

Library Board Regular Meeting

January 20, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.

Basha Library Program Room
5990 S. Val Vista Dr.
Chandler, AZ 85249



Board Members

Alexis Merritt
Jennifer Pawlik
Michael McElhany
Arman Sidhu
Parker McCarthy
Faith Risolo
Leanna DeKing

Pursuant to Resolution No. 4464 of the City of Chandler and to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Library Board and to the general public that the Library Board will hold a REGULAR MEETING open to the public on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., at Chandler Basha Library, Program Room, 5990 S. Val Vista Dr., Chandler, AZ. One or more Board Members may be attending by telephone.

Persons with disabilities may request a reasonable modification or communication aids and services by contacting the City Clerk's office at (480) 782-2181(711 via AZRS). Please make requests in advance as it affords the City time to accommodate the request.

Agendas are available in the Office of the City Clerk, 175 S. Arizona Avenue.

Library Board

Regular Meeting Agenda - January 20, 2026

Call to Order/Roll Call

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda may be enacted by one motion and one vote. If a discussion is required by members of the Board or Commission, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion and determination will be made if the item will be considered separately.

1. December 2, 2025 Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board Special Meeting Minutes
Move Library Board to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2025 Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board Special Meeting Minutes.
2. November 18, 2025 Library Board Minutes
Move Library Board to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2025 Library Board meeting.

Briefing

3. **Library Manager's Report**
4. Library Board Ordinance No. 1628

Discussion

Member Comments/Announcements

Information Items

Calendar

5. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hamilton Library Meeting Room, 3700 S. Arizona Ave. Chandler, AZ 85248.

6. The next Friends of the Library Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 1:00 p.m., at the Hamilton Library, 3700 S. Arizona Ave. Chandler, AZ 85248.

Unscheduled Public Appearances

Members of the audience may address any item not on the agenda. State Statute prohibits the Board or Commission from discussing an item that is not on the agenda, but the Board or Commission does listen to your concerns and has staff follow up on any questions you raise.

Adjourn



Library Board Community Services

Date: 01/20/2026
To: Library Board
From: Courtney Allen, Management Analyst
Subject: Chandler Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board Special Meeting Minutes

Subject:

Chandler Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board Special Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item Title:

December 2, 2025 Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board Special Meeting Minutes

Proposed Motion:

Move Library Board to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2025 Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board Special Meeting Minutes.

Attachments

Library and Parks and Recreation Board Special Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes

Library Board and Parks and Recreation Board

Special Meeting

December 2, 2025 | 5:30 p.m.

Tumbleweed Recreation Center

745 E. Germann Rd. Chandler, AZ 85286



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Library Board Chair Alexis Merritt at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Library Board Attendance

Board Chair Alexis Merritt
Board Vice Chair Jennifer Pawlik
Board Member Parker McCarthy
Board Member Faith Risolo (Remote)

Library Board Members Absent

Board Member Arman Sidhu
Board Member Michael McElhany
Board Member Leanna DeKing

Parks and Recreation Board Attendance

Board Vice Chair Melanie Dykstra
Board Member James Montgomery
Board Member Sarah Sharits
Board Member Jegadesan Krishnamurthy

Parks and Recreation Members Absent

Board Chair John David
Board Member Lynette Bradley
Board Member Sue McInturf

Staff Attendance

John Sefton, Community Services Director
Corey Povar, Assistant Community Services Director
Mickey Ohland, Community Services Planning Manager
Katie Gaul, Engineer
Rachelle Kuzyk, Library Manager
Rebecca Kuiper, Recreation Superintendent
Chris Smith, Aquatics Superintendent
Paul Smith, Library Business Systems Analyst
Courtney Allen, Library Management Analyst
Jo-el Miller, Library Outreach Manager

Staff Attendance Cont.

Caryn Nall, Library Branch Manager
Debe Moreno, Library Branch Manager
Chris McGinley, Library Branch Manager (Remote)

Others Present

Jason Genck, BerryDunn (Remote)
James (JR) Clanton, BerryDunn (Remote)
Jeff Velasquez, J2 Design
Lee Swanson, Richärd Kennedy Architects
Monique Ziesenhenné, BerryDunn (Arrived remotely at 6:52pm)

Unscheduled Public Appearances

None

Briefing Followed by Discussion

1. Project PR2503.01 Recreation and Library Strategic Master Plan

Introductions were made by members of both the Library Board and the Parks & Recreation Board, as well as city staff, BerryDunn consultants, and on-site architect consultants.

The Recreation and Library Strategic Master Plan is designed to gather community input to enhance library and recreation services in Chandler. The plan seeks to establish a ten-year vision for future service development, resource alignment, and program improvements looking to maximize the use and reuse of the existing facilities and services to meet or exceed national standards and be the best of the best.

The planning process will be facilitated by BerryDunn, a consultancy team with over 50 years of experience serving local governments and specializing in library and recreation planning. BerryDunn will engage directly with both boards and the community throughout the project timeline.

Board members expressed enthusiasm for public service and a strong commitment to improving quality of life for Chandler residents. They also voiced support for a collaborative and community-driven planning process.

Community engagement was emphasized as a crucial element for aligning services with community needs and maximizing existing resources. Engagement will target both users and non-users to gain a comprehensive understanding of participation trends and unmet needs. Strategies include surveys, interactive mapping tools, Menti feedback, and other innovative data-collection methods to gather diverse input. Engagement efforts aim to maximize community

involvement and foster diverse conversations. Jason Genck emphasized the importance of ongoing communication and regular review of engagement tools to ensure effective community interaction. The team noted they have optional comment-review settings for the engagement tools but generally do not filter user-generated content. Collaboration with private-sector partners will be explored to broaden resources and feedback channels.

Board members were encouraged to leverage their networks for outreach and community engagement. Regular updates will be provided to the project team and the community throughout the planning process. A major project update is targeted for May 2026. Boards and commissions will be kept informed regarding the project schedule and opportunities to participate in future focus groups and stakeholder meetings. Board members are also encouraged to submit additional ideas or feedback related to the planning process.

Library Board Member McCarthy inquired how the interactive map will get out to the public. Director Sefton informed everyone that the Community Services Department has a great Public Information Officer (PIO) as well as the city's Communication and Public Affairs (CAPA) office, so we will utilize them to get the word out when we're ready to put all the pieces out to the public.

Assistant Director Povar expressed his enthusiasm for exploring coordination and partnerships with private recreation providers in the community. He noted his interest in how these collaborations can help gather more meaningful feedback, improve understanding of the populations served, and create more efficient, aligned efforts over the next ten years. Jason Genck added that during previous planning processes, discussions with private industry partners revealed important insights that had not previously been part of the conversation. He emphasized that these engagements can open new bridges and opportunities for collaboration.

Parks and Recreation Board Member Montgomery inquired about demographics and facility usage, specifically how the department identifies both users and non-users of facilities. Director Sefton stated that this is an important component of the statistically validated survey, which uses random sampling to capture insights from those who may not currently use services but still find them important. Director Sefton deferred to Jason Genck for additional details. Mr. Genck explained that BerryDunn uses city-wide demographics and population estimates to ensure surveys reflect current community data. Non-users are identified through the statistically valid survey, which includes a margin of error of 5% and is designed to represent the community by age and location. Additionally, BerryDunn engages directly with the community, speaking with individuals in various locations. Through these conversations, they learn from both users and non-users, for example, hearing comments like "I haven't visited the library" or "I haven't visited that recreation center." Mr. Genck emphasized that BerryDunn's approach is comprehensive, recognizing that understanding both users and non-users is critical for making informed recommendations that best serve the community.

Parks and Recreation Board Member Montgomery inquired if BerryDunn has ever tried to integrate greater community resources into their planning? Jason Genck responded yes, they do a variety of planning efforts.

Community Services Planning Manager Ohland stated that he would like to see demographic analysis applied to youth and adult sports leagues, both internal and external, including participation rates, historical trends, future projections, and how those numbers affect existing facility needs. Jason Genck responded that this is indeed one of the major user groups with significant demand and strong partnership potential. Katie Gaul confirmed that it is already on their radar.

Parks and Recreation Board Vice Chair Dykstra asked whether it is possible to determine what percentage of the population are library cardholders, as well as the percentage of residents who participate in recreation programs. Director Sefton responded that the statistically validated survey will help provide reliable assumptions and deliverables regarding participation levels. However, he noted that determining exact numbers can be challenging in a community approaching 300,000 residents. He explained that while the department has strong data from library check-in and checkout systems, recreation program participation records, field reservations, and facility usage, these metrics do not always directly translate to the number of unique individuals participating. Library Manager Kuzyk added that approximately 30% of Chandler's population are library cardholders.

Library Board Chair Merritt asked how the boards and commissions will continue to be involved with the consultants beyond this initial meeting. Director Sefton responded that staff will provide updates to the boards as needed and can include these updates as a regular agenda item. He explained that the consultants are expected to have sufficient data and detail compiled by May, which will allow for a meaningful update to the boards at that time. Depending on schedules, the update may be presented collaboratively to both boards or provided separately during regular meetings.

Parks and Recreation Board Vice Chair Dykstra asked whether any focus groups or community outreach efforts are planned between now and May, and whether board members would be invited to participate, observe, or otherwise be informed of those activities. Director Sefton responded that as these opportunities are developed, staff will keep the boards informed of the project's progress and scheduled activities. He noted that board members' interest in participating in stakeholder meetings will be taken into account. A detailed calendar of activities and planned intercept events will be created. He added that some sessions will be strategic, curated stakeholder meetings that are not open to the general public, while many others will be open community engagement opportunities.

Library Board Chair Merritt asked how board members can best share their opinions, whether through the surveys alone or through additional opportunities. Director Sefton responded that board members are encouraged to participate both as residents and as board representatives. He noted that there will be formal opportunities for input, such as meetings like today's, but also encouraged members to reach out at any time if additional thoughts or concerns arise.

Jason Genck added that the team will develop a comprehensive engagement plan and strategy in collaboration with project staff. This plan will outline the focus groups, their frequency, timelines, locations, and other key details. He noted that the team is not quite at that stage yet but expects to have this information ready in about a month.

The meeting slide deck will be available to all meeting attendees.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10p.m.

Courtney Allen, Board Liaison

Alexis Merritt, Library Board Chair



Library Board Community Services

Date: 01/20/2026
To: Library Board
From: Courtney Allen, Management Analyst
Subject: Chandler Library Board Minutes

Subject:
Chandler Library Board Minutes

Agenda Item Title:
November 18, 2025 Library Board Minutes

Proposed Motion:
Move Library Board to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2025 Library Board meeting.

Attachments

Library Board Minutes_11.18.25

Meeting Minutes

Library Board Regular Meeting

November 18, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.
Chandler Public Library
22 S. Delaware St. Chandler, AZ 85225



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Alexis Merritt at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Library Board Attendance

Board Chair Alexis Merritt
Board Vice-Chair Jennifer Pawlik
Board Member Parker McCarthy
Board Member Michael McElhany
Board Member Faith Risolo

Library Board Members Absent

Board Member Arman Sidhu
Board Member Leanna DeKing

Library Board Attendance

Rachelle Kuzyk, Library Manager
Susan Van Horne, Assistant Library Manager
Courtney Allen, Management Analyst

Others Present

None

Consent Agenda

1. September 23, 2025 Library Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Board Vice Chair Pawlik, Board Member McElhany seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Briefing

2. Library Manager's Report – Rachelle Kuzyk

The Library Manager's Report was provided to the Library Board in advance of the meeting for Board Member's review.

Rachelle informed the Board that the Discovery Library is officially operational and on the road. Staff have completed 40 hours of driver training through the Southwest Driver Training Institute. Approximately two-thirds of the collection has been loaded into the vehicle, with technology and educational supplies to be added soon. Over the next couple of weeks, the Discovery Library will participate in city tours before beginning its regular route.

Board Member McCarty asked about publicity for the Discovery Library. Rachelle explained that while there have been numerous requests for media and marketing, promotion has been delayed because the vehicle was not yet drivable. Larger marketing efforts will begin in early December, with support from the City's marketing team, including social media, video reels, and media releases.

Board Member McElhany asked whether all vehicle repairs had been satisfactorily completed. Rachelle confirmed that all repairs are finished.

Board Chair Merritt inquired about the vehicle's weight and CDL requirements. Rachelle confirmed that the vehicle is under the weight limit requiring a CDL.

Board Member Risolo asked how many days per week the Discovery Library will be on the road. Rachelle stated that the plan is for a two- to three-day weekly route, with additional availability for special events and major city activities. Staff are currently finalizing the route.

Board Chair Merritt asked whether there would be a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Discovery Library. Rachelle confirmed that a ribbon cutting is planned for the new year, and Courtney will notify and invite the Board once it is scheduled.

Board Member McElhany asked whether a future Board meeting could be held in the Discovery Library. Rachelle confirmed that this will be scheduled for an upcoming meeting.

Board Member Risolo asked whether there would be outreach to Chandler Public Schools to encourage students to obtain library cards. Rachelle noted that the library has a strong partnership with Chandler Public Schools and that school outreach is a key focus. Staff are able to issue library cards directly from the Discovery Library.

Rachelle provided an update on the Hamilton Branch renovation, which is approximately 60% complete and progressing well. The former storytime room, previously dark, small, and not well suited for programming, has been transformed with a raised ceiling and large sliding doors that open into the library. The renovation will also add four new huddle spaces, making Hamilton the final branch to receive study rooms. Circulation and customer service will be relocated to the front entrance, allowing the book drop to feed directly into a workroom and creating a more open and efficient layout. While a final completion date has not been confirmed, the project is expected to be finished before the Christmas holidays.

Board Member McElhany asked about the speed puzzling program at Basha Library and whether it is limited to high school students. Rachelle and Sue clarified that it is an adult program. Mr. McElhany shared that he was interested in having his daughter volunteer, and Rachelle and Sue suggested that she inquire with Kat Silva at the Basha service desk.

Discussion

3. Board Member McCarthy would like to discuss highlighting local African American authors. Board Member McCarty knows several local authors that he would like to give an opportunity to bolster them and feature local African American authors. One of them is the man that runs the drum circle at the downtown library.

Rachelle informed the board that we have a local author fair in January that is for any local authors in this community who would like to participate. Courtney will send the application link to Board Member McCarthy tomorrow. Rachelle also suggested he can submit a suggest a purchase on our website. Once received, our collection manager and his team will evaluate it against the collection development policy, current interest, and volume of requests.

4. Board President Merritt would like to discuss how Chandler Library is adjusting after the news of Baker & Taylor going out of business. What does it mean for future purchases and competitive pricing for the library?

Board President Merritt requested an update on how Chandler Public Library is adjusting following the announcement that Baker & Taylor is going out of business, and what this means for future materials purchases and competitive pricing.

Rachelle informed the Board that Chandler Public Library has been minimally impacted, as staff began diverting orders away from Baker & Taylor over the past several years. She explained that Baker & Taylor was long considered a major and stable presence in the publishing industry, particularly for libraries. However, after being acquired by a private investor approximately five years ago, the company began to decline.

Rachelle noted that the library has consistently maintained relationships with multiple vendors for materials purchasing and gradually shifted a larger portion of its ordering to Ingram, which is also the largest print publisher. As a result, the impact on Chandler Public Library has been minimal. She added that many libraries across the Valley relied solely on Baker & Taylor and are now facing significant challenges transitioning to new vendors.

5. Board President Merritt is curious about how Chandler Library plans to meet the increased demand for ebooks/audiobooks in 2026 and beyond. Is there a need to increase the budget for online resources?

Rachelle informed the Board that in November 2024, the library submitted a request for a \$250,000 budget increase to be phased in over four years. In the current fiscal year, the library received an additional \$62,500, which has been allocated primarily toward digital resources.

Provided there are no changes to the approved budget, incremental increases are scheduled for the next three years to help address growing demand and support the purchase of additional resources.

Information Items

6. America 250 Survey

As we prepare to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States, we want every Chandler voice to be heard in shaping how we honor this milestone. Please complete the survey to tell us about what being American means to you, how our shared values show up in Chandler's diverse communities and how we can honor the ongoing journey toward equality, freedom and opportunity for all. [America 250 Survey](#)

Courtney requested the board to complete the survey.

Members Comments / Announcements

Board Member Risolo asked about the save the date notice sent by Courtney for a special joint meeting of the Library and Parks and Recreation Boards regarding the Library and Recreation Master Plan.

Rachelle informed the Board that final details are still being confirmed, but the special meeting is scheduled for December 2 at 5:30 p.m., most likely at the Tumbleweed Recreation Center. She asked Board members to indicate whether they plan to attend. This will be a public, informational meeting involving both boards and the Master Plan Committee, not a regular board meeting.

Rachelle explained that consultants hired to lead the master planning process will be presenting, marking their first community engagement. This meeting is one of several planned opportunities to gather input from Chandler residents on the future of library and recreation services. While a Parks Master Plan was completed a few years ago, this effort is a partner master plan focused on shaping library and recreation services for the next ten years. Additional details will be shared with the Board as they become available.

Unscheduled Public Appearances

None

Calendar

7. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Basha Library Program Room, 5990 S. Val Vista Dr. Chandler, AZ 85249.

8. The next Friends of the Library Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 1:00 p.m., at the Sunset Library, 4930 W. Ray Rd. Chandler, AZ 85226.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Board Member McCarthy, Board Vice Chair Pawlik seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07p.m.

Courtney Allen, Board Liaison

Alexis Merritt, Board Chair



Library Board Community Services

Date: 01/20/2026
To: Library Board
From: Courtney Allen, Management Analyst
Subject: **Library Manager's Report**

Overview

Welcome back!

After another generous Winter Break from City Council and Administration, staff are rested and ready to start the new year. While our branches were open with modified hours over the holidays, many from the Library team had the opportunity to enjoy time off with family and friends. We're incredibly thankful that the City of Chandler continues to honor staff with this holiday break.

Following 20 years with Chandler Public Library, Susan Van Horne retired from her position as Assistant Library Manager on January 9th, 2026. Jo-el Miller will be stepping into this role, and we're all very excited to welcome her into the position. Congratulations to both Sue and Jo-el, and we wish Sue only the best in her new adventures.

The Chandler Discovery Library is officially out in the community! Seven staff members received large vehicle driver instruction, and we are comfortable and confident heading out on the road with our new bookmobile. Watch for more details and a route plan in the coming weeks.

Our Hamilton Library renovation project is nearing completion. Final touch-ups are underway, and the furniture for both staff and public areas has been ordered. A grand re-opening will occur sometime in early spring.

Branch Updates

Basha Branch

- Katherine Silva began her new role as Basha's Youth Librarian. Between managing day-to-day operations and essentially serving as a proxy after-school program for the nearby CUSD high schools, the Youth Librarian position is one where we need the most stability and expertise, and that's exactly what Kat brings.
- Jennifer Hubbell has accepted the role of Adult Services / Circulation Supervisor Librarian. Jen brings a wealth of programming experience, customer service expertise, and institutional knowledge, both from her time at Basha and across the system. Over the past 15 years, Jen has tried her hand at all aspects of programming, from running early childhood storytimes to leading the charge with Basha's amazing Teen Advisory Group. Jen recently graduated from the University of Arizona with her Master's in Library and Information Science, where she was nominated for the Outstanding Graduate Student Award by U of A's College of Information Science.
- Marilee Kim took over the Teen Services Specialist position. Interviews to replace Marilee's youth specialist position will be held Thursday, January 22.
- Basha Library is excited to host the Second Annual Inter-City Puzzle Tournament on January 27, 2026. Teams from the Chandler, Mesa, Tempe, and Scottsdale libraries will join us to encourage collaboration and bring our communities together. The tournament includes a timed 500-piece puzzle challenge. The top team will move on to the final round at Mesa Main Library on February 7.
- On January 24, 2026, Basha Library will hold a Book Drive and Curbside Drop-Off with the Friends of Chandler Public Library.
- Starting in February, Basha Library will join the Spring 2026 Writer-in-Residence program. Author and educator Valerie Ipson will offer workshops and one-on-one consultations through April 21.

Downtown Branch

- Installation of the pigeon netting in the library parking lot began in December and will be completed in January. The netting will prevent pigeons from nesting in the solar panels.
- Artwork from the Chandler Contigo Kickoff will be installed this month on the south wall near the café seating area. Participants at the Chandler Contigo Dia de Fiesta in September 2025 learned how to use recycled paper pulp to make new sheets of paper by artist Karen Nazario Moranchel. Then, inspired by her grandma's kitchen in Morelos, Ayala, Karen laser-cut talavera tile designs into the paper sheets and used them to create this artwork. Every tile represents how each of us plays a part in making our community whole. The Chandler Arts Commission presented this activity.
- Sonia Luna was hired as our new part-time Youth Library Specialist.

Hamilton Branch

- We continue on the quest to wrap up the renovation project. We are so excited and everything is coming together beautifully. We are so thankful for all the help we have received along the way. To complete the new carpet installation, we had to move every book in the library several times. The help from Rachelle, Courtney, Jo-el, Luis, Ted, and the Sunset crew was immeasurable. We are thrilled to soon have these improvements available to our families, students, and community. See the attached pictures for updates.

Sunset Branch

- Sunset's Healthy Table program in October/November was so successful we are offering it again in January.
- Our new, monthly Sunset Drum Circle program debuted in November and is off to a great start.
- Our restroom remodel project has begun! The public and staff restrooms, as well as the staff break room, will get a much-needed update.
- In January we are partnering with a data scientist from ASU to present Artificial Intelligence (AI) Literacy for Kids. In this four-week series, kids ages 9–12 will explore the world of AI through interactive mini-lessons, games, and group activities.

Outreach

- Six library staff members completed driver's training in November and are getting more and more comfortable driving our new mobile branch, the Discovery Library, which is 38 feet long, 8 feet wide, and over 12 feet high.
- The outreach team has two new members: Librarian Charles Pratt, who transferred from the Downtown Makery and brings fluency in Spanish and makery technology, and a new hire Library Specialist Lisa Best, who will present early literacy programming in the Discovery Library and in the community.
- The Discovery Library's first big event was the Star Party on December 13th at the Chandler Nature Center. Staff interacted with 275 attendees.
- Upcoming Discovery Library events include the ribbon-cutting on January 10th, the City's Multicultural Festival on January 17th, and Airport Day on January 24th.

Collections and Statistics

Active Cardholders

October 1, 2025	74,298
November 1, 2025	74,385
December 1, 2025	74,235
January 1, 2026	74,168

Physical Item Checkouts

September 2025	108,985
October 2025	107,650
November 2025	94,399
December 2025	89,430

CloudLibrary Checkouts

September 2025	19,471
October 2025	18,839
November 2025	20,191
December 2025	21,345

MCLD MAX Usage

September 2025	187 Borrowed, 155 Loaned 0.83 L/B
October 2025	186 Borrowed, 152 Loaned 0.82 L/B
November 2025	125 Borrowed, 128 Loaned 1.02 L/B
December 2025	148 Borrowed, 176 Loaned 1.19 L/B

Programming

2025 Highlights

- Over 1,800 community members utilized free tax assistance in partnership with AARP and VITA at our libraries.
- Chandler's participation in the Summer Reading Challenge broke records, with 13,740 readers of all ages participating and over 53% finishing the challenge!
- Summer lunch service provided free meals to children in partnership with Chandler Unified School District.
- Our Adult Education volunteers provided over 850 sessions of English language tutoring and practice programs.
- We provided free use of creative machinery and equipment in the Makery to over 500 individuals.
- Donations through the holiday Chandler Community Cares Trees provided gift bags of necessities to our unhoused community members. Over 3,600 items were donated by the community, which helped us create 118 bags to be handed out prior to Christmas.

Systemwide/ Signature Events Coming in January/February

- The Local Author Fair will be held at the Downtown Library on January 24 @ 10 a.m with more than 30 author tables to peruse! Attend engaging author presentations, create a unique bookmark, and experience a "Type-In" with classic typewriters. Featured speakers include travel writer Roger Naylor covering his new book on Arizona's National Parks and Monuments, and Hailey Alcaraz sharing social media tips for writers' success.
- Free tax preparation sessions hosted by volunteers with VITA and AARP start up in February at three branches.
- Citizenship Workshop series begins February 14. This Saturday morning series is for adults preparing for the U.S. Citizenship written and oral exams.
- The 2nd Annual Inter-City Puzzle Tournament starts January 22. Chandler Public Library, Mesa Public Library, Tempe Public Library, and now Scottsdale Public Library (Main Branch) will compete to see which city has the fastest puzzlers!
- Nature of Things series is a collaboration with Chandler Nature Center. Head to the Downtown Library to hear about the unique geology of the East Valley on February 4th @ 6 pm. A presentation on Sonoran Desert wildflowers follows on March 28 at the Chandler Nature Center.
- The City of Chandler is celebrating America's 250th birthday in 2026 with many events and activities, and the library will join in the celebration. We'll kick off a special AZ Read 250 all-ages challenge and begin a special lecture series starting with Sunset's February 7th presentation, "(Mother) Road to the Stars: Route 66 and its Space Heritage," in which Lowell Observatory historian Kevin Schindler will lead a virtual trip along Route 66 to explore its fascinating space history!
- Read to Succeed wrapped up 2025 with a celebration with therapy dogs from Gabriel's Angels.
- Ten ESL tutoring groups finished classes using the new Confidence & Connections curriculum. We received great feedback from all. Classes will resume in January. Many of the same students will stay with their current groups. Open spots will be filled with new students who applied in fall 2025.
- Talk Time had 264 people attend sessions in November & December. Talk Time sessions took a 2-week break over the holidays and will resume January 6.

Information Technology

- The rollout of the new All-In-One computers running Windows 11 is about 75% complete. As of mid-December, around 90% of the public computers have been upgraded across all library locations. Most of what remains are staff service points and self-service kiosks.
- All four libraries will be receiving upgraded Wi-Fi equipment beginning in January, with Hamilton Library scheduled to go first. The upgrade is designed to expand coverage and increase speeds to keep up with growing demand.

Friends of the Chandler Library

- The Friends Board approved Library funding requests for FY 26/27 and made a generous contribution to the Hamilton Library renovation project.
- Season of Friendship annual end-of-year giving campaign continued throughout the giving season.
- The annual Holiday and Children's Book Sale was a success.
- The annual FOL/Teen Advisory Book Drive is scheduled at all four library locations on January 24, 2026.

Attachments

Hamilton Refresh Pics

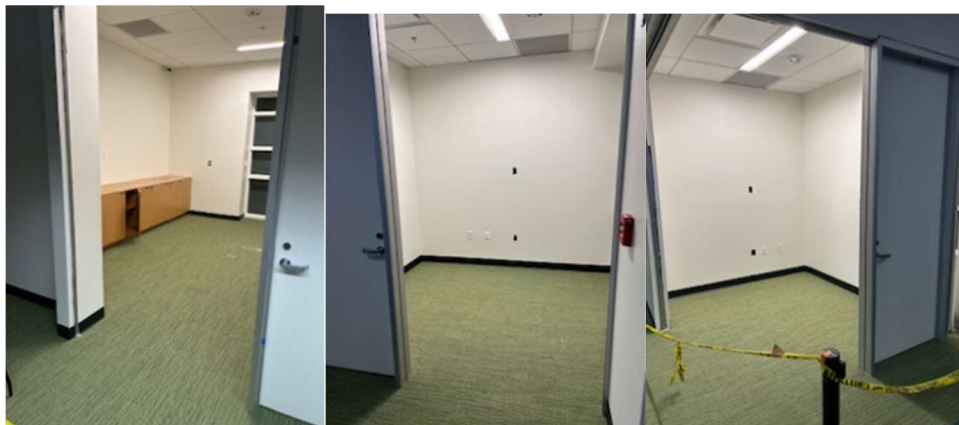
- **Space 1:** A new circulation area and staff workroom, along with a refreshed reference desk.



- **Space 2:** A former storage area transformed into a beautiful new program room.



- **Space 3:** Three new public huddle spaces (study rooms) and a dedicated staff meeting room.





Library Board Community Services

Date: 01/20/2026
To: Library Board
From: Courtney Allen, Management Analyst
Subject: Library Board Ordinance No. 1628

Subject:
Library Board Ordinance No. 1628

Agenda Item Title:
Library Board Ordinance No. 1628

Attachments

Library Board Ordinance No. 1628

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF CHANDLER, ARIZONA,
ADDING CHAPTER 17B, ARTICLES I AND
II, TO THE CHANDLER CITY CODE
PERTAINING TO THE LIBRARY AND
CREATING A LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of
Chandler, Arizona, as follows:

SECTION 1. That the Chandler City Code is
amended by adding a new Chapter 17B, entitled
"Library" to read as follows:

ARTICLE I

IN GENERAL

Section 17B-1: LIBRARY OBJECTIVES: The
Chandler Library shall be a division of the Community
Services Department and shall serve the community's
needs for information for educational, occupational,
and industrial purposes. It is the aim and
responsibility of the Library to provide circulating
materials, reference service, programming, and
community outreach to meet these needs as well as
enhance the enjoyment and enrichment of leisure time.

Section 17B-2: RULES AND REGULATIONS: The
following rules and regulations shall govern the use
of the Library:

1) The Library will serve all residents of
Chandler, and in accordance with the guidelines of
the reciprocal borrowing agreements, all residents of
Maricopa County.

2) A Chandler Public Library card entitles any
individual to unrestricted access to all Library
materials. The Library deems that it is each
family's responsibility to select appropriate reading
material for its members.

3) From time to time, all fines, fees, and
charges levied by the Library shall be reviewed by
the Library Board and the Community Services
Director. Changes in such fees and charges may be
recommended to the City Council at such times and in
such amounts as may seem proper. The City Council
may establish or amend such fines, fees, and charges
as it deems appropriate. Such establishment or
amendment shall be by ordinance. The Community
Services Director or his/her designee may waive, upon
request, and after prior approval by the City
Manager, any or all fines, fees, and charges assessed
hereunder.

Section 17B-3: MATERIAL SELECTION POLICY: A material selection policy as adopted and approved by the Library Board will govern acquisition of materials for the Library. This will include the "Library Bill of Rights" and the "Freedom to Read" statements as adopted by the American Library Association.

ARTICLE II

LIBRARY BOARD

Section 17B-11: CREATION OF BOARD: There is hereby established a Library Board, consisting of seven (7) regular members. The seven (7) regular members shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to the approval of the City Council. All seven (7) of the regular members of the Library Board must be qualified electors of the City and have been residents of the City for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of their appointments.

Section 17B-12: TERMS OF OFFICE: The terms of office for the regular members shall be for three (3) years, terms to be staggered so that no more than three (3) members are replaced in each year. Members shall serve no more than two consecutive full terms. The terms of office shall commence and grounds for removal from office shall be that as provided in Article X of the Chandler City Code.

Section 17B-13: OFFICERS: The Board shall elect its own officers at the first meeting following the appointment of new members each year. These officers shall be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Community Services Director, or his duly authorized representative, shall act as Secretary of the Board but shall not be allowed to vote. No officer elected by the Board shall serve in the same capacity for more than two (2) consecutive one-year terms.

Section 17B-14: POWERS AND DUTIES GENERALLY: The powers and duties of the Library Board shall be:

a) To adopt such rules of procedure for the faithful performance of its duties.

b) To provide that four (4) members shall constitute a quorum and that the affirmative vote of the majority of members present shall be required for passage of any matter before the Board.

c) To assist and advise the library manager on essential policies, rules and regulations relating to the operation of the City Library system.

d) To serve as liaison between the library staff and the general community and to promote the Library whenever and wherever possible.

e) To acquaint themselves with Library holdings and make appropriate suggestions or recommendations.

f) To review the annual budget as prepared by the library manager and then forward same to the Community Services Director.

g) To make appropriate suggestions and/or recommendations on any short-range or long-range plans as prepared by the library manager subject to the approval of the Library Board and the Community Services Director.

INTRODUCED AND TENTATIVELY APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona, this 26th day of June, 1986.

ATTEST:

Carolyn Dura
CITY CLERK

W. B. Broed
MAYOR

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council this 10th day of July, 1986.

ATTEST:

Carolyn Dura
CITY CLERK

W. B. Broed
MAYOR

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing Ordinance No. 1628 was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Chandler, Arizona, at a regular meeting held Thursday, July 10, 1986, and that the vote was 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Carolyn Dura
CITY CLERK

PUBLISHED: 7/18 + 25/86

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Clifford J. Frey
CITY ATTORNEY