

POLICY

Subject: Unruly Patron Behavior Policy

Adopted: June 9, 1994

Amended: April 9, 2019

Reviewed: April 19, 2024

The library welcomes all patrons and understands that there are many ways the library can be used to help meet the information needs of our community. When the behavior of a patron constitutes a disruption which interferes with the use of the library by other patrons or when a patron's behavior constitutes a disruption which interferes with a staff member's completion of his/her duties, the following progressive steps will be taken:

- a. Issue a verbal warning, with the statement that the person(s) will be asked to leave if the behavior in question does not cease.
- b. Request that the person(s) leave the library.
- c. Call the police.

The library welcomes children and understands that there may be times when young patrons struggle to regulate themselves. It is the expectation that parents and caregivers will be responsible for monitoring the activities and regulating the behaviors of their children while in the library. Library staff will attempt to work with parents and caregivers to assist children in using the library in a respectful and appropriate manner. A staff member may intervene when a child is being disruptive, to prevent property damage, or when, in the opinion of the library staff, the safety and well-being of the child is threatened.

In the case of a minor causing a disruption which interferes with patrons and staff members, staff may elect to call the parent, guardian, or responsible adult and bar the juvenile from the library unless accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible adult.

Any time a staff member feels that a patron's behavior is threatening to the safety of other patrons or staff members, the staff member in charge may call the police immediately.