

Section 1	Mission Statement and Objectives
Public Policy and Procedure Manual Approving Authority: Morris Area Public Library District Board of Trustees	Effective Date: 01/05/2010 Reviewed and Revised: 05/15/2023, 02/09/2026

Mission Statement and Objectives

The vision of the Morris Area Public Library District is to be an informed and engaged community embracing the opportunity to recreate and learn through literacy, meaningful experiences, and from one another.

Our mission is to provide materials, programming, and space to cultivate curiosity, enlighten the mind, and strengthen the community.

A. General Purposes

The Morris Area Public Library District exists (1) to further the lifelong education of those adults who are desirous of becoming completely well-rounded persons, and (2) to make available to both children and adults the wonderful world of enjoyment and recreation inherent in the printed word.

The Library’s concern, therefore, should be that of a positive contribution in the form of enlightenment and enrichment in moral, mental, social, cultural, and spiritual needs of its borrowers. Through the media of books, expertly and carefully selected, this enlightenment is made possible. Other educational material such as magazines, newspapers, periodicals, videos, and other media should supplement the use of books in achieving this goal of a continuing education. Additionally, reading for sheer enjoyment, which is such a vital part of Library tradition and one of the main reasons for a Library’s existence, should be encouraged and nourished, particularly among its clientele of all ages.

Library service should be available to all responsible residents and taxpayers without discrimination based on origin, age, background, or views. The staff and the Board should keep constantly on the alert for new and workable ideas that can effectively meet the challenges of our growing and developing community.

B. Means of Attainment

In maintaining these objectives, the following policies should be observed by the Board and staff: a high degree of accuracy in records maintained and information given, cooperation with civic organizations, an open-minded attitude toward new methods and improvements for better systematic and imaginative arrangement, and a careful observation of ethics in relations between Board members and staff.

C. Library Bill of Rights

In conclusion, we express approval of an acceptance of these principles as further stated in the American Library Association Bill of Rights, adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Morris Area Public Library District. A copy of the Library Bill of Rights is available in the Appendix.