

NEWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWELL, IOWA

MISSION STATEMENT

AND

LONG RANGE PLAN

FOR 2025-2030

Adopted by the Board of Trustees

January 2025

The Newell Public Library Board of Trustees and Staff have adopted this long range plan for the years 2025-2030 based on the following statements that describe their vision for the Newell Public Library today and into the future.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Newell Public Library provides materials and services to help meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of all residents of the community and the surrounding areas to stimulate lifelong learning.

The library will:

- Be accessible to everyone in the community and surrounding areas.
- Be focused on the patrons and their needs and provide them with the best possible service.
- Provide free and equal access to all materials and resources in the library.
- Provide materials and resources that strive to fulfill the needs for information to all ages.
- Practice intellectual freedom and confidentiality.
- Value the youth in the community as the future of the library and the surrounding community.

2025-2030 GOALS:

1. Residents of Newell and the surrounding area will have access to a collection of current and popular materials in a variety of formats that will stimulate thinking, expand their knowledge, and make leisure time productive and enjoyable.
2. Residents of Newell and the surrounding area will have access to materials, information, resources, assistance, and up to date technology that can be used for leisure, work, school, and personal life.
3. Residents will have the resources they need to explore topics of personal interest and continue to learn throughout their lives.
4. All citizens will have the ability to suggest improvements for the library to fit the needs and wants of the community.
5. The library will offer programs, for all ages in various themes & styles, that provide social interaction for community togetherness

COMMUNITY

Newell is a small community of over 900 people. Newell has an Elementary, Middle and High School in town. There are multiple daycares located in town, including the Mustang Childcare led by NFCSD. We have a diverse group of ages in our community. The library is a great gathering place for children, tweens, and teens after school. It is also a good place for people of all ages to come for their recreational needs and general information. Our priority for the future is to continue to be an active place that offers a variety of things to the needs of the people in our community. As well to ensure that we are always willing to work with the community in order to better ourselves and services to best fit the needs for our patrons.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Collection Development

“Residents of Newell and the surrounding area will have access to a collection of current and popular materials in a variety of formats that will stimulate thinking, expand their knowledge, and make leisure time productive and enjoyable.”

Objective 1: Each year the library will continue to add to the collection a variety of bestsellers and popular materials based on patron requests, bestseller lists and other resources available.

Objective 2: Each year the library will continue to add to the current collection of popular materials in other formats. This collection currently includes DVDs and books on audio CDs, popular magazine titles, and eBooks and audiobooks purchased through Bridges by Overdrive.

Objective 3: Each year the library will use approximately 20 % of the book budget to add to the collection of each age group.

Objective 4: Curate local reference materials & online newspapers.

Accessibility

“Residents of Newell and the surrounding area will have access to materials, information, resources, assistance, and up to date technology that can be used for leisure, work, school, and personal life.”

Objective 1: Each year the library will promote the reference help available in the library and online through social media, newsletters and the library website.

Objective 2: The library will continue to update, review, and add technology resources and devices for patron use.

Objective 3: The director will evaluate the state of equipment and materials in the library and bring to the board’s attention any in need of repair or replacement annually.

Objective 4: The library will continue to attract library users by balancing traditional and new collections and services.

Objective 5: The Book Systems Atrium automation system will continue to be used and will provide easy access for patrons to the card catalog and the check-out system will provide a more efficient way of managing circulation for the staff and our patrons.

Objective 6: The library will continue to look forward to making capital improvements to increase usage and accommodation to better the library and its services.

Lifelong Learning

“Residents will have the resources they need to explore topics of personal interest and continue to learn throughout their lives.”

Objective 1: Residents will have programs and services which allow for the exploration of topics of personal interest and lifelong learning.

Objective 2: The library will work to provide creative or expressive outlets from toddlers to seniors.

Objective 3: The library will provide free and easy to use access to online resources.

Community Needs

“All citizens will have the ability to suggest improvements for the library to fit the needs and wants of the community.”

Objective 1: The library will promote that residents are able to attend all board meetings to voice their opinions, wants, and needs for the library.

Objective 2: The library will use surveys and suggestion sheets to better understand the needs of our community.

Objective 3: The library will encourage people of all ages to suggest changes or additions, voice concerns, and request specific programs, materials, or services to best fit their needs and wants.

Programming

“The library will offer programs, for all ages in various themes & styles, that provide social interaction for community togetherness.”

Objective 1: The library will provide an annual summer reading program for all residents to take part in.

Objective 2: The library will host events for all to attend, based on education opportunities, social needs, entertainment, fun themes, and community involvement.

SUMMARY: This plan was developed to help guide the Newell Public Library into the next four years of service. This plan will be reviewed regularly to determine accomplishments and failures and to help with adjustments that need to be made in the goals and objectives of the Library.