



**Letters to Libraries Online: News from the State Library of Oregon**

Volume 29, Issue 9 - September 2019

## State Library News

### Proposed Rulemaking Comment Period

The comment period is now open for the draft Oregon Administrative Rules regarding the minimum conditions for public libraries (HB2243). During the 2019 legislative session, OLA Legislative Committee and Amanda Dalton, OLA Lobbyist, worked with legislators to establish minimum conditions that a public library must meet to be officially recognized by the State Library as a public library. After passage of HB2243, the State Library in collaboration with the Administrative Rules Advisory Committee drafted the rules with specific minimum conditions and the process to support the legislation.

To view and comment on the draft administrative rules, please go to

http: <https://www.oregon.gov/Library/operations/Pages/rules-Comment.aspx>

The State Library will be hosting webinars on Monday, September 23, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. and





## Library Support and Development Services



### Spotlight on Services: LearningExpress Library helps teens explore and prepare for their future

Staying with relatives during times of family transition can be a real challenge, especially for teens who end up in a small town with lots of idle time. In one Oregon public library, providing access to LearningExpress Library's [GED test preparation](#) tools was a great way to keep one such teen occupied. Word spread and the librarian found soon found herself helping another family member access other resources for [building skills in reading, writing, and math](#).

Across Oregon, libraries are finding ways to entice local teens into the library by helping them think about their future and use the [career exploration](#) and [college entrance exam preparation](#) materials in LearningExpress Library. Libraries with limited budgets can find up-to-date and interactive practice tests for a wide range of tests including for SAT, ACT and other occupational certification tests.

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Want to make sure your teens know about this free resource? Add LearningExpress Library to your library web page, or better yet, promote it on your social media accounts, especially around [test-taking times!](#)

LearningExpress Library is made available to Oregon libraries at no cost through the [Statewide Database Licensing Program](#). For more information or questions contact [Arlene Weible](#).

## Join the Library Services and Technology Act Advisory Council

The State Library of Oregon is looking to fill five upcoming open seats on our [volunteer Library Services and Technology Act \(LSTA\) Advisory Council!](#) Council positions are for 3 years, from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022. These positions will play an important role down the road in the evaluation of [Oregon's current LSTA 5-Year Plan \(2018-2022\)](#), as well as helping to shape our LSTA Program now and in the future.

Please use this form to **nominate yourself or a colleague by Sunday, September 22, 2019:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020LSTACouncilNominations>

We are looking to fill these specific upcoming seats:

- Public Libraries Representative (1 position)
- Academic Libraries Representative (1 position)
- Representative serving Underserved & Under-represented Persons (1 position)
- Information Technology Representative (1 position)
- Library Users Representative (1 position)\*

\*Please consider asking a library patron, board member, member of your library's Friends group, or anyone who cares about library service in your community to consider this position.

### Major responsibilities:

The Council reviews project proposals and reports (including our annual LSTA Competitive Grants), makes recommendations to the Board, and advises the Board about any opportunities or issues concerning Oregon's LSTA program.

### Advisory Council structure:

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The LSTA Advisory Council consists of thirteen members and is broadly representative of library entities in Oregon, including public, school, academic, and special libraries, as well as library users. Special consideration is given to ensure that the following are represented: geographic areas of the state, underserved areas, and underrepresented persons.

The State Library Board will appoint new LSTA Advisory Council members this October, and new members' terms will begin January 1, 2020. Please call or email Ross Fuqua, Data & Federal Programs Consultant, Library Support & Development Services with any questions or for more information: [ross.fuqua@state.or.us](mailto:ross.fuqua@state.or.us) or 503-378-5027.



## ***Edge Insights to Action* workshops coming to Oregon**

The State Library is pleased to announce that the *Edge 2.0 Insights to Action* workshops are coming to Oregon in October!

As part of the State Library of Oregon's statewide Edge subscription, we are offering these interactive workshops on how to leverage the Edge assessment results and other available data sources. Attendees will learn how to create SMART goals and action plans that address the unique needs of their library's community. Participants will also become familiar with strategies to communicate the central role the library plays in supporting community technology needs.

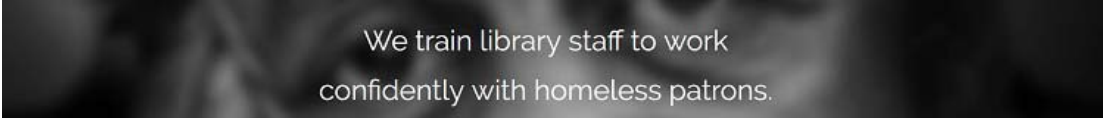
We plan to host two workshops, one in the Salem area and a second in Eastern Oregon.

Please note that your library must complete **the Edge 2.0 assessment to attend a workshop**. Click [here](#) to register for an Edge 2.0 account and get started!

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If you have any questions, please contact Darci Hanning ([darci.hanning@state.or.us](mailto:darci.hanning@state.or.us) or 503-378-2527). We are excited to bring this opportunity to explore how Edge can help libraries address community needs!

## Online Training Resources



We train library staff to work  
confidently with homeless patrons.

The State Library would like to remind our wonderful library community that we are offering the following statewide for free: Ryan Dowd's *Training on Homelessness for Libraries* and *Trustees Training* from United for Libraries.

*Training on Homelessness for Libraries* includes videos, resources, and tools to help staff reduce problems and conflict, while still being inclusive. Staff at public libraries interact with almost as many homeless individuals as staff at shelters do. Empathy and understanding, along with specific actionable advice that's drawn from experience, makes all the difference in working with this group. Filled with to-the-point guidance that will help front line public library staff and managers understand and serve this population better, this resource

- includes facts about homelessness every librarian should know;
- shares de-escalation techniques like showing respect, ways to avoid making things personal, and using proper body language;
- walks readers through dealing with common issues like offensive behavior and asking a patron to leave; and
- advises on how to provide backup to a colleague and when to call the police.

*Training on Homelessness for Libraries* is free to all Oregon school, academic, tribal, and public library staff, volunteers, and board members. Please see our **Online CE Resources** web page for how to register for this resource.

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**Short Takes for Trustees** are 8-10 minute videos that can be shown during Trustee meetings to stimulate discussion about the important role that Trustees play in the governance of their libraries while the **Trustee Academy** is a series of online courses to help Trustees become exceptionally proficient in their roles on behalf of their libraries. These online courses are taught by a professional in the field. For more information please visit our **Online CE Resources** web page for more information and how to register!



Questions? Please contact Darci Hanning ([darci.hanning@state.or.us](mailto:darci.hanning@state.or.us) or 503-378-2527).

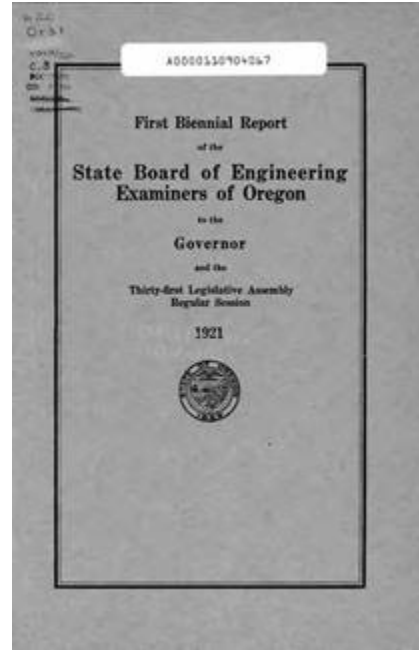
## Government Information and Library Services

### Government Services helps with Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) celebrated their [100<sup>th</sup> anniversary](#) this summer. The [mission](#) of OSBEELS is to regulate the practices of engineering, land surveying, photogrammetric mapping, and water right examination in the State as they relate to the welfare of the public in safeguarding life, health and property. They contacted the Government Information and Library Services Division to find some of their earlier publications and ask for them to be digitized. The Government Services Division is always happy to partner with state agencies to help prioritize the large project of digitizing all of the Oregon Documents Collection. Currently about 18% of the 106,000 Oregon Documents collection is digitized. The Digitization Workgroup was able to scan the [Biennial report of OSBEELS to the Governor and Legislature](#) from 1921-1996 and make them available online in the State Library's [Digital Collections](#). Various other documents can be found on the [OSBEELS Collection](#) page including a [STEM coloring book](#), the [Oregon Examiner](#)



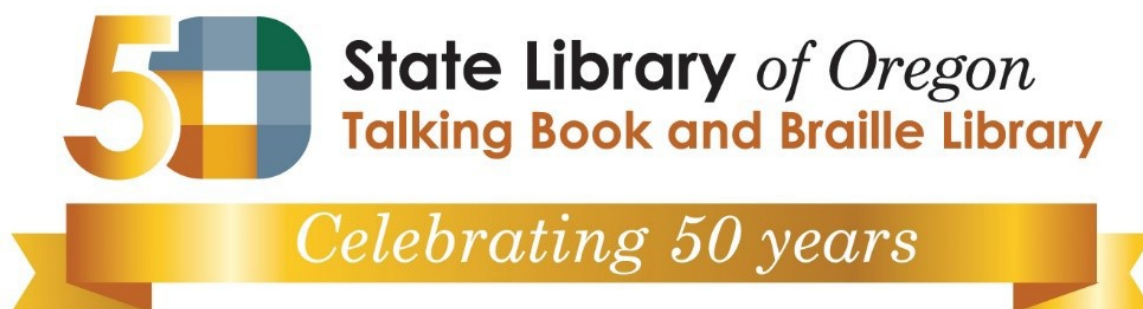
newsletter, and [brochures](#) on land surveying with drones. The Digitization Workgroup is busy scanning the rest of the documents published by OSBEELS and will have them available online soon!



## Talking Book and Braille Library

# Talking Book and Braille Library 50th Anniversary at the State Library Series: Building Changes





CAUTION: CONSTRUCTION ZONE. Get your hard hats on, because this last segment celebrating the Talking Book and Braille Library's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the State Library will highlight the significant building changes that have impacted the library over the years.

The Talking Book and Braille Library started out in a facility at 432 Church St SE, which is located by what is now the SAIF building to the south of downtown Salem. In 1975, that facility flooded, and the following year the Talking Book and Braille Library was moved to a building at Marion and 13<sup>th</sup> St (now a Safeway). The new facility was also able to accommodate a growing collection. In 1985, the Talking Book and Braille Library was called home, moving into the State Library building itself, where it has remained to this day.

In June 1988, a reading room opened full of resources for registered users. The purpose of the room was to provide users with a place to get hands-on experience with the latest in accessible technology, including four computers with speech output, large type output, and a Braille interface keyboard. Users could also browse new audio or Braille books, and there were study/meeting spaces. Much of the equipment in the reading room was purchased with grant monies, and the renovation plans were drawn up pro bono by a local architect. The room has been repurposed since then, but at the time it was one-of-a-kind!

In spring 1990, work on the Capitol Mall Parking Structure began, and would continue through spring 1991. Access to the Talking Book and Braille Library was limited during construction, but the result was a much more handicapped accessible Capitol Mall, including increased handicapped parking and remodeled entrances with ramps. And don't forget the lovely cherry blossom trees!

From summer 1998 through summer 1999, the State Library underwent some major renovations in order to make the building more earthquake safe, install an AC system, and improve staff work areas. The entire Talking Book and Braille Library had to be relocated to the south end of the

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building, which meant suspending operations for a whole month! The end result, however, was a totally redesigned work area that provided greater efficiency and an on-site repair facility.

Finally, in 2013 the Talking Book and Braille Library's office space was reduced by a whopping 40%. The transition from cassettes to digital media meant less space was needed, and several circulation processes were able to be condensed into the stacks where they would be closer to the books. The room where the Telephone Pioneers had repaired cassette machines was remodeled to be more open, and the room itself was also dedicated that August to the Telephone Pioneers to honor their decades of exceptional service.

It has been great fun researching and sharing these glimpses of the past 50 years with the statewide library community, and be sure to follow the #TalkingBookTuesday social media campaign on the State Library's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) accounts (@statelibraryor) for more even tidbits every week through the end of the year. Here is to 50 great years, and (hopefully) 50 more!



Renovation of the Talking Book & Braille Library stacks.



Adding a freight elevator to the State Library. Image of the freight elevator shaft.

## Contacts

### **Library Support and Development Services:**

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[Contact information](#)

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## Mission

The State Library provides leadership and resources to continue growing vibrant library services for Oregonians with print disabilities, the Legislature and state government, and all Oregonians through local libraries.

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**Our mailing address is:**

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