

## Programming & Outreach Policy – Proposed Revision

### **Background / Summary of Changes:**

The Board is asked to consider an updated Programming & Outreach Policy to replace the version approved October 10, 2016. The proposed revision retains the core principles of the existing policy while providing clearer guidance for current library programming and outreach practices.

Key changes include:

- Expands the definition of programming to include programs offered at library facilities, community locations, and online.
- Clarifies the distinction between Library-sponsored programs and use of Library meeting rooms by outside organizations.
- Establishes more detailed criteria for selecting programs, presenters, and community partners.
- Strengthens intellectual freedom and non-endorsement language, clarifying that presentation of a program does not imply Library endorsement of a speaker, organization, subject, or viewpoint.
- Clarifies that the Library is not required to provide a program or speaking opportunity to every person or organization proposing one.
- Adds guidance for programs designed for particular ages or audiences and affirms parental responsibility for determining which programs are appropriate for minor children.
- Adds accessibility and nondiscrimination language.
- Clarifies expectations for partnerships, sponsorships, commercial activity, sales, and fundraising associated with Library programs.
- Expands the outreach section to reflect current services such as bookmobile service, school and community visits, technology and literacy instruction, pop-up services, and virtual programming.
- Adds provisions addressing program cancellation or modification and photography/recording.
- Directs formal concerns regarding programs to the District's existing **Administrative Review of Library Services Policy**, avoiding creation of a separate reconsideration process.
- Updates references to related District policies and removes outdated mission language so the policy remains aligned with the District's current mission.

The revised policy was informed in part by the Hood River County Library District's Programming Policy and current public-library programming best practices.