

Public Libraries Survey Changes – Edits

Submitted by Monica Struck

Another way that the Public Libraries Survey can change is with question edits. These edits are usually in the definition portion. These changes are made to clarify what information should be shared under that data point. This year, five questions have undergone definition edits.

1. 6.5 Other Physical Materials Expenditures
2. 6.7 Electronic Content Expenditures
3. 9.5a Total Reference Transactions
4. Total Number of Asynchronous Program Presentations
5. Total Views of Asynchronous Program Presentations within 30 Days

The changes to Other Physical Materials Expenditures and Electronic Content Expenditures are related. The Electronic Content Expenditures definition was changed to remove tangible digital media like CD-ROMs and disks. The items removed from the definition of Electronic Content Expenditures were added to Other Physical Materials Expenditures.

IMLS knows that it is difficult to count reference transactions, so with this definition edit, they are trying to more accurately state what qualifies as a reference transaction and what does not. The two Asynchronous Program Presentations questions also underwent definition changes to clarify what qualifies as an Asynchronous Program and what qualifies as Asynchronous Program Attendance. If you want to reference the improved definitions, you can find the 2024 PLS changes document on the [Public Libraries Survey LibGuide](#).

Question changes are meant to clarify what IMLS is looking for in that data point. If the adjustments don't make any sense to you, please reach out to mcstruck@nd.gov or 701-328-4680 so that we can talk them through.



Ice Cream, Video Games, And Copyright

There have been some interesting developments in the world of copyright recently, involving ice cream, video games, and the public domain.

In regards to the ice cream, it specifically involves McDonald's and their temperamental soft-serve machines. These machines are frequently out of order, enough so that there have been a flurry (or perhaps a "McFlurry") of [memes](#). There is even an online tracker ([McBroken](#)) that provides the status of McDonald's ice cream machines across the United States. McDonald's even poked fun at itself in 2020 and [tweeted](#): "we have a joke about our soft serve machine but we're worried it won't work."

[Continue Reading](#)



[Fargo Public Library](#) held a Mario Kart tournament. The tournament was co-sponsored by Rock 30 Games, which donated \$250 worth of gift cards for the winners.

[Ward County Public Library's](#) resources were highlighted in the Minot Daily News



Resources to Enhance News Literacy Skills

In her article, *5 News Literacy Resources for Students*, Laura Ascione explains that AI advancements make it "...easier to doctor or fake online images, social media posts, and sound clips..." Ascione provides educators with several resources that teach students critical thinking skills they can apply when using online information.

The [News Literacy Project](#)

- Resource library with lesson plans, classroom activities, and other materials
- Weekly newsletter with media news, examples of misinformation, and more
- In-person and virtual professional development opportunities
- Checkology—a browser-based platform for grades 5-12 that prepares students to identify misinformation
- Newsroom to Classroom—a program that connects educators with journalists, available only for Checkology users

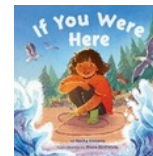
[Continue Reading](#)

Upcoming Picture Books

Submitted by Kathy Cline

Last month, I attended a Booklist webinar featuring three publishing companies that highlighted their picture books: Quarto, Greystone Kids, and Cherry Lake Publishing. The information in this article is for informational purposes only. Neither I nor NDSL endorse the titles listed here.

Greystone Kids



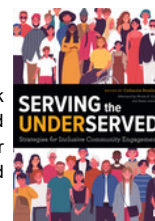
[Continue Reading](#)



Serving the Underserved: Strategies for Inclusive Community Engagement

Edited by Catharine Bomhold
Afterword by Nicole A. Cooke and Aisha Johnson

Focusing on needs and services outside the library walls, this book outlines a fresh approach to how libraries can think about and effectively reach underserved populations, utilizing strategies for identifying information needs where underserved populations are and learning about many successful services, programs, and partnerships.



[Reserve This Book](#)

Trustee Training Webinars

Public Library Specialist Monica Struck will be presenting updated Trustee Training webinars. These 45-minute webinars will be held every Friday at 12:15 PM and will provide time for questions.

[An Overview](#)

Friday, January 3

Library Boards have many duties. This webinar will provide a broad overview of the duties of the board.

[Governance](#)

Friday, January 10

Board governance doesn't need to be scary. Join this webinar to learn more about board structure, bylaws, meetings, and records.

[Library Ethics](#)

Friday, January 17

Learn more about the Library Bill of Rights and how it applies to common scenarios in libraries.

[Budget and Finance](#)

Friday, January 24

Let's talk about the money!

[Planning](#)

Friday, January 31

Libraries typically have three types of plans that are approved by the board: Strategic, Technology, and Disaster Plans.

Each webinar will be recorded and available for viewing after the live session.

[Register](#)

The Flickertale is a weekly publication of the North Dakota State Library, a Division of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian
ISSN: 1068-5383

This publication is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Grant to States Program as administered by the North Dakota State Library.

Any mention of services or products in this newsletter does not constitute any endorsement or recommendation. The use of any services or products should be evaluated on an individual basis.

www.library.nd.gov

To submit content ideas/articles for a future issue of the Flickertale, please contact BreAnne at ndsipa@nd.gov.

Times referenced are Central Time.

Some of these resources and programs are funded under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



Stay Connected with North Dakota State Library:



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe All](#) | [Help](#)