

Southeast District - October 29 2020

District News

I'm extending the deadline to fill out the <u>reopening survey</u>, so please take a minute to let us know where you are in the process of opening your library. Monday will be the last day to fill it out and I'll compile responses and get them published by the end of next week.

And here's another plug for the ALA grant <u>Libraries Transforming Communities</u>: Focus on Small and Rural. ALA is giving out over 650 \$3,000 grants to libraries all across the US. I'd love to see some of that money go to lowa libraries. Check out the website and contact me for more information.

I attended the Iowa Library Association online conference a few weeks ago and it was weird not seeing you all! It was always a time for me to meet up with my Southeast librarians. I hope some of you were able to attend online and hope see you next year in person.

<u>Open Forums</u> continue in November and December, the schedule will continue every other week. Hope to see you next week, November 6, then again November 20, December 4 and 18. I'll send more reminders and links out as we get closer to each date.



Chat Service

I have a few updates about the free chat service the State Library is providing to any public library that wants to participate. This service is a great way to stay connected to your patrons and makes it easier to engage with those who

prefer digital connections, instead of phone or email. You may not be aware, but you can connect your FaceBook Messenger chat, as well as any text service you use. All your messages can flow directly into the Bold 360 page. Just think, you only have to have one page open to use all your chat communication services. Contact me if you want to set that up.

And I want to highlight one last feature of Bold 360. Did you know you can use the "Remote Access" feature to help your patrons, both in the library and from home, navigate your website and resources? They just need to request your help and you can hop on their computer and help them find something in a Gale database, learn how to send a print job to your printer at the library or choose and download a book in Libby. This can be a great safe way for your staff to help computer users, while keeping a safe social distance away.

Chat with Becky

And, last, don't forget, there are changes coming to the State provided online resources. We need to hear from you, so please fill out our quick survey. Closing Date: Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020

Library Service Tools and Products Survey

Contact Your District Office

1112 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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