

Courtney Whitaker

Administrator's Report

June - August 2022

Meetings Attended

Monthly

- Florida Library Directors Meetings
- Division Updates with State Librarian Amy Johnson
- WILD Directors Meetings
- Intellectual Freedom Committee Meetings
- Cooperative Directors Meeting

Other Activities Of Note

Our Fine-Free Policy Implementation is going well. September is Library Card Sign-Up Month and I'm hoping that our status as a fine-free library system will appeal to community members who do not yet have a library card, especially parents of minor students.

The merge with PLAN's Overdrive collection is live. Everyone seems very excited about the expanded collection. Natalie Binder and I were interviewed by the local newspaper about the merge.

I have been voted onto the PLAN Board and will serve beginning in November.

I was accepted into the Sunshine State Leadership program and I'm looking forward to the experience; I believe my participation is going to greatly benefit the WILD Cooperative.

The State Aid process is about to begin again; I will be busy with the paperwork for the grant process.

I have the Internet Safety protocol for the Board to vote on today; it is one of the requirements for the e-rate grant. I'm getting everything else lined up so that we are prepared to apply in January/February 2023. Unfortunately, I do not have concrete numbers for a vendor for application services. We have to conduct a bid to even begin the process of collecting pricing. However, I have scheduled a meeting with several other administrators of library cooperatives who utilize e-rate funding and I will get recommendations from them. As an alternative, I would also like to propose that WILD funds the Internet service for Franklin. E-rate is no longer paying for hardware, so that takes that additional benefit out of the consideration process. I had a brief phone call with the previous administrator, Pat Gilleland, to ask why she did not pursue e-rate. She said the cooperative did provide e-rate at one point and that the process and paperwork were overwhelming.