

## Tri-Township Public Library District: Long Range Plan 2026-2030

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### Introduction

This Long-Range Plan for 2026-2030 outlines the Tri-Township Public Library District's strategic vision for the next five years. Developed in response to valuable community feedback and a comprehensive needs analysis, this plan serves as a roadmap to enhance our services, spaces, and overall community engagement. Our commitment is to evolve with the needs of our residents and continue to serve as a vital hub for knowledge, connection, and growth.

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### Our Goals for 2026-2030

#### Goal 1: Establish Quiet Space and/or Quiet Times in the Library (2026)

- Evaluate furniture arrangements and consider using movable shelves and dividers to create designated quiet zones.
- Designate and enforce a specific quiet time through clear signage and staff guidance.

#### UPDATE:

- [Installed sound-absorbing décor in the Children's Section to help reduce overall noise levels while maintaining a welcoming and engaging environment for young patrons. \(2/2026\)](#)

#### Goal 2: Create Adaptable Meeting Space (2027)

- Renovate the existing meeting room and update the Room Reservation form to streamline the booking process.
- Promote the form and space availability using multiple media channels and
- Keep statistics on current meeting space usage to make data-based decisions.

#### UPDATE:

- [The meeting room was renovated, and new furniture and a digital monitor were installed to better support group use and presentations. \(2/2026\)](#)
- [Updated the Room Reservation form and policy to provide clearer guidance and improve ease of use for patrons. \(1/2026\)](#)

#### Goal 3: Explore Opportunities to Expand Eligible Cardholders (2028)

- Research state requirements for library card eligibility to identify potential expansion opportunities.
- Reestablish communication with neighboring areas to explore possibilities.
- Increase outreach to community and neighboring areas
- Develop a plan to increase card holders.

#### UPDATE:

- Expanded the Cards for Kids Program, allowing all children ages 5 to 18 within the community to receive a free library card and full access to library resources. This expansion removes financial and residency barriers and supports early learning and literacy. (2/2026)
- Increased outreach in St. Jacob through participation in community events such as the Christmas Cottage, Homecoming, and Story Times in the Park.
- Added library information to the new resident welcome packet to encourage early registration for library cards.

#### **Goal 4: Increase Engagement with Various Community Groups (2029)**

- Collaborate with local schools and home schoolers to develop programs and services that support learning.
- Identify underserved populations and develop services and programs to meet their needs.
- Foster a community hub by providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space.
- Support community needs by acting as a central, accessible location for various community groups to gather and hold meetings.

#### Update:

- Continued collaboration with district schools by meeting at least once per semester to support shared needs and strengthen partnerships. (2026)

#### **Goal 5: Expand Our Physical Collection (Ongoing)**

- Analyze community reading trends to inform purchasing decisions and ensure our collection remains relevant.
- Update and promote the Materials Request Form to encourage more patron input and suggestions.
- Maintain a diverse and inclusive collection of materials.

#### Update:

- Began compiling community reading trend data to inform future collection development. (2026)
- Expanded high-interest genres based on Goodreads insights and library reservation activity. (2026)

#### **Goal 6: Preliminary Discussions for Library Expansion of Building and Services (2030)**

- Reevaluate the current use of space and analyze community survey results to address key needs (child, teen and adult, seating areas, etc.).
- Increase promotions and outreach to the community regarding programs and services
- Conduct a feasibility study for a bookmobile.
- Keep up with technology and digital offerings.

- Launch new and expanded programming for teens focused on building social skills and fostering leadership opportunities.

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This plan represents our commitment to serving the Tri-Township Public Library District. We will regularly review and adjust these goals to ensure we remain responsive to the needs of our community.