

Preble County District Library  
**STRATEGIC PLAN**  
**2018-2022**



Connecting You to the World

# INTRODUCTION

In 2017, Preble County District Library enlisted the help of a consultant through the State Library of Ohio's Strategic Planning Program. The consultant helped guide the administrative staff through the strategic planning process.

With the consultant, the library developed a community survey, planned a focus group, and analyzed the gathered data. The community responded with nearly 700 surveys. A focus group held at the Eaton branch developed many good ideas and concerns. These ensured the strategic plan stay focused on the needs and desires of the community.

The consultant's report, survey results, and focus group comments built this strategic plan. This plan will guide the growth of Preble County District Library for the next five years. Programs will be developed, grants will be written, and decisions will be made based on the goals set forth in this plan.

## 1: PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS

Residents will have high-speed access to the digital world with no unnecessary restrictions or fees to ensure that everyone can take advantage of the ever-growing resources and services available through the internet.

### Objectives:

#### Upgrade and maintain public access computers

1. Identify outdated public access terminals and develop a schedule to replace them.
2. Perform monthly maintenance on all computers to ensure longevity.
3. Investigate the lending of tablets or laptops.

#### Expand online capabilities and services

1. Research the feasibility of wireless hotspots for patron checkout.
2. Investigate outlet and plug-in areas for patron mobile devices.
3. Continue to update library website to stay current with website trends.

## 2: KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY

Residents will have a central source for information about the wide variety of programs, services, and activities provided by community agencies and organizations.

### Objective:

#### Expand the Preble County District Library's reputation as a community resource center.

1. Include area nonprofits' services into the bimonthly newsletter.
2. Create and maintain flyers and a web page on the library's site identifying social services.
3. Build relationships with local nonprofit organizations.

# 3: LIFELONG LEARNING

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

## Objectives:

### Provide meaningful programming to senior citizens

1. Implement programs for seniors during the day.
2. Develop relationship with Council on Aging.
3. Maintain relationships with area nursing homes.

### Promote databases that allow lifelong learning

1. Create promotional materials for continuing education databases.
2. Offer programs to teach patrons to use these databases.

### Integrate intergenerational programming

1. Develop programming for wider audiences.
2. Track program attendance to gauge which program topics appeal to a range of individuals.

# 4: GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY

Residents and visitors will have the resources they need to connect the past with the present through their family histories and to understand the history and traditions of the community.

## Objectives:

### Promote the Preble County Room to all members of our community

1. Encourage local boy scout groups to visit the Preble County Room in order to obtain their genealogy badge.
2. Visit county school districts to teach students about Preble County history.

### Preserve the Preble County Room collection

1. Investigate ways to store and preserve the Preble County Room's existing collection.
2. Apply for grants to fund the preservation of the existing collection.

# 5: SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

Students will have the resources they need to succeed in school.

## Objectives:

### Homework help at all branches

1. Identify Homework Help coordinator.
2. Create procedures and best practices for the Homework Help program.
3. Determine hours, resources needed and where to recruit volunteers.
4. Find volunteers to provide tutoring services at the homework help programs.

### Become more active in local school districts

1. Contact Success Program liaisons within all county school districts.
2. Encourage staff to volunteer with reading programs within county school districts.



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