

ACUSHNET PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Acushnet Public Library celebrated one year on Middle Road in December of 2016. The Library has become an even more valued community entity since the relocation, with 553 new library cards issued, an increase in programs and attendance, plus a **30%** increase in circulation. Features of the Library include a Children's Room, a Periodicals Room, two Study Rooms, a Young Adult area, public computer stations and a Community Room.

The mission of the Acushnet Public Library is to provide free and open access to innovative library services, delivered in an efficient and effective manner that will:

- Provide the materials, programs, and services needed to meet recreational needs.
- Provide the materials, tools, and assistance needed to help students succeed in a formal educational program.
- Provide a safe, inviting, and neutral public space that helps to address the need of people to meet and interact with others in their community and to participate in public discourse about community issues.

The Library offers books, DVDs, audiobooks, music CDs, eBooks, newspapers, magazines, Internet access, online databases, and personal assistance using technology, all at no cost. Printers, a copy machine and a fax machine are available to the public for a small fee.

Free children's programs support emerging literacy, and regular story times are offered throughout the year. The annual Summer Reading Program, encouraging children to read during the summer months, while reinforcing the skills gained during the school year, had its highest participation in the Library's history. The Library also holds programs for adults. The popular Knitter's Group continues to meet twice a month, while a Crafter's Group now meets bimonthly as well. A Reader's Group meets once a month to discuss titles selected by its members. Regular Technology sessions are scheduled, and the Community Room has attracted various local and state non-profit groups to hold meetings and workshops. Additionally, the Library has successfully increased its outreach efforts to Town schools.

To obtain a library card, please present a photo ID and proof of address. A child may have a card with parental permission and when able to print his/her name. No card is required to use materials and services within the library, with the exception of public computers.

The Library is open year-round. Hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Monday and Wednesday; 1:00 p.m. – 8 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday; and 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m., Saturday. The telephone number is 508-998-0270 and the fax number is 508-998-0271. The website is www.acupl.org, and the Facebook page is www.facebook.com/AcushnetPublicLibrary.

Staff of the Acushnet Public Library: Dina M. Brasseur, Director, M.S.L.I.S.; Sandra Medeiros, Patron Services Associate; Mary Marshall, Lesley Perkins, Pauline Prudhomme (retired December 2016), Jacqueline Rolnick, Cynthia Souza, and Bethany Vieira, Library Technicians; Diane Fuller, Custodian.

The six-member Board of Library Trustees has the custody and management of the Library and all related property. The Board typically meets monthly.

The Library is a full voting member of the SAILS Library Network. Through SAILS, library patrons have access to the collections of over 70 libraries. In addition to the automated system, SAILS provides cataloging services, technical support and continuing education. The SAILS system allows users to search the catalog, reserve materials and renew items from home.

The Library is also a member of the Massachusetts Library System. MLS provides delivery of materials between libraries, regional reference and inter-library loan service, on-line databases, staff training, Summer Reading materials, and professional consultants at no charge to the library.

The Library maintained state certification in 2016. Required: a Director with a Master's Degree in Library Studies from an accredited institution and certification by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners; a minimum of 40 hours open per week; a minimum of 16% of the total budget expended on materials; a municipal appropriation that increases by 2-1/2% each year over a three year average. Certification entitles Acushnet residents to borrow materials from other Massachusetts libraries and qualifies the Town to apply for state aid and state grants to libraries – these elements allow the library to provide residents with a wider variety of materials, and also assist the library in providing additional services.

The Museum Pass Program and many special events are made possible by the generosity of the Friends of the Acushnet Public Library. We are grateful to them for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. In addition, we thank the businesses, organizations, and individuals who fund our Summer Reading Program, and the many library patrons who donate time and materials. The Board of Trustees also thanks the residents of Acushnet, Town officers, and other Town departments for their support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Acushnet Public Library Board of Trustees
Diane Ferreira
Nancy Francis
Jeri Howland
Kristen Leotti, Chair
Henry Preston
Jean Stripinis

LIBRARY STATISTICAL REPORT 2016

Active Borrowers.....	TBD
Children's Programs Held.....	70
Attendance at Children's Programs.....	1377
Teen Programs Held.....	28
Attendance at Teen Programs.....	127
Adult Programs Held.....	86
Attendance at Adult Programs.....	483
Computers Available for Public Use.....	7
Computers Available with Internet Access.....	5
Sessions Held on Computers Available with Internet Access.....	1565
Community Room Use.....	47
Study Room Use.....	293

Materials Holdings (Number of Items)

Books.....	all TBD
Periodical Subscriptions.....	
Videos/DVDs.....	
Audio.....	
eBooks.....	
Downloadable Audio.....	

Circulation (Times Borrowed)

Books – Adult and Teen.....	18578
Books – Children.....	20674
Periodicals.....	3116
Videos/DVDs.....	13297
Audio.....	1920
eBooks.....	1678
Downloadable Audio.....	431
Museum Passes.....	203
Total Items Circulated.....	59897