



REFORMA Oregon Membership Meeting

Saturday, June 4, 2022, 10am - 1pm

Hybrid meeting. In person in Springfield. To Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83979841570?pwd=YmNGUmtvbkxXQWd6b3BvTmluNGNSUT09>

10:00 - 10:25

- Introductions/Icebreaker
 - Share a Spanish song or group/band, album etc. that either has a lot of nostalgia or gets you up and dancing at a quinceañera/boda/baile just by the first few bars.
 - In attendance: Bobbye, Eddie, Jennifer, Wendy, Kristen, Sarah, Pia

10:25 - 10:35

- Chair's report: Bobbye went to the OLA board meeting yesterday. Material removal in Medford school library, reviewing collection development policy and procedures for challenges in Medford schools. Shirley and Lisa working on tips for contract negotiation when libraries are hiring vendors/performers for library programs.
- Approve last meeting minutes. Eddie moves to approve the minutes. Kristen seconds. All approve.
- Committee reports

Scholarship Committee

No update

OLA EDI Antiracism Committee

- Podcast project going strong, a new episode each month. Three episodes published: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1948067>

- Will be opening applications for new members in a few months. Looking at aligning membership year with the school year to help it be easier for school librarians to participate.

LfO Report for REFORMA Oregon Meeting 6/4/22

- Megan Pinder (Bilingual Library Specialist, Jackson County Library) became the 2022/23 Chair
- Laura Kimberly (Director, Newport Public Library) became the 2022/23 Incoming Chair
- Alice Perez Ververa and Hannah Bostrom became the 2022/23 Outgoing Chairs
- Accepted the 2022 library cohort: Mildred Whipple Library, and Jackson County Library Services from southern Oregon, Springfield Public Schools and Ainsworth Elementary from Willamette, Curry Public Library, Driftwood Public Library and Newport Public Library from the coast.
- Interviewed and chose 2022 Travelers, including Emporia student traveler
- Finalizing the 2021 LSTA grant elements

11:35 - 11:45

- Mock Pura Belpre: looking for a library that could host a hybrid event, or librarians who would like to help plan. Usually hosted in December/January, before ALA Midwinter.
- Elections: please contact Bobbye, Eddie or Kristen if you would like to run for Vice President or Secretary. Kristen is happy to run again for Secretary.

11:45 - 12:15

- Summer Reading - What is happening at your library?
 - Programs
 - Performers
 - Challenges
- Bobbye, Newberg: Mascots are hidden around the library and businesses, kids get to search for them with a prize drawing. Performers. Adult Summer Reading partnered with the local park

system with a passport to the parks–this is a family activity, too. Summer reading started today in Newberg!

- Sarah, Eugene: Summer Reading is toned down. There are many vacant positions, including the outreach positions. Giving away books to kids. Had to cancel a few storytimes in the parks due to rain. Offering book clubs for adults. Will send library representatives to Juneteenth, Pride and the Asian Celebration, giving away kids books and doing crafts.
- Eddie, Multnomah County: toned down SR. No planned in person programming. Will be offering storytimes in the park. Many vacant positions as well as training new staff. Third summer where summer reading is not quite what it was before the pandemic. Requiring volunteers to have been vaccinated.
- Wendy, State Library: Talking Book and Braille library offers a summer reading library for kids who use the Talking Book library. Kids can sign up for free t-shirts and be entered into a drawing for prizes, including an iPad. Program runs through the middle of August, as a way to engage with youth, mostly students who rely on the Talking Book Library.
- Kristen, Springfield: Reading Challenge for all ages. Free books for youth. Park explorer and business explorer activities for all ages. Adults get a free book when they read 5 books (count books they read to their kids, too). Live performances on the plaza each week with free lunch for kids. Planning events with the school district to have mobile library and activities at school campuses over the summer.
- Pia, Redmond School District: Do public libraries partner with the schools? Pia is an advocate for partnering with her local public library.
- Eddie: outreach with schools–kids are automatically registered for Public Library cards, their school ID number is their library card number. Partnering with schools is a year long process–to have the connection at the end of the school libraries, we need to be connecting at the beginning of the school year.
- Bobbye: the connection between school library staff and public library staff makes a big difference–the relationship matters and developing the relationship year round.
- Wendy: would like to see the Library Connect/Student Card statewide.

- Jennifer: reach out to Crook County about the partnership between the school district and public library–April was interviewed on Think Out Loud: [Central Oregon elementary changes policy after parents raise concerns over books about gender and race - OPB](#)
- What to do when a school board questions collection development? What is the OSLA recommending? Finding support reaching out to specific school librarians who have experienced challenges, Newberg, Medford, others. Looking for community members who can support the school libraries and write to school board members.

12:15 - 12:30

- Break

12:30 - 12:50

- Member updates - what is happening at your locations?
 - Virtual programs - did you find some things are better done online?
 - In person services?
 - New Spanish items in your collections?
- Pia: challenge with purchasing diverse voices books
- Bobbye: met with local community partner about offering in person English classes at the library. Has seen an increase in patrons coming in asking for help translating English language documents into Spanish. Working with Community Engagement Specialist for the City who is also bilingual. Offered basic intro to computers classes this past month. Has been providing English language storytimes as her library is short staffed.
- Jennifer works at the State Library and Chemeketa Community College. Every year they select a book for the Chemeketa Reads program–buy a number of copies. “This is My America”–offered online event with the author as well as online book club events. Student population is 40% self-identified Spanish Speaking. Budget challenges where staff members who leave are not being replaced.
- Sarah: For the longest time on the phone tree at EPL, when a patron presses 5 for Spanish it would go to a voice mail, a person would leave a message and a staff person who return the call. Sarah suggested that it would be forwarded to a cell phone and Spanish speaking staff share the duty of answering the cell phone. An example of a culture shift at the library where new ideas are considered as ways to better serve the community.

- Eddie: Library manager at MCL. Wrapping up first phase of community engagement and moving towards design for the branch library construction project. Summer Reading starts June 15–first year since 2019 that people can enter the libraries for SR. Now the entire household can come to the library to use it! May run out of small give away t-shirts, as an example of how many children are now back in the library.
- Kristen: Spanish language book group for adults has had new members who haven't read on their own since school, and it has been a very positive experience. Read a graphic novel adaptation of the Columbian "El olvido que seremos" this spring, this summer are reading "El laberinto del fauno" and collaborating with the teen book club to have a bilingual and intergenerational meeting in July. Had first hybrid meeting in April and will continue hybrid–gives great flexibility for participants, childcare and transportation aren't an issue.
- Challenges for sustainable models for staffing programs and services while growing and changing to offer the best for the community while also taking care to not burn out staff–members shared about their locations. MCL is looking at planning for sustainability. It is hard to plan and evaluate once everything is going. When you offer new services, there often isn't the flexibility to cut something else. When we are so busy and on the road to burn out, we aren't taking care of ourselves, but we also aren't having time to mindfully and thoughtfully provide services and outreach to those in our community who don't easily access our libraries. This can become an equity issue.
- Answerland Spanish Queue: started in May 2020 during the pandemic as a way to provide virtual services to Spanish speakers. Librarians across the state volunteered (or worked as representatives from their libraries) to staff the program. Now with libraries offering more and more in person, many staff across the state have had to step back or step away. Jennifer brought up that the state is going to keep the Spanish Queue as a service; she has been advocating for this continued service to Spanish speakers in the state. Looking into ways to provide compensation, hopefully fund a half-time person who can work the Spanish Queue and work as a translator for the State Library. Although the volume of Spanish questions is not as high as English, it is seen as an important service. Support for Spanish services is one of the top needs identified in listening sessions, and it has been identified as a part of the LSTA plan.

- Collection Development: Bobbye has been updating the collection, especially purchasing children's materials. Kristen mentioned a challenge in finding Spanish language DVDs. Eddie mentioned that this is a challenge in general for AV material. Talked about options for digital media when so many are unaffordable. For example, even NYPL has stopped funding Kanopy. Pia mentioned a possible service we might want as a state for books/audiobooks in Spanish: Make Make. Jennifer mentioned that one option to look into funding would be to get together with our regional libraries to form a coalition and apply for LSTA grants for services as a way to fund e-services. We can always reach out to the State Library for feedback on grant applications.
- Talked about vendors: Ingram, Latin American Book Source, also info from LA REFORMA Chapter: <http://reformala.org/blog/bookfair>, also Fondo de Cultura Economica: <https://www.fceusa.com/>, Lorito Books, Cinco Puntos Press (was bought by Lee & Low Books)

12:50 - 1:00

- Upcoming meetings
 - Election will be happening over the summer
 - September 10, 10am -1 pm, at the State Library in Salem, Ross or Jennifer will help host