



Mary J Barnett Memorial Library

Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028

Approved by Library Board of Trustees: 02/26/2024

Development of plan: The Mary J Barnett Memorial Library’s Strategic Plan for 2024-2028 builds on the accomplishments and organizational strengths gained through the Library’s Strategic Plan 2019-2023. We will leverage these strengths to better position our Library as a destination place and community hub of Guthrie Center and throughout Guthrie County.

The planning process began in December of 2021, 2022, and the Summer of 2023. We created a general survey that was available online or in print at the library for patrons to fill out and respond via in print or online. Library staff compiled the data from the paper surveys and incorporated the online survey results.

The strategic planning meeting was held during the November 27, 2023, Library Trustee Board meeting. The trustees and library director discuss a survey result summary, accomplishments, and progress made with the Library’s Strategic Plan 2019-2023. The meeting ended with a discussion about the questions, “What do we do well?” and “What could we do better?”

On November 27, the library trustees brainstorm goals for the Strategic Plan 2024-2028. The input was recorded in anticipation of using it as a guide in the creation of the draft plan.

Mission Statement:

Enriching our community, Educating minds, and Energizing curiosity.

Goal 1: Provide opportunities for community members of all ages to learn, create, and acquire new information and skills through innovative library programming and community partnerships.

Objective 1: In each year of this plan, library staff will coordinate and plan adult movie afternoons at the library to engage adult patrons with entertainment options available free of charge during the winter months.

Objective 2: In the first quarter of 2025, library staff will investigate outreach programs with local Assisted Living Facilities and Nursing homes to initiate a technology training class to instruct senior citizens on the use of technology for entertainment and reading purposes.

Objective 3: In each year of this plan, library staff or partner organizations will host at least four programs, classes, and/or author visits per year on topics of interest to the community.

Objective 4: In each year of this plan, library staff will coordinate quarterly displays to highlight the library’s collection that will connect readers with books of interest, and seek out volunteers or speakers to host programs directly related to the quarterly displays.

Objective 5: Revamp and promote 1,000 books before Kindergarten program by end of 2024.



Mary J Barnett Memorial Library

Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028

Approved by Library Board of Trustees: 02/26/2024

Goal 2: Provide access to current technology and connections to the digital world.

Objective 1: Research and carefully select emerging technology and online resources focused on meeting the needs of our patrons.

Objective 2: Monitor Statistics and patron feedback regarding library-funded online resources when making decisions regarding discontinuing or adding online resources.

Objective 3: Investigate options for replacing public and staff computers with aging technology, by third quarter of 2024.

Objective 4: Evaluate the current website design and its functionality by end of 2026.

Goal 3: Provide access and availability to an array of resources that promote literacy and life-long learning opportunities.

Objective 1: Grow & maintain a current and balanced collection of materials that reflects the ever-changing diversity of citizens and ideas in our community, yearly.

Objective 2: Review all of the Library's policies to ensure accuracy and consistency with current accepted practices by end of 2024.

Objective 3: Evaluate sections of the adult collection for the age of the material, circulation rate, and trends to ensure that acquisitions are targeted accordingly by end of 2026.

Objective 4: Work with the Friends of the Guthrie Center Library to seek grant opportunities for the Library, yearly.

Evaluation: The Mary J Barnett Memorial Library Board will review/evaluate this plan by the Library Board annually, during the regularly scheduled January meeting of the Board. Review of the Strategic Plan will also take place quarterly to keep it at the forefront of the library activities. The Mary J Barnett Memorial Library Board will evaluate the progress made toward achieving this plan's goals and objectives; including reviewing areas of success, as well as determining whether unmet goals or objectives are still valid and relevant to the mission of the Mary J Barnett Memorial Library and community. The Mary J Barnett Memorial Library Board will also evaluate whether new goals and/or objectives need to be added to meet additional community needs.