

STATE COUNCIL ON LIBRARIES AND LITERACY

Biannual Report to the Governor and Nevada State Legislature

January 2019



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Introduction

Nancy Cummings-Schmidt, Chair, State Council on Libraries and Literacy



The Nevada State Council on Libraries and Literacy is pleased to present the 2018 Report to the Governor and the Legislature. It may seem unusual to begin a letter such as this by talking about a new set of tires and a clutch replacement. Well, thanks to the passage of SB 549 during the last legislative session the Elko County Library was able to make these repairs to their bookmobile, which resulted in safer conditions for patrons in the dozens of rural communities the bookmobile visits. This is just one example of the impact SB549 had in supporting library users in every corner of the state, as you will see in this report.

This report also reflects the diverse ways libraries are keeping relevant, resilient, adapting to change and forging new and expanded community partnerships. This is in part due to the federal Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) funds that flow into the state as well as partnerships formed with community organizations.

One example of this synergy in action is the embedding of southern Nevada Workforce Connections One-Stop Career Centers in the four library districts in the Vegas Valley. To complement this natural **Libraries = Jobs** endeavor, the state library has funded access for these libraries to the *Nevada Career Explorer*, an interactive online career coaching and exploration platform emphasizing in-demand occupations vital to Nevada’s economic growth. The leadership of the Las Vegas Clark County Library District, Henderson Libraries, North Las Vegas Library District, and Boulder City Library has been a key to the One-Stop/Nevada Career Explorer success.

Laura Bush once referred to libraries as “community treasure chests.” We welcome your continued support for these “Nevada treasure chests” that will give them the tools and resources they need to remain relevant and to flourish.

Nevada library objectives and priorities

- Education/Training
- Digital Literacy
- Workforce Development
- Early Literacy
- Community Partnerships
- Traditionally Underserved Communities
- Information Access

A Note on Library Funding

Nevada’s libraries are trusted and pivotal community partners; local, state, and federal agencies recognize this by consistently appropriating library funding into their budgets. The legislature appropriates funds to support local funding for public library collections, rural bookmobiles, and online research and educational databases. Collections and Rural Bookmobile funds are distributed through formula driven grants while databases are purchased on behalf of all libraries using the state’s considerable buying power. In addition, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) supports libraries in Nevada through the population based federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) state award (see p. 10 for more information on Nevada LSTA)

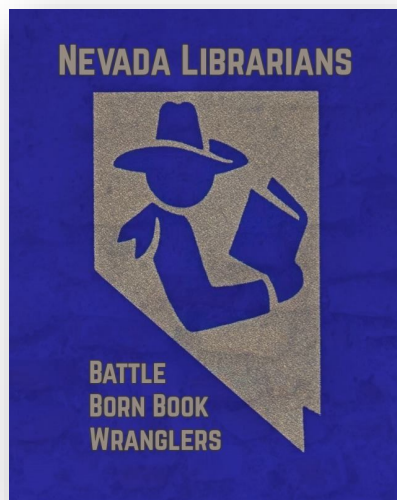


Early Literacy Skills, North Las Vegas Library

Nevada's Public Libraries

Statistical Snapshot

Public Libraries By the Numbers – 2017



Nevada Library Overview

Library systems	22
Library locations (+ bookmobiles)	87
Library employees	818

Nevadans & Libraries

Residents:	2,953,375
Library card holders:	1,296,262
Nevadans w/library cards:	44%
Public library visits:	9,684,935
Visits per capita:	3.28

Books, etc!

Items available to borrow:	6,327,402
Items borrowed:	18,414,396
Electronic items borrowed:	2,327,402
Items shared between libraries:	261,096

Programs & Outreach

Library programs (all ages):	33,217
Program attendance:	675,593
Youth/children's programs:	21,564
Youth/children's attendance:	457,516

Computers

Public computer sessions:	2,656,299
Wifi sessions:	1,431,511

Community

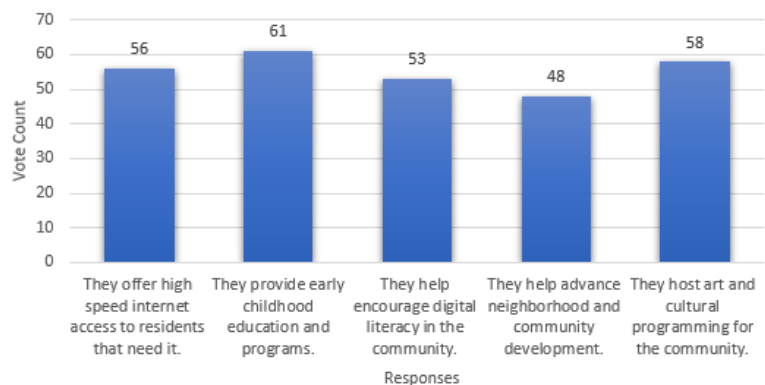
Library volunteers:	1,658
Volunteer hours:	98,056

Libraries and Communities: Elected officials have long recognized that libraries, as trusted community centers, are essential to building and sustaining healthy, vibrant, thriving societies. Libraries are partners in advancing critical community priorities.

Prime areas of opportunity for library/local government collaborations include *internet access, childhood education, digital literacy, neighborhood development, and arts and culture.*

Graph courtesy of the *International City/County Management Association*: <https://icma.org/blog-posts/advancing-community-goals-evolving-role-public-library>

Public Libraries are Important in My Community Because...



Nevada librarians learning best practices at the 2017 Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference



White Pine County Library computer lab

Nevada Talking Books

"That all may read."

Over 100,000 Nevadans have a visual or mobility disability that prevents them from reading or holding printed books. For these residents, the State Library supports Nevada Talking Book Services, a library for the blind. Nevada Talking Books provides books and magazines in audio and braille as well as specialized playback equipment that has been tailored to the needs of the visually impaired.

Providing equitable access to information is a founding principle of public library services and Nevada Talking Books does just that, sharing the gift of reading with visually impaired patrons in all situations and environments, whether at home, a care facility, or the state prison. It is also the only library in Nevada to offer personalized reader advisory services, matching readers to books and books to readers.

Nevada Talking Books is supported through a combination of state and federal LSTA funds.



Talking Books patron Bernice Lee of Yerington celebrates her 100th birthday in 2016 with Deputy State Librarian Tammy Westergard



Talking Books staff preparing audiobooks for delivery

Nevada Talking Books By the Numbers (2017-2018)

- Youngest patron: 5
- Oldest patron: 109
- New patrons: 768
- Books checked out: 230,654
- New books added: 21,572
- Nevada Collection books recorded: 53
- Phone calls/reference questions: 10,000/year

Talking Books patrons share their thoughts!

- *Thank you so much for providing so many hours of comfort...*
- *Just wanted to express my heartfelt thanks for the wonderful books that you sent to my husband. He spent many hours of enjoyment with your books. He was himself an author...and an avid reader, so he especially enjoyed receiving the cassettes and listening to them after he had lost his eyesight.*
- *Thank you for the use of this player. It was an honor to use it.*
- *Thank you for being in my life.*
- *I want to thank you for your service. I will no longer need your service, however, as I am expiring my sentence and leaving Nevada...You have no idea how much I appreciated what your service has made possible for me.*
- *You all add great joy to my life.*
- *Thank you for the many years I have received the Talking Books; they have been a lifesaver.*
- *Thank you for your commitment to youth and their families...*



Talking Books outreach coordinator Brett Silver (3rd from left) is honored for his work

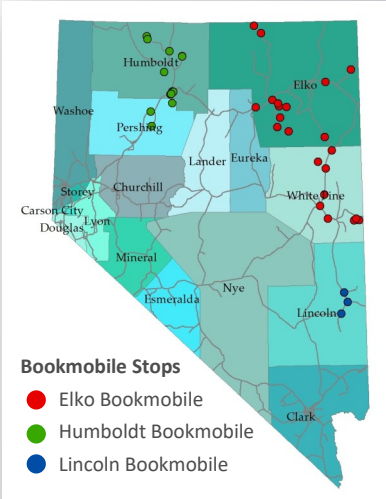


Talking Books serves patrons of all ages

Nevada Rural Bookmobiles

Elko, Humboldt, Lincoln, Pershing, and White Pine Counties

Nevada Rural Bookmobiles By the Numbers



Rural Bookmobiles:	3
Bookmobile stops:	44
School/Preschool stops	18
Summer Reading participants:	170
Bookmobile annual visitors:	15,401
Bookmobile counties:	5
Bookmobile territory square miles:	52,374
Population density per square mile:	1.7

Nevada rural bookmobiles are supported by local, state, and federal funds, and have been since their very beginnings.

The Elko, Humboldt, and Lincoln County Bookmobiles visit some of the most rural and isolated communities in the state; through local agreements, these bookmobiles also visit residents in Pershing and White Pine Counties. With vast tracts of open land, and miles of highway between towns and neighbors, these five rural bookmobile counties are not only among the top 100 geographically largest in the country, they also have among the lowest of population densities.

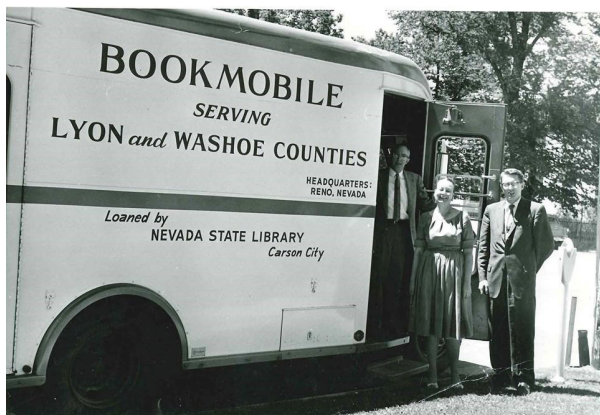
Nevada's Rural Bookmobiles, with stops at daycares, schools, parks, general stores, the post office, ranches, senior care facilities, honor camps, and "wide spots in the road" such as rural mailboxes, connect and empower their rural communities through the sharing of information and knowledge. These mobile libraries break down barriers to access; they bring the means for opportunity; they share the simple pleasures of reading.



Humboldt County Bookmobile



Students in Lincoln County browse the shelves of their bookmobile



In 1960, State Librarian Joseph Shubert (right) sends off Nevada's first Bookmobile, a collaborative effort between the Nevada State Library, Washoe County Library, and Lyon County Library, with support from the federal Library Services and Construction Act.

Collection Development for Public Libraries

Keeping collections current

Nevada public library collections are sustained and enriched with funding from the State Legislature through State Collection Development Grants. Libraries decide what to buy with these funds, whether books, DVDs, streaming resources, or databases, based on the needs and interests of their communities. Some libraries update basic collections, others add new services they wouldn't otherwise be able to afford such as downloadable e-books and audiobooks or circulating art collections.

Collection Development grants were first made available in the 1995 legislative session, designated only for rural libraries; in 1997, they expanded to include all eligible public libraries. The amount appropriated has varied through the years according to fluctuations in the economy. During the 2017 Session, the approval of SB549 increased the amount available to \$650,452 for the biennium.

Grants are distributed using an equitable funding formula to ensure libraries with smaller funding bases have the support they need. *Note:* Libraries may not use Collection Development grants to reduce or replace local funding.



Humboldt County Library's Spanish Language Collections



Lyon County Library's Youth Non-Fiction Collection

Collection Development Biennium Allocations

- 2017 session: \$650,452*
- 2015 session: \$270,452
- 2013 session: \$252,197
- 2011 session: \$252,631
- 2009 session: \$699,998
- 2007 session: \$1,020,000
- 2005 session: \$1,197,990
- 2003 session: \$2,154,065

*includes SB 549

Collection Usage Statistics, 2017

- Items available to borrow 6,327,402
- Items borrowed 18,414,396
- Children's items borrowed 6,038,454
- Ebooks/Eaudiobooks borrowed 2,387,527
- Databases sessions 2,145,043
- Items shared between libraries 261,096

Collection Development Impact

Librarians share their collection development stories

The new Spanish collection has proven useful to families learning Spanish, and we were able to include a few books and audio-books for Spanish speakers looking to learn English, which has proven to be popular. Our library collection is now much more inclusive to a large part of our population.

Humboldt County Library

The audio books have helped patrons who have decreased eyesight and who want to enjoy books and also those who are traveling frequently are able to listen to their favorites while driving.

Lincoln County Library

Our patrons find the materials they want on hand when they come in... and they know that the library staff is working to meet their needs.

Elko-Lander-Eureka County Libraries

... we received a lot of patron comments, compliments, and gratitude in regard to the updated collection. They found the titles more readily interested them or met their needs. Also, we were more likely to have a title on hand that they could check-out during their visit versus requesting the required materials from other library systems.

Pershing County Library

Statewide Databases

Research, school curriculum support, test preparation, career exploration

Libraries collect and provide accurate, reliable, and trustworthy information resources that support education, learning, and life goals for their communities, at every age and every stage. One way in which the state assists is by funding online resources (databases) that complement each library's collections and are not otherwise *available for free anywhere on the internet*. The resources include *World Book Online*; *ABC-CLIO* for history and social studies; *LearningExpress Library* for skills building/test preparation, and a suite of research and academic databases from *EBSCO*. As a package, they support school curriculum from pre-K to college and strengthen the skillsets needed for certifications, workplace attainment, and career advancement. *Statewide databases are supported through a combination of state and federal LSTA funds.*



More opportunities...Less frustration.



The Nevada Career Explorer

In 2018, with support from SB 549, the state library obtained a new database resource: the *Nevada Career Explorer*. The *Nevada Career Explorer* is an online platform that highlights the in-demand occupations vital to Nevada's economic growth and matches users' skills and interests to both their ideal careers and the local employers that are hiring.

The *Nevada Career Explorer* has been rolled out as a demonstration project in Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, (LVCCLD), Henderson Libraries, Boulder City Library, and the North Las Vegas Library District- the four Vegas Valley libraries

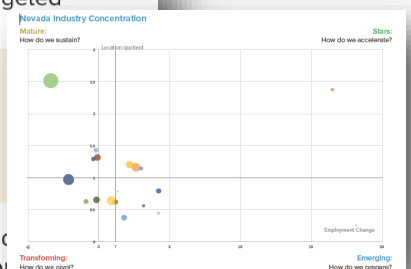
that host One-Stop Career Centers in partnership with Nevada Workforce Connections. LVCCLD has taken the pilot one step further by introducing the *Nevada Career Explorer* into area high schools. In the north, Churchill County Library is piloting the project to determine how this online, interactive career guidance software will best be deployed in public libraries that don't yet have One-Stop Career Center partnerships.

The In-Demand Occupation and Insights Report identifies 90 priority occupations across eight (8) targeted industry sectors in Nevada:

- Aerospace and Defence
- Construction
- Health Care and Medical Services
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing and Logistics
- Mining and Materials
- Natural Resources
- Tourism, Gaming, and Entertainment

Various datasets were leveraged to detect jobs that are currently and projected to be in high demand in the targeted sectors. The occupations identified as "priority" meet the following criteria: 1) occupation Nevada had a smaller share than the national average, 2) occupations that were at or near the state's 2016 average salary of \$20.89 and, 3) occupations requiring public education beyond high school.

Nevada Career Explorer is powered by real-time, Nevada-specific career industry data as obtained from the US Department of Labor, US Department of Education, Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, and Nevada Department of Education. This data was synthesized in the state library's 2017 *Labor Supply & Demand Dynamics in the Vegas Valley and Statewide* report and used to build the foundations for the Nevada Career Explorer



Emerging Technology

XR Libraries

Virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and extended reality (XR), are making a global impact on the ways in which we learn, work, and relate to life. These interactive, immersive platforms make it possible for the user to experience anything, at any time, in any place. Nevada's libraries have always been leaders in introducing emerging technologies such as these to the public; thus, with appropriations from SB 549, the State Library created the *Nevada XR Libraries* pilot program, providing virtual reality equipment and quality STEM focused extended reality experiences to library patrons, students, and teachers.

Initially, 11 public and high school libraries were accepted into the virtual reality pilot program; 2019 will see participation from an additional 4 libraries and 1 planetarium!

The Nevada State Library has presented ongoing results from the XR Libraries pilot to librarians across the country, including at the national American Library Association conference; it has also created the first ever library catalog records for extended reality content, making XR experiences findable to libraries everywhere in the world.



Parallel to the XR Libraries pilot is the *Libraries = Education* sub-initiative. In **Libraries = Education**, high school XR librarians are collaborating with their school's science teachers to integrate educational XR content into classroom curriculum:

- "We've got new technology that will help students learn in a new, exciting way." Holly McPherson, Churchill County High School Library
- "Teachers saw the potential for classroom and educational use. I would definitely incorporate XR in the future." Ananda Campbell, Carson City High School Library.

Note: XR has real world applications for people of all abilities. Nevada Talking Books staff are researching ways in which visually impaired can participate and benefit from XR. Additionally, through the use of virtual reality programs, a Churchill School District speech pathologist has seen a huge leap in his student's progress at school and at home.



Carson City Mayor Bob Crowell in VR



VR warm-up



Henderson Libraries



Pershing Co. High School

Early and Family Literacy

Story times, School Readiness, Read by 3

The importance of libraries and literacy:

The first five years are critical to children's development and Nevada's libraries are there to help nurture curious young minds. As places of active learning, libraries offer welcoming spaces and provide a wide range of literacy programs that emphasize the social, emotional, and core motor skills children need for reading and school success. Libraries can also provide a space for parental support networks, connecting families to community health and educational resources as well as each other. While libraries offer access to knowledge; literacy provides the means for Nevada's children to take use that knowledge and make it their own.

Nevada Public Library Early Literacy Projects

... a small sampling!

- **1000 Books Before Kindergarten:** Washoe, Boulder City, Henderson, LVCCCLD
- **Bilingual Storytimes:** Carson City, Lyon County, Humboldt County
- **Baby/Family Storytimes:** Pahrump, LVCCCLD, Washoe, Elko, Humboldt, North Las Vegas
- **Launchpad Early Learning Stations:** Henderson, Pershing
- **AWE Early Literacy:** Amargosa Valley, Pershing, Mineral, Churchill, Douglas, LVCCCLD, Elko, Henderson, Washoe, White Pine
- **Mind in the Making:** LVCCCLD, Lyon County
- **Learn and Play Kits:** North Las Vegas
- **Family Reading Program:** Carson City, Churchill, Elko, Humboldt

Statewide early and family literacy projects

On the horizon is a Nevada State Library Early and Family Literacy pilot initiative: a flexible and community driven model that will provide librarians with any needed training, advance state early childhood literacy priorities, and complement existing library programs. As early literacy work is a collaborative community effort, the pilot will draw upon the expertise of all of the various state and community based literacy partner organizations -stay tuned for more information!

Public Library Early Literacy Stories

- A 5-year-old, hearing-impaired child and his little sister were overheard saying: *Ellie and I are going to learn!*"
- *Because of the Early Literacy Library Program, my grandchild has skipped a whole grade in school!*
- *Thank you for providing activities for my children to learn and to help expand their imaginations :)*
- *Loved the hands-on activities and the socialization.*
- *...we enjoy coming here to spend time together and learn.*



Top to bottom: *Learn & Play*, North Las Vegas; *Reading Therapy Dogs and Storytime*, Douglas County; *Teddy Bear Sleepover*, Boulder City

Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)

A federally funded program to advance library priorities throughout Nevada

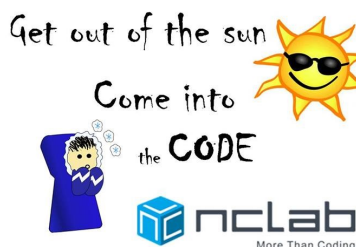
About LSTA:

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) supports libraries in Nevada through the population based federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) state award. The Nevada State Library administers this grant, using it to advance statewide library priorities as well as sub-granting a portion to eligible libraries. Leveraged with local funds (a match is required), libraries use LSTA as seed money to develop sustainable projects and provide effective and agile solutions to community needs.

Statewide* LSTA Project Spotlight

Coding in the Library

Mineral County Library



Learn Computer Coding at the library this summer

Coding, or computer programming, is a digital literacy skill that has become a critical component of 21st century digital citizenship; learning to code means learning how to think creatively, reason systematically and work collaboratively.

In support of coding literacy, the State Library created

a *Coding in the Library* statewide initiative, providing all public libraries with access to *NCLab*, a Reno based online platform for computer programming and 3D modeling courses. The initiative also supports coding workshops for librarians so that they are equipped to offer high quality, outcome-based coding classes, camps, and clubs for their patrons.

.....

***Statewide LSTA Projects/Priorities:** Rural Bookmobile Support, STEM Programs/Digital Literacy, Nevada Talking Books Services, Educational/Research Databases, Community Statistical Data, Literacy & Literary Programs, Interlibrary Loan Support, Library Staff Professional Development, Workforce Development

LSTA Subgrant Awards, 2017 & 2018

Boulder City Library

- A Better Look Into the Past, \$10,608

Carson City Library

- Playaway AudioBooks, \$5,000
- Makelt@Two, \$45,000
- Library Planning Initiative, \$31,400

Churchill County High School Library

- Digital Library Starter Project, \$5,000

Elko-Lander-Eureka County Libraries

- AllCIRC Disc Management, \$27,876

Great Basin College Library

- Collections Preservation & Archive, \$3,662
- Spread the Knowledge, \$49,597

Henderson Libraries

- Engaging a Community, Building a Strategy, \$50,000

Las Vegas-Clark County Library District

- STEAM Forward, \$100,000
- Teachers in Libraries, \$100,000

Lyon County Library

- Minecrafterapalooza, \$5,000
- Readers, Makers, Thinkers, \$9,696

Mineral County Library

- Youth Digital Learning, \$23,245
- Imagine, Create, 3D Print, \$12,828

North Las Vegas Library District

- NLV Creation Station, \$50,040
- Developing the Future, \$90,000

Nevada Library Co-Op

- Strategic Planning, \$50,000

Pershing County Library

- AWE Literacy Tablets, 18,945
- Graphic Novels, \$5,000

Pershing County High School Library

- TLC-Maker Space, \$5,000

Washoe County Library

- Automation for Institutional Capacity, \$96,000

Western Nevada College Library

- WNC Library Reimagined, \$100,000

UNLV Libraries

- Building the Pipelines, \$80,685
- Large Scale Digitization, \$97,937

UNR Libraries

- Yucca Mountain Collection, \$100,000
- Paul Laxalt's Senatorial Papers, \$90,717
- Improving Rural Access to Health Information, \$5,000

White Pine County Library

- 3D Printing Exploration, \$4,497

NRS 380A—State Council on Libraries and Literacy

The Council is advisory to the Division of State Library, Archives and Public Records... (380A.31)

In 1965 the legislature created a council with the following declaration:

"Policy of this State; purpose of the chapter. It is the policy of this State to foster and further the establishment and proper maintenance of superior libraries and the acquisition of resources, facilities, professional staffs and auxiliary personnel fully to support such services. The purpose of this chapter is to provide the means for the overview and study of existing library facilities, resources and services and for the formulation of recommendations to strengthen and expand these components." NRS 380A.011

About Council



The Council has advocated for libraries in Nevada since its creation in 1965. In 1993 the State Council on Libraries and the Governor's Literacy Coalition Advisory Council merged to form the State Council on Libraries and Literacy Council (SCLL).

Today the SCLL serves as the advisory council for the State Library, Archives, and Public Records (NSLAPR) with regard to its many responsibilities relating to libraries and literacy in the State of Nevada.

Council Powers & Duties, NRS 380A.81

The Council may:

1. Examine and overview the whole state of libraries, librarianship, library education, library resources, and all allied and cognate activities and prepare a record of its findings.
2. Require public libraries to provide necessary library statistics and reports and to make recommendations for the advancement of libraries.
3. Report biennially to the Governor and Legislature. The report must be filed on or before January 1 of each odd-numbered year.
4. Publish material pertaining to its work that it may order issued.
5. Review plans and applications submitted by libraries and political subdivisions for state grants-in-aid and make recommendations to the State Library, Archives, and Public Records Administrator concerning approval.
6. Examine and evaluate the programs for literacy in this State.
7. Establish a plan for coordinating programs and activities for promoting and increasing literacy in this State.

Council Members, January 2019

Governor Appointees

Nancy Cummings-Schmidt, Chair
Sector: Private Literacy Organization

William Boster
Sector: Persons with Disabilities

Ananda Campbell-Richards
Sector: Labor Organization

Jeanne Frazier Price
Sector: Special Libraries

Joan Dalusung
Sector: Public Libraries

Robert Jones
Sector: School Libraries

Kathlin Ray
Sector: Academic Libraries

David Ortlipp
Sector: Library Trustees

Ian Salzman
Sector: Classroom Reading Teacher

Nicole Andazola
Sector: Private Sector Employers

Statute Ex-Officio

Margot Chappel
Designee for the Director, Department of Health and Human Services

Kathleen Galland-Collins
Designee for the Superintendent, Nevada Department of Education

Karsten Heise
Designee for the Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development

Kimberly Petersen
Designee for the Director, Department of Corrections

Vacant
Sector: Member of the Public
Designee for the Dept. of Administration
Designee for the Dept. of Employment Training & Rehabilitation

SB 549* IMPACT



Churchill County High School student experiencing Virtual Reality



"As one who has been associated with the Nevada Library Association since 1969, there is no question that this funding benefits library users of all ages in every nook and cranny of our state."

*Nancy Cummings-Schmidt
State Council on Libraries and Literacy*

"There is nothing more exciting than to have children discover new books on the shelves or help students find current information on a subject that is important to them. Residents come to the library expecting current information and who doesn't love an attractive new book."

*Lori Romero, Director,
White Pine County Library*



Connecting People Connecting Libraries



Elko Bookmobile



Elko, Humboldt, Lincoln Counties Bookmobiles

"I had never stepped foot into an actual library before my first year of high school. Still, I never missed out on anything. The Bookmobile had everything I needed to stimulate my desire to learn. I had no idea how much it would benefit me."

~ Quint Bell, Humboldt Co. Library

State Budget: \$92,953/year
SB 549: +\$19,000/year



11 Nevada XR Pilot Libraries Technology

XR=Xtended Reality; Nevada libraries are leading the way in adopting this vital 21st century technology via the Libraries = Education initiative. "We've got new technology that will help students learn in a new, exciting way." ~Holly McPherson, Churchill County High School Library.

State Budget: \$0/year
SB 549: +\$11,000/year



NV Career Explorer- Vegas Valley Databases

The NV Career Explorer is a career exploration and coaching platform customized for Nevada. It was rolled out as a demonstration project in libraries with Workforce Connections partnerships. There were over 16,000 users sessions in the first rollout period!

State Budget: \$210,456/year
SB 549: +\$30,000/year



State Grants for Public Libraries Collections

"With the addition of eBooks and eAudios, the libraries became available to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We have had many positive comments about the additional resources and our circulations have been steadily increasing." ~Jeanne Bleecker, Smoky Valley Library District

State Budget: \$135,226/year
SB 549: +\$190,000/year

*In 2017, the legislature unanimously approved SB 549, appropriating \$500,000 over the biennium to the State Library for collection development, databases, rural Bookmobiles, and emerging technology and thus fractionally restoring state library funding to prerecession levels. SB 549 had immediate and profound impact on libraries throughout the state.