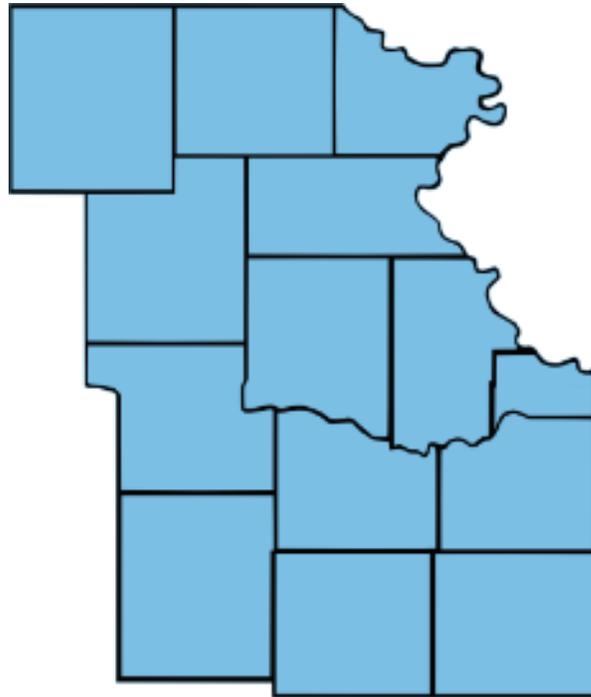


NORTHEAST KANSAS LIBRARY SYSTEM



2015

Annual Report

A summary of services and programs provided by the Northeast Kansas Library System (NEKLS) in support of the 121 member libraries (11 academic; 48 public; 54 schools/districts; 8 special) in the 14 counties of Northeast Kansas:

Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Douglas, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, Nemaha, Osage, Shawnee, and Wyandotte.

A Message from the Director

2015 was a year of transition for NEKLS as we completed a round of staff turnover – by welcoming four new staff members – and repositioned ourselves internally to better serve the needs of libraries in the NEKLS service area.

In the following pages, you will discover the various ways in which NEKLS works to support its member libraries. These efforts take many forms – including grants, trainings, consulting, resource sharing, technology support, and management of the integrated library system for our NExpress members – and are successful, in part, because of the collaborative spirit of the regional library systems and their member libraries.

Looking forward to 2016, NEKLS will develop a new strategic plan to guide our efforts for the next three years. As we go about implementing the plan and working with our member libraries, it will be imperative that all of us – NEKLS and each library – commit to gathering and analyzing relevant data. The data has a story to tell . . . and NEKLS will work with its members to do so in a way that is meaningful for patrons, local leaders, and legislators.

Thank you for your interest in NEKLS and the work we do! Please feel free to contact us at any time to learn more.

- Laura A. DeBaun

Governance

NEKLS is governed by a System Board consisting of one representative from each member library and one Governor's Appointee from each taxing county. The System Board's Annual Meeting is held in August.

The Executive Board, which is elected at the Annual Meeting, meets monthly.

Executive Board Members

Atchison County, Gary Landeck
Brown County, Penny Foster
Doniphan County, Roger Gormley – President
Douglas County, Barbara Pressgrove
Franklin County, Gloria Kruse
Jackson County, Sandee Morris
Jefferson County, John Duty – Vice President
Johnson County, Sean Casserley
Leavenworth County, Janet Perry
Miami County, Emily Schwarze

Nemaha County, Marilyn Nolte
Osage County, Alice Smith – Treasurer
Shawnee County, Thad Hartman
Wyandotte County, Carol Levers
Member-At-Large, Marilyn Daniels – Secretary
Member-At-Large, Nancy Keith
Member-At-Large (Academic Libraries),
Dr. Alan Bearman
Member-At-Large (School Libraries),
Kimberlie Pelsma

Accreditation and System Grants

Public libraries that have successfully achieved accreditation receive an allocation (system grant) from NEKLS. These range from \$500.00 to \$64,435.00. Accreditation recognizes each library for achieving a certain level of service appropriate for their community. Participating libraries must apply for accreditation every three years and certify annually that they have met the criteria for accreditation which correlates with their service level.

NEKLS also provides grants for other purposes to member libraries and include:

Substitute Librarian Program – Offered to our smaller public libraries (population) with limited staff and budget, this grant allows the library director time away from the library to attend NEKLS workshops or legislative advocacy events.

Continuing Education (CE) Grants – All library personnel and library trustees of member libraries are eligible for scholarships, which are awarded to individuals rather than libraries. They can be used toward workshops, conferences, meetings, classes or any other event not sponsored by NEKLS. Preference is given to those who have not previously received a grant. Funding each year is limited to available budget, and is awarded on a first-come first-served basis.



APPLE

The APPLE (Apply Public Library Education) training program for new library directors is offered annually in coordination with the other Kansas regional library systems. Each participating system selects new library directors to enroll in this innovative program. The purpose of APPLE is to ensure new directors have a solid foundation for being successful library leaders in their respective communities.

APPLE training consists of eleven interactive webinars and two face-to-face workshop sessions over the course of the year. Consultants and other staff from the Kansas regional library systems, including NEKLS, partner to lead the webinars and facilitate the workshops.

of NEKLS directors in the 2015 Class = **8**

Continuing Education (CE)

NEKLS Continuing Education opportunities are designed to serve all of our member libraries' needs, whether school, academic, public or special. Our consultants work closely as a team to develop activities and workshops that meet both broad and more specific continuing education requirements of members.

During each calendar year, NEKLS offers a series of workshops, webinars, and events, with the focus changing from year to year depending on library trends, changing professional development emphases, and member interests.

Major CE events offered annually include (2015 attendance):

- Summer Reading Workshop (70)
- Innovation Day (100)
- Trustee Workshops (120+)
- School Librarians Workshop (70)
- Directors Institutes: Spring/Fall (30/30)
- Annual Meeting / Assembly (110)

Additional continuing education offerings in 2015:

- Youth Services
- Using *EverNote* Effectively
- Collection Development
- Readers' Advisory
- Interlibrary Loan
- Customer Service

Children's Services

NEKLS provides libraries with a consultant for youth and teen services. An emphasis is placed on training and support to libraries in the areas of age-appropriate programming, collection development, and space configuration. NEKLS also coordinates specialized training and support for school librarians, including a day-long workshop each summer.

~ Staff Profile ~

Anna Foote joined NEKLS in July 2015 to help libraries better meet the demand for enhanced services and programming for youth and teens.

She is co-author of the book, *Six Skills by Age Six: Launching Early Literacy at the Library*, which was published in 2015.

Consulting

Consulting services are available to member libraries and cover a myriad of topics, including:

- Personnel Employee Benefits
- Payroll
- Government Reporting
- Accounting
- Advocacy Training
- Vendor Relations
- Library Policies
- Board Orientation & Training
- Facility Planning
- Collection Management
- Friends Organizations
- Fundraising
- Marketing
- Strategic Planning
- Library Law
- Conflict Resolution
- Renovations and new construction
- Technology

Consultants Make a Difference

Library directors, staff and board members benefit from access to our library consultants. These individuals have the mix of education (MLS degree) and varied professional work experiences that enables them to provide an unbiased perspective to situations and an awareness of best practices.

In an average week, NEKLS consultants field over 30 phone calls and emails from library directors covering many of the topics at left, and more. Consultants regularly travel to member libraries for face-to-face consultations, to facilitate staff and/or board trainings, and to serve as a resource at library board meetings.

Technology Services and Support

NEKLS has a three-person Technology Department that provides a number of services for member libraries, which include:

- Consulting on Technology Plan development
- Managing consortia-level software licensing and hardware purchasing
- Consulting on local network and Internet projects
- Consulting on technology aspects of space planning, renovation and new construction
- Providing computer and technology repair and support services
- Offering training on technology topics throughout the year

Did you know?

NEKLS fields an **average of 55** technology-related “tickets” per week associated with a host of topics including networking, hardware, software and Koha, the integrated library system for NExpress.

Statewide Services Hosted by NEKLS

NEKLS manages three statewide efforts that enable Kansans to experience advanced library services through their local library.

Recollections: Kansas is the platform for Kansas libraries to share unique historical materials and heighten awareness of the richness and diversity found in local collections.

Developed by the Northeast Kansas Library System, in conjunction with other regional library systems and the State Library of Kansas, *Recollections: Kansas* is a community based digital archive designed to capture and preserve the stories, images and memories of our Kansas community. *Recollections: Kansas* is the story of Kansas, told by its people.

The **My Kansas Library** project allows public libraries across the state to have access to high end web-based tools to facilitate easy web development. Today's library patrons expect their local library to have a web presence and My Kansas Library offers libraries a way to make their website a true extension of the library by providing access to the catalog, links to community resources, and research databases and e-content resources through the State Library.

My Kansas Library is a service jointly sponsored by the Kansas Regional Library Systems and the State Library of Kansas.

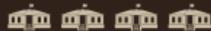
Kansas Library Express (KLE), the Kansas interlibrary courier service, provides library users with rapid and direct access to library resources. *Kansas Library Express* connects more than 300 libraries throughout Kansas with a convenient and cost effective delivery service that expands the ability of libraries to readily share their collections for the benefit of library users.

Kansas Library Express is a service of the participating libraries, the State Library of Kansas, and the regional systems of cooperating libraries.

STATEWIDE LIBRARY SERVICES HOSTED BY
NORTHEAST KANSAS LIBRARY SYSTEM

recollections: KANSAS

LIBRARIES PRESERVING LOCAL MEMORIES

2 0 1 4	 190 ITEMS	 4 ACTIVE USERS
2 0 1 5	 775 ITEMS	 15 ACTIVE USERS

MY KANSAS LIBRARY

KANSAS LIBRARIES ON THE WEB

2 0 1 3	 115 GIGABITS/MONTH	 160 WEBSITES
2 0 1 5	 217 GIGABITS/MONTH	 220 WEBSITES

KANSAS LIBRARY EXPRESS

STATEWIDE INTERLIBRARY COURIER SERVICE

2 0 0 9	 569k ITEMS SHIPPED	 256 LIBRARIES
2 0 1 4	 900k ITEMS SHIPPED	 331 LIBRARIES

NEKLS

NExpress is a shared online regional catalog that provides rapid and direct access to over 1,000,000 books and other materials in the shared collections of 42 NEKLS libraries in 50 locations.

Through Koha, an open source software platform featuring a sophisticated search engine and flexible user interface, NEKLS offers NExpress members a technically-advanced library automation system at a reduced cost, with training, technical support and software enhancements provided by NEKLS. The NExpress service is a web-based automation service that features flexible searching, item availability status, and the ability for library users to directly place requests for items in the collection of any participating library, with delivery by courier to the patron's local library.

In 2015, NExpress member libraries

Circulated 932,867 materials from the adult collections



AND

Circulated 803,244 materials from the children/young adult collections



AND

Of these 1,736,111 circulated materials, 220,950 were shared between NExpress member libraries.



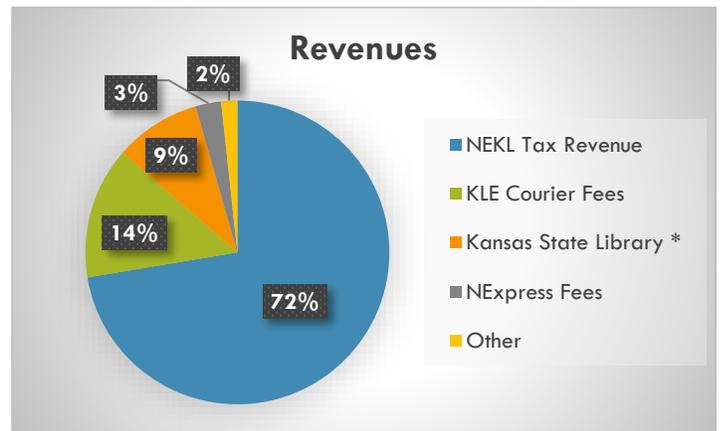
Financial Report 2015

NEKLS is funded largely by two means: a property tax on property not already taxed to support a local public library, and by state aid. The mill levy for the 2015 budget was 1.378 mills and provides all of the services described above.

Revenues

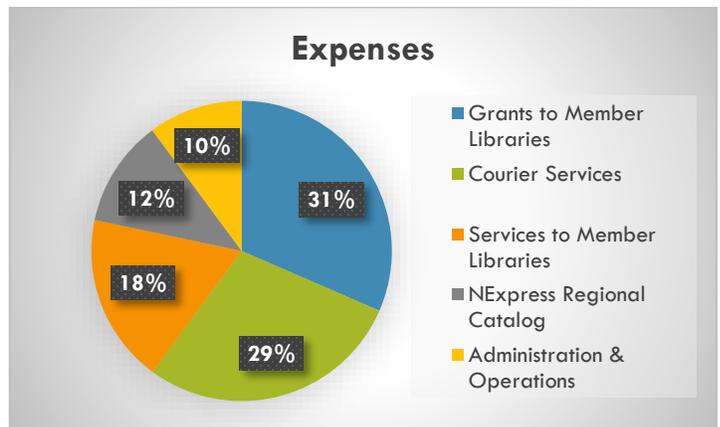
NEKL Tax Revenue	\$ 1,804,847.66
KLE Courier Fees	\$ 350,018.75
State Library *	\$ 228,914.11
NExpress Fees	\$ 67,825.00
Other	\$ 42,599.00
Total	\$ 2,494,204.52

* Courier grant; LSTA grant; and State Aid



Expenses

Grants to Member Libraries	\$ 768,611.00
Courier Services	\$ 696,599.00
Services to Member Libraries	\$ 444,445.91
NExpress Regional Catalog	\$ 281,578.00
Administration & Operations	\$ 247,122.41
Total	\$ 2,438,356.32



Contact Us!

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Staff

System Director
Library Development Consultant
Continuing Education Consultant
Children's Services Consultant
NExpress Coordinator
Director of Technology Services
& Technology Consultant
Technology Coordinator
Technology Specialist
Business Manager
Courier Coordinator

Laura DeBaun
Michael McDonald
Patti Poe
Anna Foote
Heather Braum

Robin Hastings
Dan Alexander
Greg Gantz
Dorinda Benton
Carolyn Little