The Warwick City Council appoints the Library Board of Trustees to three-year terms. Trustees control the budget and are the legal guardians and custodians of the library buildings, books, and materials.

Friends Board

Joseph Pearson President
Stacey Popule VP & Recording Secretary
Loretta Furtado Treasurer
Cheryl Cotter Corresponding Secretary/Book Sales
Dana Ryan Membership & Marketing
Jayne Berghorn Newsletter Editor

David Dupéré Board Member
Sandy Hartley Board Member
Michael Kanelos Board Member
Yvette Kenner Board Member
Evelyn O’Hearn Board Member
Maureen Wishart Board Member
Heidi Showstead Auxiliary Member

Board and Friends Board members as of June 2019
Welcome to the Warwick Public Library. We are proud to offer our patrons state-of-the-art equipment along with exceptional services and programs.

I am pleased to report we have added two more meeting rooms to our Central Library thanks to the generous support of the Champlin Foundation, in response to numerous requests from users. We set up a new Tech Lab in one of the new rooms which contains maker-space and VR (virtual reality) equipment. We also purchased additional VR equipment and added a record player thanks to a donation from the Friends of the Library. The Idea Studio now offers more computer classes and is available to more arts and craft users.

Further, we obtained a grant that allowed us to present, “Revisiting the Founding Era,” a series of educational programs concerning important events in the 18th century that molded the United States.

This year, the Hogwarts® Open House drew a crowd of over 2,000 people! Veterans Memorial Middle School allowed us to use their parking lot and the Pilgrim Senior Center arranged for a shuttle bus so people could park off-site. The University of Rhode Island’s Quidditch® Team came to demonstrate how to play the game, staff and patrons donned costumes, and the Library was converted to Hogwarts®. It was such a magical day!

The Library Board of Trustees eliminated fines on children’s and teen materials allowing 619 card holders to be cleared for summer reading programs. Warwick joins Cranston Library, Providence Public Library, and Providence Community Library in removing fines from youth materials. Our services are made possible by a dedicated Library Board of Trustees, incredible staff, generous and hardworking Friends of the Library, donors, volunteers, Warwick City Council, and Mayor.

Happy reading,

Chris La Roux

The Warwick Public Library is the hub of community learning where every child can be a reader, every resident can connect to the digital world, and lifelong learning enriches every life. The Warwick Public Library is your open door to learning and everything online.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

48,069 QUESTIONS ANSWERED
49,722 COMPUTER USERS
394,269 PATRON VISITS

COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM USE: 771

2,412 SUMMER READERS
44,701 WIRELESS SESSIONS

SMILES? THOUSANDS
FRIENDS DONATIONS $17,795
STORY HOUR ATTENDANCE 6,421

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE 26,146
29,490 Active Library Cards

$86,200 In Grants
650,124 MATERIALS BORROWED
The Children’s Library celebrated “A Universe of Stories” this summer, offering space themed learning activities with something for everyone. These activities included daily drop-in crafts, star gazing lessons, movies, theater, S.T.E.A.M. workshops, book discussions, animal shows, and musicians.

Hoopla®, a web and mobile library media streaming platform for audio books, comics, books, movies, music, and TV, allows library patrons to download or stream media content at no cost. Kanopy®, an on-demand streaming video platform, offers award-winning films and documentaries for everyone in the family. Both digital programs have been extremely well received and their demand keeps growing.

Our Summer Learning Challenge continues to grow thanks in part to our partnership with the Warwick Public Schools. The program is designed for all ages, giving families the opportunity to complete it together. This past year, participation in the program increased exponentially for children, teens, and adults.

A new service at the Apponaug and Conimicut branches is the Playaway digital audio-books.

This year, we offered 1,141 programs for all ages which were attended by 26,146 patrons.
We were excited to show the film, *Tre Maison Dasan*, with financial support from the Warwick Ocean State Urgent Care and the Friends of the Library. The documentary is about RI boys with parents in prison. Maison, one of the boys in the film, along with filmmaker Denali Tiller, a RISD faculty, attended the screening and answered questions. Stanley Carpenter, Professor of Strategy and Policy Development at the US Naval War College in Newport, presented a lecture series on World War II. We participated in Food Truck Nights and the National Night Out celebration at Oakland Beach. Local artists show their works on a regular basis at the Library. We obtained the Alexander Hamilton Traveling Exhibit, which uses reproductions from the Gilder Lehrman Collection and the Library of the New York Historical Society.
Over two thousand patrons joined us for our second annual Hogwarts© Open House in March. The entire library was transformed into the magical world of J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter© books. The day included Quidditch© lessons with the University of Rhode Island’s Rhody Ridgebacks, dueling tournaments, quill making and other crafts, a lively scavenger hunt, a convenient shuttle bus for parking, and an exuberant library staff dressed as characters from the ever-popular novels.
We offer a Home Delivery by Mail program, which utilizes the United States Postal Service to transport library materials to homebound residents and return them to the Library. Professional librarians register patrons for the program, become familiar with materials desired, select books, DVDs, and audio books based on the user’s profile, and package them for shipment. There is no cost to the patron for this service.

The youth services librarians welcomed over 300 students and their teachers to the library for field trips.

Some students visited to do research on specific assignments using online resources and books, while others came for an introductory tour which sometimes included a scavenger hunt, applying for and receiving a library card, and book checkout.

SCHOOL OUTREACH & VISITS

HOME DELIVERY BY MAIL
The Idea Studio is a computer training laboratory and innovation room. There are ten laptop computers and a trainer’s work station connected to a ceiling mounted projector. In addition to computer and software classes, the room can be booked, free of charge, by groups that want to use it for trainings. The room may also be used for arts and crafts projects.

Library staff is available for 30-minute training sessions on everything from how to use a smart phone to how to download an e-book onto a Kindle®.

The Tech Lab is located near the glass study rooms, and it is full of equipment that can be used by patrons after being trained by staff. It contains VHS to DVD dubbing equipment, a vinyl letter cutting machine, iMac© computers with Photoshop®, and a phonograph and vinyl records for private listening. There is also virtual reality equipment that can be booked during normal library hours. Trained library staff can assist with any equipment.
There are four library buildings making up the Warwick Public Library system with a full staff of 51 dedicated employees. The staff shown in the photo for Central are supervisors. The Central Library is located on 600 Sandy Lane and is 64,500 sq. ft. All of the Library’s staff work at Central and some work part-time at a branch. There are four meeting rooms at the Central Library, as well as private study rooms, quiet areas, a makerspace, and reading spots all over the building. There is a large Children’s Library and a separate Teenspace.

The branches had all been independent libraries at one time and in 1972 they joined the Central Library as branches. Each branch is unique and has its own history and following. Branch patrons tend to be staunch users and supporters of their local facility. They get to know the staff that serves them with thoughtful and enriching programs and services. Likewise, each branch staff gets to know the patrons and their reading and listening habits.
2019 Operating Budget: $4,512,656

**Expenses:**
- Staff: 46%
- Benefits: 32%
- Operations: 9%
- Books, Media & Programs: 8%
- Computers & Internet: 4%
- Support Services: 1%

**Income:**
- City Funding: 80%
- State Funding: 16%
- Grants, Donations & Endowment: 3%
- Fines & Lost Item Payments: 1%

Budget figures: July 2018 to June 2019
Central Library
600 Sandy Lane
(401) 739-5440

Apponaug Branch
3267 Post Road
(401) 739-6411

Norwood Branch
328 Pawtuxet Ave.
(401) 941-7545

Conimicut Branch
55 Beach Ave.
(401) 737-6546

Joseph J. Solomon
Mayor
City of Warwick
Rhode Island