

Strategic Plan

2008-2011



*Prairie du Sac
Public Library*

*Sauk City
Public Library*



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Prairie du Sac Public Library

560 Park Ave.
Prairie du Sac
(608) 643-8346
www.pdslibrary.org

Sauk City Public Library

515 Water St.
Sauk City
(608) 643-8318
www.saukcitylibrary.org



Executive Summary

Sauk Prairie residents will have access to innovative library services, delivered efficiently and effectively that:

- provide programs and services designed to ensure young children enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen
- assist everyone to continue to learn throughout their lives
- provide opportunities and space to meet, gather, and interact in a welcoming environment
- provide materials and support that help students and adults improve their literacy skills

To accomplish this mission, the libraries adopt the following goals:

- Children will be introduced to the joy of learning and the joy of reading.
- Everyone will have the resources to pursue and learn about their interests to enhance their personal growth.
- Everyone will have programs that meet their recreational and social needs.
- Everyone will use the library as a gathering place.
- Students and adults will make use of materials and services that enhance their ability to read and write in order to perform essential daily tasks.



Introduction

The villages of Prairie du Sac (population 3,632¹) and Sauk City (population 3,278²) are located side by side along the Wisconsin River. Each village has its own government, library, and fire department, but other services (such as school district, police department, and Chamber of Commerce) are combined. Residents use the businesses and services of both villages seamlessly, and many of them consider “Sauk Prairie” one united community. When both the Sauk City and Prairie du Sac public libraries found it time to initiate a planning process to develop new goals for the coming years, it made sense to combine the process for both libraries.

During the summer of 2007, a group of Sauk Prairie citizens met to help develop the future course of the Sauk City Public Library and Prairie du Sac Public Library. A South Central Library System (SCLS) consultant facilitated the process. The format chosen for the process was the standard public library planning process, *The New Planning for Results*, a collaborative effort between community residents and their libraries.

During the first meeting, Committee members engaged in determining a vision for the community, and analyzed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that might affect this vision. From the resulting list of community needs, they proceeded to identify those needs which the library was in a position to address, and which library service responses could best help the library address them.

Following the first committee meeting, the library staff, and library boards met separately to react to the preliminary service responses. At their second meeting, after considering the staff and boards’ input, the Committee selected the final service responses, prioritized them, and identified target audiences. The final service responses selected, in priority order, were: Create Young Readers, Visit a Comfortable Place, Satisfy Curiosity, and Learn to Read and Write.

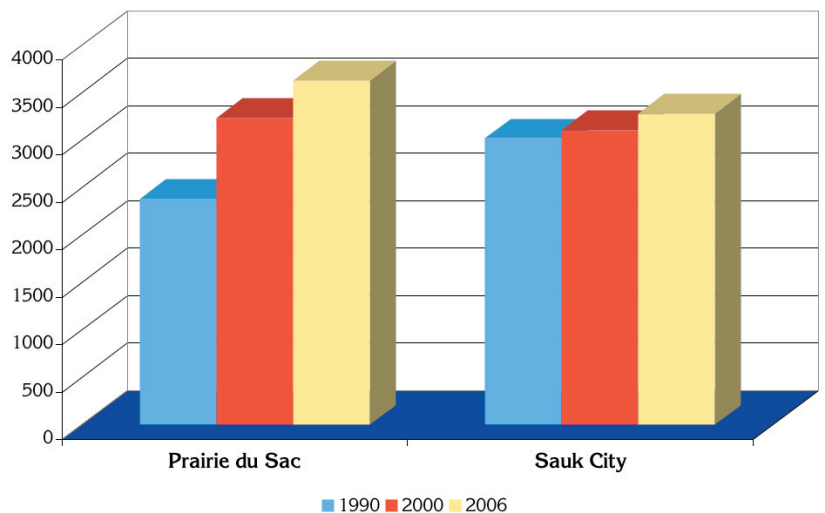
A draft plan was created, based on the selected service responses. Library staff met to review the draft and to brainstorm about activities to carry out the goals and objectives. Their input was incorporated into the draft.

The Committee met one final time to review and recommend changes to the plan, which was revised and subsequently approved by the library boards and presented to the Prairie du Sac and Sauk City Village Boards.

¹ Wisconsin Department of Administration, *Final Population Estimates, January 1, 2006*, <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/docview.asp?locid=9&docid=5770>.

² Ibid.

Sauk Prairie Population Change



Community Planning Committee

- Myra Ballweg, Village of Sauk City staff member
- Patty Barritt, business community
- June Beebe, Prairie du Sac library staff
- Mary Ellen Beich, Friends of the Sauk City Library
- Sally Blum, retiree
- Barbara Breunig, business community
- Leslie Bruner, Director, Chamber of Commerce
- Claire Fallon, library user
- Jessica Kinnamon, library user
- Amanda Lang, high school student
- Nick Lester, Prairie du Sac Village Board member
- Julie Rogers, Sauk City library board member
- Patrick Taggart, Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
- Roger Winans, former Prairie du Sac library board member
- Mary Zenker, Sauk City library staff
- Ken Ziegler, Prairie du Sac library board member, and Sauk Prairie teacher



Prairie du Sac Library Board:

Helen Campbell, President
Chris Bender
Alice Bishop
Mary Brennan
Dan Halling
Andrew Strathman
Ken Ziegler

Sauk City Library Board:

James Staff, President
Charles Hall
Phyllis Kirchstein
Violet Pfaff
Arlene Wipperfurth
Julie Rogers
Bonnie McGuine

Facilitator: Cheryl Becker, South Central Library System (SCLS)

Library Directors:

Peggy Heidenreich, Sauk City
Jennifer Endres, Prairie du Sac

Mission Statement

Sauk Prairie residents will have access to innovative library services, delivered efficiently and effectively that:

- provide programs and services designed to ensure young children enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen
- assist everyone to continue to learn throughout their lives
- provide opportunities and space to meet, gather, and interact in a welcoming environment
- provide materials and support that help students and adults improve their literacy skills

Goals and objectives:

Mission 1: The library offers programs and services designed to encourage young children to enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen.



Goal 1.1: Children will be introduced to the joy of learning and the joy of reading.

Objective: The number of library outreach activities to daycares, nursery schools, and parent groups will increase each year of the plan.

Objective: The number of picture books and board books checked out will increase each year of the plan.

Possible activities: Partnerships with day care providers and social service agencies. Programs for parents and care-givers on early literacy. Expanded storytime schedule—consider evening, afternoon, Saturday. Programs to help parents select age-

appropriate materials for children. Guest readers at storytimes. Summer Read-to-Me program.

Mission 2: The library assists everyone to continue to learn throughout their lives.

Goal 2.1: Everyone will have the resources to pursue and learn about their interests to enhance their personal growth.

Objective: The number of programs on informational topics offered by the library will increase each year of the plan.

Objective: The number of computer classes offered by the library will increase each year of the plan.

Objective: The circulation of non-fiction library materials will increase each year of the plan.

Possible activities: Computer classes. Exhibits from museums and organizations. Programs on informational topics (hobbies, crafts, arts, humanities, travel. . .). Programs for school age children on days there is no school. Book discussion groups for school age children. Author visits. Collaboration with local organizations to offer programs. Workshops on library research.



Mission 3: The library provides opportunities and space to meet, gather, and interact in a welcoming environment.

Goal 3.1: People of all ages will have programs that meet their recreational and social needs.

Objective: The number of people attending library programs will increase each year of the plan.

Possible activities: Post meeting room schedule and library programming calendar in the library and on library web page. Poll users about their hobbies and interests and use results to plan programs.

Goal 3.2: Everyone will use the library as a gathering place.

Objective: The number of people visiting the library will increase each year of the plan.

Possible activities: Comfy chairs. Gaming materials and books. Programs/discussions for teens. Designated quiet/noisy spaces. People counters at entrances. Cozy corner in meeting room. Provide/sell coffee. Identify and promote targeted library resources to audiences that don't use the library.

Mission 4: The library provides materials and support that help students and adults improve their literacy skills.

Goal 4.1: Students and adults will make use of materials and services that enhance their ability to read and write in order to perform essential daily tasks.

Objective: The number of ELL/literacy materials borrowed from the library will increase each year of the plan.

Possible Activities: Tutoring sessions. Partnerships with social services and literacy council. Materials for new adult readers. GED preparation materials. Offer and promote bilingual and literacy services and materials. Community outreach. Collaboration with educators and GED and ELL classes.

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