



City of Arts & Innovation

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

DATE: JUNE 27, 2016

FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUBJECT: POP-UP PROGRAMMING

ISSUE:

A summary report of newly implemented Pop-Up programs at the La Sierra Library.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive and file this report.

BACKGROUND:

Instant Recess is the concept of incorporating exercise into small bursts of activity that can be done by anyone, at any time with the goal of having fun and combating the health dangers of a sedentary lifestyle. Around 2012, Riverside Public Library staff began creating true spaces in branch libraries for play and exploration for young children. Instant Recess is taking place at libraries around the globe as a means of providing light exercise through fun activities for persons of all ages and abilities.

Pop-Up programs capitalize on heavy attendance times when no events or story times are scheduled and provide programs for customers unable to visit the library on regular program dates. Pop-Up programs can include things such as on-demand story times, magic tricks, poetry readings, reading an excerpt of a novel over the loudspeaker or singing a song.

Assuming a successful pilot, Pop-Up programs will be implemented at all library locations.

DISCUSSION:

Under the guidance of Branch Supervisor Jenna Pontius, staff at La Sierra Library are stepping outside of the box with spontaneous Pop-Up Programs and Instant Recess! Staff are piloting these programs to see which models work best and to gauge customer reactions. The programs will assist staff in making better connections with customers and get staff out from behind service desks (which can be intimidating), all while enhancing the customer experience at the library.

Spontaneous story time consists of approaching either a group of children or one child and offering to read a story to them. The photo below is from customer Brenda Holden whose granddaughter McKenna was sad that she missed the scheduled story time program and then overly excited that she got to experience Pop-Up story time, which McKenna says is, "Much better". A letter of thanks from Ms. Holden is attached.

City of Chicago

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Tonya Kennon, Library Director

Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager

Attachment: Thank you Letter