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## State Library Report 2021 Q1

### **Library Community Activities**

- We are not doing many in-person library visits other than new director orientations and the Technology Infrastructure grants. Our IT staff is running new CAT6 cabling, updating network equipment, and improving Wi-fi access at 39 public libraries that received the grant; they have completed just over half of the libraries.
- Several NDSL staff are very involved in NDLA at different leadership levels as committee chairs or board members.
- We host the general Library Community Meetings twice a month and School Library Meetings twice a month.
- Since we couldn't give the annual Star and Wheelie Awards in person, we mailed them to libraries along with *Flat State Librarian (FSL)*. Libraries have been sending in pictures with *FSL* and Grand Forks Public Library did a whole little video that was super fun and can be seen on their Facebook page. I included a few of the pictures in my testimony as well.
- NDSL has joined the OverDrive Library2Go consortium. Magazines will transfer on February 16 and will increase to a collection of over 3,000 titles, simultaneous use.
- We are making plans for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Virtual Statewide Summer Reading kickoff to be held on June 8-10. More info to follow soon. We would love to have participation from across the state and all library types.
- NDSL is one of eight state libraries participating in an LSTA grant that was awarded to the Montana State Library. The grant focuses on strategic planning and EDI.

### **Legislative**

- Senator Oban carried our NDLCC bill, SB2157. It passed the Senate and has been received in the House.
- I gave testimony on HB1013, our budget bill, on January 14 and then answered questions during committee work on February 1. We believe the Education and Energy Committee has completed their work on our budget; next step is for it to go to the full House Appropriations committee.

### **NDSL Updates**

- We are working with JM Strategies on an updated strategic plan. With a new organizational structure, our plan format will also be updated. Our current mission statement is "Strengthening communities, making connections, impacting lives". We are interested in feedback from the Council on how clear this mission statement is to you.

- We still have a mask mandate for the public areas of the building. We are also still limiting the number of patrons in the building at a time to 5 and patrons are limited to one half-hour of computer use per day unless related to unemployment or immigration and then the limit is one hour.

### **Personnel**

- Public Library Specialist Angie Houser resigned in December. We re-imagined the position as the Academic, Special and Tribal Library Specialist. James Murphy has been hired for that position. James has been a Reader's Advisor in Talking Books for three years and recently received his MLIS degree. We will be filling his former position soon.