

MISSION

To provide the contemporary library resources, services, and programs to foster lifelong learning in our community in an atmosphere that is welcoming, respectful, and professional.



ABILENE PUBLIC LIBRARY
Connecting you to the world

Strategic Plan 2025-2030

VISION

The vision of the Abilene Public Library is to foster a welcoming inclusive community that encourages and supports literacy, civic engagement, and lifelong learning in the midst of a changing society.

LITERACY

Promote a passion for books and the programs offered by the library

Provide access to information in a variety of formats

Maintain and increase our physical collection while offering books and materials in a manner that meets people where they live

Offer unique experiences for all age groups

Brand the library as a center for innovative programming that enhances knowledge and sparks creativity

INCLUSION

Create a welcoming place for all community members

Provide programming that fosters tolerance and understanding

Offer a window to the wider world that is diverse and multi-focused

Lead with respect and appreciation for others

Encourage desired behaviors from the top down, including Trustees and staff

EQUITY

Actively work to create equity of services and access for all community members

Survey library policies and practices and remove any that foster inequity

Identify proactive ways to promote equity of access to all members of the community

Create physical and virtual welcome centers for those with physical and intellectual disabilities

Identify proactive ways to support customers with physical and intellectual disabilities

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Provide resources that will enable our community to be active, informed members of our city, our county, our country, and the world

Promote interaction among our patrons and all branches of government

Become an active partner with all levels of government to encourage use of the library as a center of our community

Make the library a recognized space for discussions and education about current issues
Host live and virtual programs that educate and engage about all aspects of citizenship

LIFELONG LEARNING

Develop best practices for collaborative partnerships that foster the habits needed for lifelong learning

Embrace the multi-faceted nature of lifelong learning

Utilize evolving engagement platforms to connect with patrons of all ages

Actively promote lifelong learning with key community institutions

Work with schools, senior centers, and other community-wide institutions to create an awareness of lifelong learning and teach skills that promote it

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Provide opportunities for staff to evolve and ensure that their professional knowledge optimizes patron engagement

Identify and provide opportunities for deliberate staff growth
Reinvigorate training to ensure that staff has the skills they need to support strategic objectives

Develop staff tools for assessment and planning
Encourage staff to participate in library planning and evaluate program outcomes effectively

SUCCESS

Increased library use, circulation, program attendance, and partnerships. Online engagement and access to evolving polices.
Informed and engaged community. Increased staff engagement, collaboration, innovation, and succession planning