

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING
THE AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
LEVY RENEWAL**

The Board of Education of the Akron City School District, Summit County, Ohio, met in regular session on the 8th day of March, 2021, at Akron, Ohio, with the following members present:

N.J. Akbar
Bruce Alexander
Diana Autry

Patrick Bravo
Derrick Hall
Lisa Mansfield

Valerie McKitrick

The Treasurer advised the Board that the notice of requirements of O.R.C. §121.22 and the implementing rules adopted by the Board pursuant thereto were complied with for the meeting.

Diana Autry moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #21-023

WHEREAS, The Akron-Summit County Public Library is seeking voter support of its 1.9-mill renewal levy for 6 years which is on the May 4, 2021 ballot. This is not a new tax, nor is it an increase; and

WHEREAS, The existing 1.9-mill levy represents about 55% of the library's annual operating revenue and will expire in 2021. If not renewed in 2021, the Library will be forced to reduce hours, staffing, collections, and programming; and

WHEREAS, The Library has always been a creative and dedicated educational partner to Akron Public Schools in many ways, including the following:

- The Library is an active partner in the work of the College & Career Academies by providing guest speakers, classroom materials, and shadowing opportunities in the areas of Early Childhood Education, IT Support & Services, and Entrepreneurship & Marketing.
- The Library partnered with APS to provide STEM Kits on topics such as snap circuits, soil testing, and miniature robots for teachers for use with their students.

- Library staff serve on advisory committees for Akron Reads, Project Rise, SEI Readiness Coalitions, and the SEI Third Grade Reading Team.
- Library staff have supported APS teachers and students during the COVID-19 pandemic by presenting book discussions and story times in virtual classrooms.
- The Library provides Teen Classroom Sets and Books in Boxes (35 copies of the same title for a variety of grades and reading levels) that teachers may borrow for use with their students.
- The Library annually presents the Family Reading Festival, an event for children and their families, that promotes the joy of reading and features a book giveaway, fun activities, and interactive performances.
- For more than ten years, the Library's RECE Lab (Resources for Early Childhood Educators) has been providing teachers with equipment and materials for their use with their students.
- Mind, Body & Sole, the Library's annual Summer Reading Program, provides an opportunity for students to combat the summer slide by encouraging both reading and physical activity when school is not in session
- The Library provides millions of books and digital materials such as eBooks, downloadable audio, streaming video, and research databases; and

WHEREAS, With a positive outcome this May, the Library will continue to support young children, students, workforce development, senior citizens, and all who seek to connect, learn, explore, and create.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Akron City School District:

Section I. That the Board of Education supports the Akron-Summit County Public Library as a crucial community partner in providing services that support youth in achieving their highest potential and facilitating lifelong learning.

Section II. That the Board of Education hereby invests in the children and families of Akron by endorsing the Akron-Summit County Public Library's renewal levy and authorizes the Akron-Summit County Public Library to use the name of the Board of Education of the Akron City School District for general publicity purposes related to the levy campaign and, specifically, includes permission to place 4x4 yard signs at all Akron Public Schools, following the Board's approval process.

Patrick Bravo seconded the Motion and, upon roll call, the vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Resolution passed and adopted this 8th day of March, 2021.



N. J. Akbar, Ph.D., President

ATTEST:



Ryan Pendleton, CFO/Treasurer