

EUREKA PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Ordinance No. 2017-6

The Eureka Public Library is dedicated to connecting people with books, resources, and technology and offering opportunities for learning and enjoyment in a safe and comfortable environment for both patrons and employees. The Public Library Act of Illinois has provided the Board of Trustees with the general power to carry out the spirit and intent of the Act in establishing and maintaining library services, and to “exclude from the use of the library any person who willfully violates an ordinance or regulation prescribed.” The Board of Trustees of Eureka Public Library District views the inappropriate use of materials, abusive conduct, and disruptive behavior, as observed by library personnel, as violations of this ordinance.

Examples of behavior and conduct considered abusive, disruptive, or generally unacceptable may include, but are not limited to:

- Speaking in an abusive or threatening manner to patrons or staff
- Destroying or defacing library materials or property, within or outside of the building
- Profanity or inappropriate language or gestures
- Use of alcohol, illicit drugs, tobacco products, or vapor products, inside or within 15 feet of the library

Section 1. A patron who engages in any activity which materially disrupts the use of library facilities, collections, or services by patrons or materially disrupts the ability of the staff to perform its duties shall cease such activity immediately upon request by library personnel.

Section 2. In such instances involving minors, identification will be requested and the incident may be reported to the parent or guardian.

Section 3. If, following a request, the patron fails or refuses to comply or responds to the request in an abusive fashion, he or she will be required to leave the library premises immediately for the balance of that calendar day. If he or she fails to leave, the police will be summoned.

Section 4. Library personnel will record instances in which patrons are required to leave the library on an incident report maintained by the library for that purpose. Parents or guardians of minors will be notified in writing after the first recorded instance in which a minor is required to leave the library and advised of the consequences of any further recorded instances.

Upon the second recorded instance in which a patron is required to leave the library premises within a thirty-day period, the Director shall bar the patron from use of library premises for a period of thirty days.

Section 5. Parents wishing to appeal such action may do so upon written request to the Board of Library Trustees.

Section 6. In the even a patron is barred from the use of the library, police will be notified. If the barred patron attempts entry to the library during any such period of exclusion, the police will be summoned.

Section 7. In the event the patron persists in abusive conduct or disruptive behavior following such a period of exclusion, the Director shall report to the Board of Library Trustees such conduct following prior exclusion and the Board will consider a long-term exclusion of that patron.

Section 8. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon enactment and approval according to law and will be in full force and effect thereafter. A copy shall be posted within three days of enactment at the library, and the secretary shall maintain a certified copy in the official records of the library available for public inspection.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of Eureka on **May 21, 2018**

By: _____
Donald Whitman, President

Attest: _____
Sandra Sylvester, Secretary

Reviewed by Board of Trustees May 24, 2021