

2024-2025

BRIGGS District Library

BRIGGS DISTRICT LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

Bringing people together. Opening minds. Inspiring.

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Coming Soon

As part of the renovation project the old meeting room was converted into a Makerspace Room. In November, the Library welcomed Jennifer Smith to the staff in the role of Makerspace Room Coordinator. Jennifer is currently working on familiarizing her self with the equipment in the room and updating room usage guidelines. She will start offering room usage hours in February where the public can come in to use the equipment and receive assistance if needed. In March, Jennifer will start holding programs for the public that are stem based some of which will take advantage of items like the 3D printer, circuit and virtual reality headset. Look for upcoming surveys as she gathers information on what types of equipment the community would like to see in the room and in what areas the public would like to have programs and trainings offered.

News

Briggs District Library Millage:

What You Need to Know for the August Vote

This August, local voters will see a library millage renewal on their ballots.

The Basics

In 2016, our community approved a 0.75-mill levy to fund library operations. That funding expired on **December 31, 2025**. The Library is now asking to renew that original rate of **0.75 mills for the next 10 years (2026–2035)**.

Why This Matters

Michigan libraries rely on local property taxes for the majority of their funding. This millage covers approximately **80% of Briggs District Library's total operating budget**.

If it passes: The library will continue providing collections, technology, and programs for the community..

If it fails: The library will lose approximately 80% of its funding (which will affect operations, services, and staff)

What Does It Cost?

A 0.75-mill rate costs taxpayers **\$75.00 annually per \$100,000 of assessed property value**. That breaks down to just **\$6.25 per month**—less than the cost of most streaming services!

The Community Impact

In its first year, the levy is estimated to generate **\$716,536**.

Statistical Information

Library Visits: 28,983

Active Cardholders: 6,886

Total Circulation: 76,701

Adult Materials: 23,567

Youth Materials: 30,343

Electronic Materials: 21,756

Database Use: 264

This 'n That Collection: 771

Public Computer Use: 852

WiFi Logins: 1389

Website Access: 53,768

Programs Offered:

Program Attendance: 9,884

Reference Transactions: 1507

Items loaned to other libraries: 1,097

Items borrowed from other libraries: 3,864

Collection:

Print: 36,017

Audio: 2,896

Audio (downloadable): 5,928

Video: 2,207

Magazines: 44

E-books: 20,462

This 'n That Collection: 390

Active Cardholders

Bengal Twsp: 257

Bingham Twsp: 927

City of St Johns: 3273

Essex Twsp: 159

Greenbush Twsp: 550

Olive Twsp: 475

Riley Twsp: 378

Victor Twsp: 103

Westphalia Twsp: 3

SJPS Outside BDL: 128

Membership Fee: 155

Library Staff: 8

Interlibrary Loan: 433

Financial Information

Revenue: 2024-2025

Voted Millage: \$635,793

Other Local Government: \$419

Penal Fines: \$71,058

State Income: \$27,804

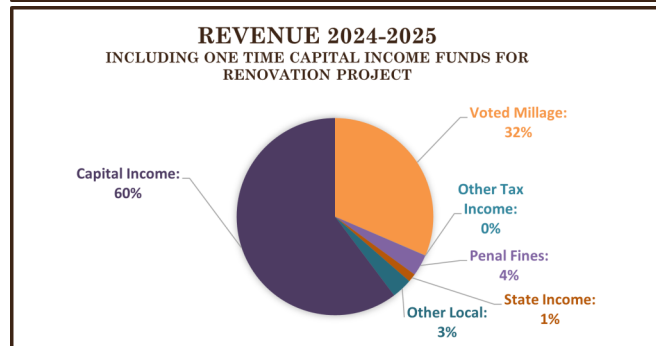
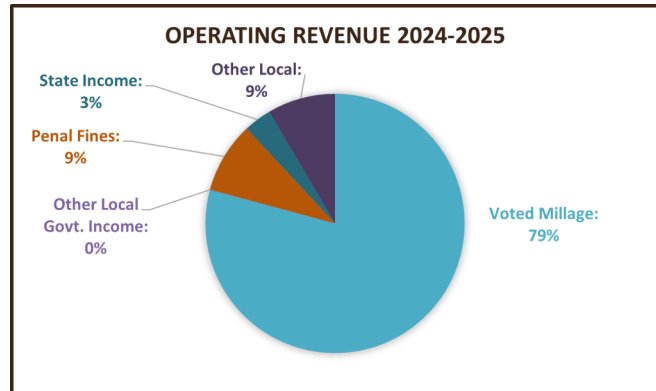
Other Local: \$68,066

Total Operating Revenue: \$803,140

One Time Capital Income: \$1,218,300

Grand Total Revenue: \$2,021,440

Note: One time capital income was obtained through grants, donations and fundraisers. The addition of these funds skew the statistics. Graphs with and without the capital funds are provided to accurately reflect 2024-2025 but also show how a normal year without those funds would look.



Expenditures 2024-2025

Wages & Benefits \$477,917

Supplies: \$53,809

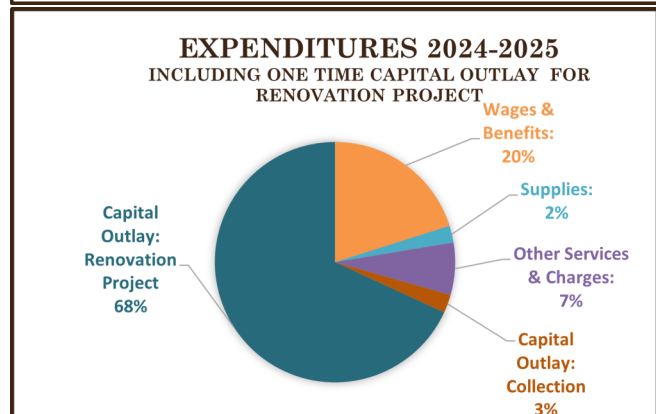
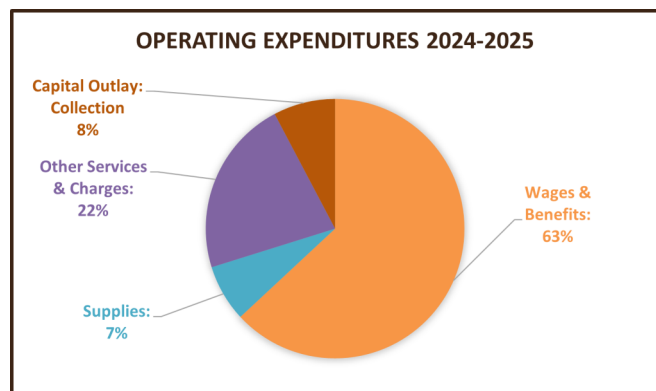
Other Services & Charges: \$167,194

Capital Outlay Collection: \$58,637

Total Operating Expenditures: \$757,557

One Time Capital Outlay Facility Renovation Project: \$1,619,430

As a governmental entity, Briggs District Library is required to submit a report to the State of Michigan by February 1st of each year. The library is also audited on an annual basis.



Library Services



The library provides a broad-based collection in a variety of formats and genres at various ability levels to meet library cardholder's educational and recreational literary demands. In addition to fiction and non-fiction books for all ages, the library offers DVDs, books on CD, graphic novels, large print titles, a small Spanish language collection, literacy, explorer and adventure packs and VOX books, picture books and audio recording in one.



The This 'n That Collection contains a variety of objects designed to spur creativity, make life easier, or just be fun. Some of the holdings include: thermal leak detector, electrical test kit, folding table and benches, graphic calculator, board games, puzzles, a variety of cake pans and cookie cutters, five gallon beverage container, stud finder, furniture dolly, triple slow cooker buffet, and a hand truck.



The seed library gives patrons the opportunity to sample heirloom seeds for free. Seeds can be checked out and planted at home. If patrons want, they can let some of the plants go to seed, collect them, and return them to the library: so others can try them the next growing season.



The Librista app allows library patrons to search the collection, request materials and manage their personal account from their mobile device.

Library Services



Library cardholders can access the Michigan eLibrary to take advantage of the state wide interlibrary loan system. This free service enables individuals to obtain materials from other libraries all over the state. All Michigan residents can access the wide variety of databases provided by the Library of Michigan.



The Library has four drop boxes to make returning materials convenient. They are located at the library, Riley Township Hall, Bengal Township Hall, and Lowe United Methodist Church in Essex Township.



The Fuel Your Mind Digital Collection provides eBooks and audiobooks that can be borrowed for free. Library cardholders can download the Libby app to obtain access to this service.



Comprehensive country database containing data on 175 countries. Topics include culture, travel, recipes, holidays, festivals, language, music, money, national symbols, and religion. Illustrated with over 30,000 photos, maps, and flag images.



LocalHop is an online room registration system. Individuals or groups can see what library rooms are available for public use and then reserve a room.



The Library now offers Kanopy, a video streaming service. Find movies, documentaries, foreign films, classic cinema, independent films and educational videos that inspire, enrich and entertain.

Library Services



MANGO

Mango is a language learning platform that provides access to over 70 languages and dialects including courses for individuals learning English and for those that want to learn American Sign Language. Courses are crafted using conversational methodology and delivered through native speaker dialogue. Mango can be accessed through the Library's website or by downloading the app.



Free videos, music, comics, and more!

Hoopla is a streaming service that allows patrons to borrow and enjoy audiobooks, eBooks, comics, movies, TV, magazines, or music.



Consumer Reports online provides access to reviews and comparisons on consumer products and services.



The Legal Self Help Center is a place where residents can find resources for Michigan legal problems, community services and fillable forms. Library staff are trained to assist in navigating this online resource.



The Michigan Activity Pass (MAP) program is a statewide collaborative effort between Michigan's public libraries and participating destinations. Destinations range from cultural destinations to state parks, campgrounds, and recreation areas. MAP provides Michigan library card holders the opportunity to discover/learn more about participating cultural destinations, state parks, campgrounds, and recreation areas in the state at a discounted rate.

Library Services



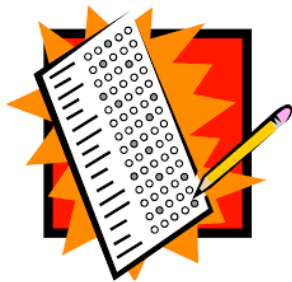
The library has three public computer stations for public use and six laptops that can be checked out for use anywhere in the library. Four Chromebooks are available to be checked out for offsite use. The public can also bring in their own devices and take advantage of the library's free WiFi signal. Twenty mobile hot spots are available for library cardholders wanting to access the internet off the library premise.



The library has a copy machine for public use in addition to a printer for those needing to print documents. Library staff can fax or scan documents for the public. Nominal fees are associated with printing, copying, and faxing services.



The Library has an Ellison die cut machine and a large assortment of dies that are available for public use. Individuals wishing to make use of this service need only bring their own paper.



The library offers test proctoring for distance/online education students. Notary services are also available to the public .



The library has four rooms for public use. For individuals looking for a place to study, tutors and small groups, there are two Quiet Study Rooms available. Besides being used for library programs, the Meeting Room is used by various groups seeking a place to meet. The room can hold sixty people or be divided into two thirty person rooms. The room also includes a small kitchen and a large monitor .The Maker Space can be used for small group meetings or the public can take advantage of the crafting and technology resources the room contains.

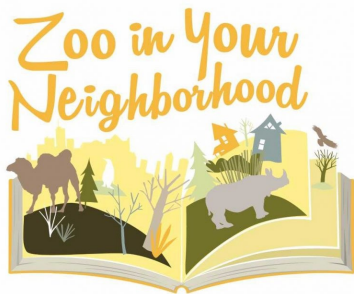
Library Services



The Library provides the community with two story walks. One is located at Motz Park and the second is around Fantasy Forest at the main City Park. Storywalks are designed to promote literacy while encouraging physical fitness and the enjoyment of nature. Library staff change out the stories on a regular basis.



Need something to read but the Library is closed. The Library has two Free Little Libraries that it stocks and maintains for community use. One is located at Motz Park and the second is in front of the Library near the corner of Spring and Railroad Streets.



Potter Park Zoo partners with the library to provide seven family zoo passes. The passes can be “checked out” for a short time (one week) to visit the zoo with no admission or parking charge, then returned to the Library so another family can enjoy the zoo! As part of the program, the zoo representatives visit the Library annually so the community can enjoy and learn about the animals .



The goal of the program is for parents or caregivers to read 1,000 books to their child before starting kindergarten. The Library provides a welcome packet and reading log. Participants track reading with the log or using the app. Each time a child reaches a reading milestone they can collect a reward.



The Library encourages parents and caregiver to take advantage of TALK: Text and Learn for Kindergarten program. TALK sends fun activities that parents can do with their babies and preschoolers to make any time learning time. TALK activities are designed to get kids ready for school success. Participants get updates for local library storytimes and other free, educational children’s events.

Year in Photos

The highlight of the past year is the completion of the library's interior renovation project—the warehouse space was converted to public space, a 60-person meeting room was constructed, and a new accessible entrance was added, among other changes.



Removal of ceiling tiles and light fixtures



All flooring was replaced



Creating the entrance to the new children's area



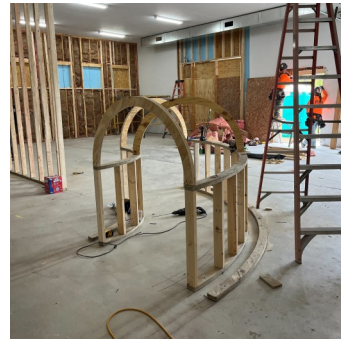
Construction of the 2 new private study rooms



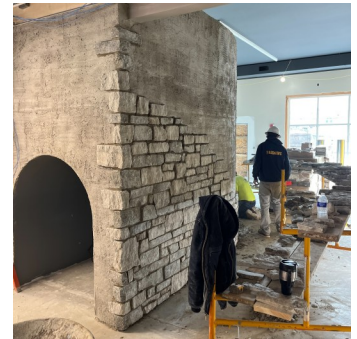
The new front entrance



The meeting room/program space



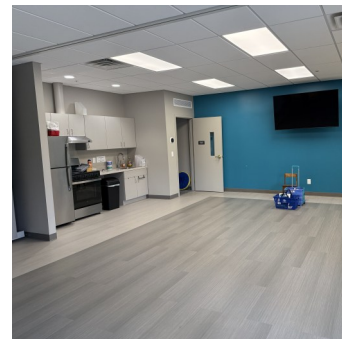
Frame of the tunnel entrance to the children's area



Stone façade of the train tunnel



New seating area with fireplace



Portion of meeting room with kitchenette



New children's area



Finished train tunnel entrance to children's area

Year in Photos

The conclusion of the renovation project allowed library programs to once again be offered inside our facility. Regular family storytimes, seasonal celebrations, art programs, and cooking programs are a sample of the offerings for children and teens. This year we have been able to offer book clubs, crafting programs, movie programs, and author/speaker presentations for adults. We also continue to offer programs for all ages at various spots around the community. This past year we have offered programs at local businesses, farms, IQhub at AgroLiquid, and township halls. Our staff also conducts monthly senior outreach visits to residents of Clinton Commons, Grace Haven, and Suntree.



Summer Reading Kick-Off



Summer Reading Kick-Off



Storytime at the Park



Teen program at Studio Glazed



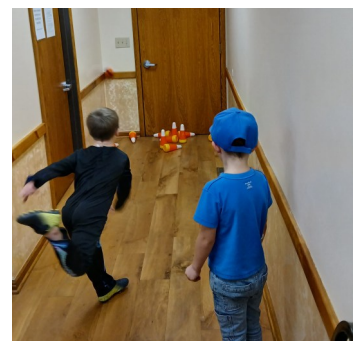
Halloween week Family Storytime



Halloween week Family Storytime



Family program at Riley Township Hall



Family program at Riley Township Hall



Reading to Buck from Giving Paws



Results of program at Studio Retreat



Produce painting at Fall Sensory program



A variety of reptiles curtesy of Nature Discovery

Year in Photos



Cooking program with Olive Branch



Crafternoons our weekly crafting program



Local author RJ Erskine



Local author Nick Gentile



Tour of Hazel Ridge farm



Hazel Ridge farm program



Local author Chris Thelen



Introduction to tatting program



Members of the newly formed Friends group



Friends of Briggs Library supporting programs



Ric Mixer presenting on the Edmund Fitzgerald



Robert Myers discussing Michiganders on the Titanic

Briggs District Library Board

Kimberly Skorna	Chair
Kimberly Keys-Kellogg	Vice Chair
Kendel Darragh	Treasurer
Renaë Larsen	Secretary
Shannon Silvernail	Trustee
Brad Jorae	Trustee
Rebecca Daman	Trustee

Library Hours

Monday –Thursday

10:00 am—8:00 pm

Friday

10:00 am—6:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am—3:00 pm

Briggs District Library Staff

Sara Morrison: Director

Brett Harger: Assistant Director

Erin Faivor: Program Librarian

Elizabeth Janetzke: Head of Community Outreach

Tara Cook: Library Clerk

Mia Gentile: Library Clerk

Angi Graham: Library Clerk / Materials Processing

Stephanie Hein: Library Clerk / Interlibrary Loan Coordinator

Eunice Link: Substitute Clerk

Meredith Reynolds: Library Clerk

Christie Shaffer: Library Clerk

Jennifer Smith: Makerspace Room Coordinator

Kristy Thelen: Library Clerk / Cataloging

Diane Zamarron: Substitute Clerk / Interlibrary Loan Assistant

The 2024-2025 Briggs District Library Annual Report was written and compiled by Library Director , Sara Morrison . Any questions or comments about information contained within this document may be directed to Director Morrison by phone (989)224-4702, or email, director@briggsdistrictlibrary.org