made creative changes in programming, while library boards have made adjustments to their monthly meetings. In recent weeks, the State Library has fielded a great many questions from directors and trustees regarding virtual board meetings. So this summary should prove helpful as you consider upcoming board meetings in the weeks ahead.

First, this important point: for decades, public boards and commissions have had the allowance to hold electronic meetings. In normal circumstances, virtual meetings have been authorized by [Iowa Code 21.8](#). Appreciating this fact is important because it opens library board service to people who spend the winter months in warmer climates. When looking to fill board vacancies, knowing that local snowbirds **can still be encouraged to join the library board** is a great talking point when recruiting prospective trustees.

Because of the Coronavirus, on March 20, 2020 Governor Reynolds temporarily suspended the legal requirement that there be a physical location for people to attend, as long as the public is notified about how to access the electronic meeting via phone or computer.

Virtual Meeting Considerations

- Meetings must still be properly noticed with an agenda; the agenda must include a link to the online meeting space or a telephone number to access a conference call. These days when library buildings are likely closed to the public, board agendas can be taped to outside doors and windows and of course posted on the library's website, as well as the city government's website

- Minutes must be taken and must include the reason that it was deemed impossible or impractical for the board to meet in person
- The board must still have a quorum of members present to it to be considered an official meeting
- Boards must continue to follow normal parliamentary procedures, making sure that all votes are roll-call votes
- If the board still wants the meeting technology set up in a room where the public may attend, someone should be there to enforce COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the Governor, including spacing attendees at least six feet apart and wiping furnishings and equipment once people leave
- It is important for the board to operate with as much transparency as possible

If you have any questions about holding a virtual board meeting, contact your [District Consultant](#)

Public Libraries Stepping Up

Listening, Responding, Connecting

This Wednesday, the State Library is holding the third in our ***“Crisis Response Conversations”*** (April 8 @ 1:00PM) This time, the topic is ***“Libraries and Community Connections.”*** We’ve all been hearing and reading about wonderful contributions that public libraries state and nationwide have been making during this health crisis.

While closed to foot traffic, library staff have stepped up with new spins on traditional services. Join Wednesday’s webinar to learn more, for today this nod to library innovation:



- Akin to restaurants providing carryout and drive-up service, public libraries are doing something similar with "curbside pickup." Methods vary from place-to-place, making **LibraryTalk** the best space to read more about curbside service from Iowa libraries
- This is the time to promote your library's digital collection. From **BRIDGES** eBooks to the GALE products including Transparent Languages and Chilton's Auto Repair, to Brainfuse, to Opposing Viewpoints, now is the time to remind people about online resources @ your library
- Wall Lake Public Library has bundled book kits and craft kits for kids. If the kits contain library books, kids are expected to return the books eventually, but coloring pages and craft supplies are theirs to keep. Library staff place the kits in the entryway. The first day, they assembled 5 kits, advertised them on

Facebook, and the bundles were all taken by day's end. Easter craft bags are pictured above.

- Waterloo Public Library has joined other businesses in utilizing their 3-D printers to make COVID-19 personal protective equipment or PPE as referred to on the news. In fact, Waterloo P.L. was featured in the April 3rd issue of ***American Libraries*** for using their 3-D printer for this purpose. Click below for the full article.

[American Libraries April 3, 2020](#)

Kids First and More This Week



[KIDS FIRST Schedule](#)

Kids First Online

Kids First 2020 kicks off today and continues tomorrow. Remember to refer back to the schedule page for session descriptions and ZOOM Room links. Our thanks to all presenters, coordinators, and attendees—enjoy the conference!

Crisis Response Conversations

The third in a series ***Crisis Response Conversations*** happens this **Wednesday April 8 @ 1:00PM**. This week's topic is ***"Staying Connected to Your Community"*** providing new twists on traditional programs. Hear about *Rhyme Time on Facebook* and *Conference Call Bookclub*. Share what you've been doing and how other libraries have been supporting community morale during these difficult times. Still time to register

[C.E. Catalog](#)

Join BRIDGES

Important news regarding **BRIDGES**: For all public libraries that are **NOT YET** members of **BRIDGES**, the State Library is extending the enrollment deadline for first-time libraries. **The extended deadline is now April 14, 2020**. This does compress the time needed on our end to help newcomers to **BRIDGES** get successfully up-and-running. So we ask that you read all documentation carefully and contact us if questions. Find the *Letter of Agreement*, along with pricing and policies here

[BRIDGES Letter of Agreement](#)

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