

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

DEPT: Library

BOARD AGENDA:6.B.2
AGENDA DATE: July 31, 2018

SUBJECT:

Approval to Amend the Rules for Behavior for the Stanislaus County Library System

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-0382

On motion of Supervisor Monteith , Seconded by Supervisor Olsen
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Olsen, Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST:



ELIZABETH A. KING, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

File No.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
AGENDA ITEM**

DEPT: Library

BOARD AGENDA:6.B.2
AGENDA DATE: July 31, 2018

CONSENT:

CEO CONCURRENCE: YES

4/5 Vote Required: No

SUBJECT:

Approval to Amend the Rules for Behavior for the Stanislaus County Library System

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Amend the Rules for Behavior for the Stanislaus County Library System as shown in Attachment 1.

DISCUSSION:

The Library Rules for Behavior were first adopted by the Board of Supervisors on March 26, 1985, and amended on March 11, 1997, April 1, 2003, December 19, 2006, September 25, 2007, December 16, 2008, and July 14, 2015. Staff has since updated, reworded, and amended the Rules for Behavior to the most recent version shown on Attachment 1.

The Library is committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment, conducive to open access and service to the public, while providing a healthy working environment for its employees. The Library Rules for Behavior provides a document that clearly states acceptable and unacceptable behaviors on Library property.

As shown on Attachment 2, the Library Rules for Behavior, updates include provisions to:

- Add phrase "possession, use, or" (#2)
- Add phrase "or abuse or misuse of computer equipment including banging on computer keyboards" (#3)
- Replace "branch" with "community" (#6)
- New rule: limits the size of bags, backpacks, boxes, carts, wheeled conveyances, or other items brought into the Library (#8)
- New rule: prohibits leaving personal items unattended (#10)
- New rule: prohibits the movement of library furniture (#11)
- Add "signal"; replace "assistance" with "service"; add phrase "with valid dog license tags" (#17)
- Add phrase "or appearing to be sleeping" (#19)
- Delete phrase "Any personal property left unattended is subject to being removed" (Safety Rules section)

The Library strives to create a welcoming and comfortable environment for customers. Consistent with this goal, the Library is revising the Rules for Behavior to limit the size of personal belongings that may be brought into library buildings and on library grounds. This amendment will help create a safer and less cluttered atmosphere in the busy public areas in and around the Library.

The other significant change is to add the current guidelines for managing service animals in the Library to the revised Rules for Behavior. Service animals are not exempt from local animal control or public health requirements, and are subject to local dog licensing and registration requirements. This revision supports a healthier and safer environment for customers and staff.

POLICY ISSUE:

To ensure Board concurrence, the Library historically requests the Board approve amendments to the Rules of Behavior prior to implementation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

The recommended actions are consistent with the Boards' priority of *Promoting First-Rate Learning* by updating rules of behavior to foster an atmosphere conducive to open access and service to the public, while providing a safe and healthy working environment for members of the public and employees.

STAFFING IMPACT:

The Library Rules for Behavior are enforced by all Library staff department wide. Cypress Security Officers assigned to the Modesto and Turlock Library's enforce the Library Rules for Behavior as well.

CONTACT PERSON:

Diane McDonnell, County Librarian Phone: (209) 558-7801

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Stanislaus County Library Rules for Behavior
2. Stanislaus County Library Rules for Behavior (with Updates Identified)

STANISLAUS COUNTY LIBRARY RULES FOR BEHAVIOR

Adopted by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors on March 26, 1985;
Amended on March 11, 1997; April 1, 2003; December 19, 2006;
September 25, 2007; December 16, 2008; July 14, 2015; July 31, 2018

No person shall, in or on the grounds of any Stanislaus County library, engage in any behavior that interferes with another person's use of the library or with the ability of a member of the library staff to perform his or her job. This includes all disruptive and unsafe behavior such as that listed below:

GENERAL RULES:

1. Engaging in any activity prohibited by law.*
2. Possession, use, or being under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance as defined by California law.
3. Making loud noise, using offensive language, verbal abuse, insulting language, intimidating language, verbal threats or non-verbal threats, repeated unwelcome advances, offensive gestures, staring at another person or abuse or misuse of computer equipment including banging on computer keyboards, which could reasonably be expected to disturb others.
4. Failing to maintain personal cleanliness or extremely poor hygiene. Appropriate clothing, including shirts and footwear, must be worn at all times.
5. Eating in the library unless part of a special program. Covered beverages are allowed and may be consumed in the library.
6. All smoking, including but not limited to, the use of all tobacco and cannabis products and e-cigarettes in and around the libraries. This includes the portico and grass surrounding the Modesto Library, and all walkways and landscaping surrounding community libraries (Government Code Section 7597).
7. Using bicycles, tricycles, scooters, skates, skateboards, or roller blades in the library or on the walkways surrounding the library.
8. Bringing into the library bags, backpacks, boxes, carts, wheeled conveyances, or other large items, which singly or collectively exceed 24" W by 16" H x 10" D in size (excluding handles), with the exception of wheelchairs and baby strollers being used for transport of a person or child.
9. Obstructing library entrances, exits, aisles, or other areas in any manner with large items such as backpacks, luggage, wheelchairs, walkers, strollers, shopping carts, or any items named in 7, which may create a safety hazard.
10. Leaving packages, backpacks, luggage, or any other personal items unattended. Unattended items are subject to removal.
11. Moving library furniture from where it is placed by library staff.
12. Harassing a library customer or staff. "Harassing" includes any verbal or non-verbal conduct which is likely to frighten, embarrass, anger, or annoy a person to the extent that that person's use of the library or ability to work in the library is unreasonably curtailed by the conduct.
13. Engaging in sexual conduct such as exposure or touching.
14. Engaging in any activity that may result in injury or harm to any person.

15. Running in the library.
16. Engaging in any activity that may result in damage to property belonging to the library or another person including altering software configurations, or vandalizing or defacing materials, equipment or facilities. (Note: The parent or guardian of a minor who willfully and maliciously commits any act within the scope of Education Code section 19910 shall be liable for all damages so caused by the minor.)
17. Bringing any animal, except for signal, guide or service dogs with valid dog license tags onto the premises.
18. Soliciting, petitioning, or selling merchandise. Conducting any business for personal gain or any service for a fee is prohibited.
19. Sleeping, or appearing to be sleeping, in the library facilities, utilizing the library facilities for bathing, washing clothes, washing utensils or other items, or preparing food. No person shall camp in library facilities or on library grounds. "Camping" means the use of library property for living accommodations.
20. Bringing in any weapons. "Weapons" include all items described or listed in Penal Code sections 171b, 16510, 16520, 16590 and 21510.
21. Participating in any gaming or gambling (Penal Code sections 330-337j)
22. Engaging in activities that are disruptive by repeated violations of computer use guidelines.

*** Persons in apparent violation of any Federal, State, or Local law will be reported to law enforcement and legal action will be taken which may result in arrest and prosecution.**

SAFETY RULES:

The library is not responsible for children who are left unattended.

Be aware of your personal property. The library is not responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen or damaged.

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