

Bennington City Council Meeting
September 14, 2026
Library Report:

Bennington Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
August 25, 2026
Library Director Report: Lisa Flaxbeard

The mission of the Bennington Public Library is to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, and strengthen community. To deliver on this promise we rely on three great resources: our staff, our collection, and our physical space.

Monthly Library Statistical Report for July 2026-see attachment

Another successful **Summer Reading** is in the books.

Summer 2026 by the Numbers					
	children	teens	adults	Outreach	Total
Reading Challenge signups	886	194	295		1,375
Reading Challenge Completion 50+ Days/Book Award					480
May Volunteer Training programs		3			
June programs	37	8	6	2	53
July & Finale programs	39	7	7		53
Total Programs	76	18	13		107
Program Attendance					
May Volunteer Training		42			42
Bennington Daze Outreach Events				471	471
Program attendance June	1,870	117	83		2,070
Program attendance July & Finale	2,173	83	75		2,331
Summer Reading Finale	253	13			266
Total program attendance	4,296	255	158	471	5,180
Reading Rewards/tickets	3,785				
Drawing Prizes awarded	35				
New Library Cards	378				
Materials Processed/Cataloged	352				
Volunteers	55				
Volunteer hours	806				
Scavenger Hunt	1,950				
Circulation-Physical items	36,195				
Circulation-digital	5,679				
Total Circulation	41,874				

JM Online continues to make progress on our **website design/development**.

Continuing Education: Johnna, Taryn, Nora, and Lydia will attend the Nebraska **Youth Services Retreat** in Ashland on September 3 and/or 4. Johnna was awarded a \$1,500 CE scholarship from TRLS (Three Rivers Library System) to attend the **Association for Library Service to Children's National Conference** in Buffalo, NY on October 1-3. The entire staff is now registered for the **NLA (Nebraska Library Association) and MPLA (Mountain Plains Library Association) Joint Conference** in LaVista October 14 – 16. As the Library Board approved last month, BPL will be closed Thursday, October 15 as a designated "Staff Development Day."



SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Teen Service Project: Library Garden Clean-up <i>Monday, September 21st 5:30 PM</i> Book, you'll earn service hours for attending the event! 		1 3:30-4:30 PM: Open Art Studio	2 10:00 AM: Book Club for Adults @ BPL 3:30-4:30 PM: LEGO @ Your Library	3 10:30 AM: Storytime	4	5 10:00 AM: Storytime 10:30 AM: Read with a Dog
6	7 LIBRARY CLOSED LABOR DAY	8 3:30-4:30 PM: Open Art Studio	9 10:00 AM: Out and About Storytime @ Cup and Cone 3:30-4:30 PM: LEGO @ Your Library	10 10:30 AM: Storytime	11	12 9:00 AM-12:00 PM: Craft Circle for Adults
13	14 10:30 AM: Preschool STEAM 6:00 PM: Book Chat for Adults @ BPL	15 3:30-4:30 PM: Open Art Studio 6:30 PM: Book Club for Adults @ Runza	16 3:30-4:30 PM: LEGO @ Your Library	17 10:30 AM: Storytime	18 3:00 PM: Book Club for Adults @ Ridgewood Senior Living	19 10:00 AM: Storytime
20	21 10:30 AM: Preschool STEAM 5:30 PM: Teen Service Project: Garden Clean-up <i>(Registration Required)</i> 6:00 PM: Friends of the Library Meeting	22 10:00 AM: Out and About Storytime @ Nelson Produce Farm 3:30-4:30 PM: Open Art Studio	23 3:30-4:30 PM: LEGO @ Your Library	24 10:30 AM: Storytime	25	26 9:00 AM-2:00 PM: Founder's Day: Games & Goodies
27	28 10:30 AM: Preschool STEAM 6:00 PM: Sourdough Class for adults <i>*Registration Required</i>	29 3:30-4:30 PM: Open Art Studio	30 3:30-4:30 PM: LEGO @ Your Library	VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.BENNINGTONLIBRARY.ORG ★ PRESCHOOL ★ ELEMENTARY ★ TWEEN & TEEN ★ ADULTS ★ ALL AGES		

Bennington Public Library									
July 2026 Statistics									
Circulation		Jul-26		Jul-25		Item Type (physical)		checkouts	holdings
Circulation of physical items		18672		16105		Conference Room Keys		6	15
OVERDRIVE		2848		2368		Adult Books		2273	5927
*OD Audio		*1494		*1280		Audio Books		551	316
*OD eBook		*982		*913		Circulating Equipment		1	2
*OD Magazine		*339		*156		DVDs		567	1443
*OD BPS		*33		19		Interlibrary Loan		16	n/a
Book Club Kits		26		30		Childrens Books		14605	13191
Total Circulation		21546		18522		Kits		38	58
New Library Cards						Magazines		69	451
City		26		36		Young Adult Books		546	1310
Douglas County		110		94		Total Physical Items		18672	22713
Omaha		45		25		Other Resource Data		Jul-26	Jul-25
Washington County/Other		5		2		Items added/weeded		190/43	368/35
Total Library Cards		186		157		Newsbank sessions/views		171/3410	198/2891
Programs & Attendance		#	Attendance	#	Attendance	NYT (16 libs) codes/sessions		406/2221	204/1671
Presch STEAM		4	262	4	180	Computer Use		359	389
Storytime Koala-T		4	77	5	49	Study Room Use		35	44
Storytime-Thurs		5	428	3	310	Conference Room Bookings		10	17
Storytime-Sat		1	41	1	31	Library Visits-door count		7150	7182
Total Early Literacy Programs		14	808	13	570	Volunteers/Hours		53/373	67/450
Open Art Studio		4	166	5	220	Copier/Printer 6/13-7/12		3850	2602
LEGO		5	127	5	185	Online Engagement (views)		Jul-26	Jun-26
Read with a Dog		1	35	1	25	Facebook		55125	16934
Elem STEAM		4	187	5	154	Instagram		32499	12054
SRP Movie		5	89	4	70	TikTok (video views)		5900	10686
Community Partners (5)		5	761	5	578	Website		5838	7061
Total Elementary Programs		24	1365	25	1232	Google Business Profile		1500	1466
Teen Retreat		4	76	4	84	Partnership Pass Uses		Jul-26	Jul-25
Teen Crochet Corner		2	7	2	9	Fontenelle Forest		12	12
Total YA/Teen Programs		6	83	6	93	Kiewit Luminarium		25	
Book Clubs/Book Chat		4	30	3	30	Lauritzen Gardens		27	9
Second Saturday Craft Circle		1	11	1	5	Children's Museum		24	7
Flora + Fern flower arranging		1	34	1	14	Strategic Air Command		24	
Total Adult Programs		6	75	5	49	The Durham Museum		25	11
						Total Bookings		137	39
						Self-directed/Outreach		Jul-26	Jul-25
						Scavenger Hunt-children		900	780
						Reading Challenge Sign-ups		78	50