The Beacon Falls Public Library

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Beacon Falls Public Library Technology Plan

Introduction: The Beacon Falls Public Library recognizes the importance of technology in providing enhanced services, expanding access to information, and fostering community engagement. This technology plan outlines the library's goals and strategies for effectively integrating and utilizing technology to serve our patrons.

Vision: To create a technologically advanced and inclusive library environment that empowers our community members to access information, engage in lifelong learning, and connect with each other.

Mission: The Beacon Falls Public Library's technology plan aims to provide modern, user-friendly technology solutions that support the diverse needs of our community, enhance educational opportunities, and promote digital literacy.

Goals and Objectives:
1. Digital Access and Inclusion:
- Goal: Ensure all community members have equitable access to digital resources and services.
- Objectives:
- Provide public computer access.
- Provide Wi-Fi access throughout the library.
- Offer technology training programs for patrons of all skill levels.

2. Information Resources:

- Goal: Provide easy access to a wide range of digital information resources.
- Objectives:
- Develop and maintain a user-friendly library website with updated resources and an online catalog.
- Offer digital collections, including e-books, audiobooks, and digital magazines.
- Explore partnerships with online databases and educational platforms.

3. Digital Literacy and Education:
- Goal: Foster digital literacy skills among library patrons.
- Objectives:
- Organize workshops on basic computer skills and using library e-resources.
- Offer personalized assistance to patrons seeking to improve their digital skills.

4. Community Engagement:
- Goal: Utilize technology to facilitate community interaction and collaboration.
- Objectives:
- Establish a library social media presence to share updates, events, and resources.
- Host online events and webinars featuring guest speakers.

5. Infrastructure and Maintenance:
- Goal: Ensure reliable and up-to-date technology infrastructure.
- Objectives:
- Regularly inspect the hardware and software to meet current standards.
- Maintain a system for timely troubleshooting and technical support.
- Sustain the technology replacement schedule.

6. Data Security and Privacy:
- Goal: Safeguard patron data and privacy in a digital environment.
- Objectives:
- Continue to implement cybersecurity measures to protect against data breaches.
- Educate staff and patrons about online privacy best practices.
- Comply with relevant data protection regulations.

Implementation and Action Steps:
- Identify funding sources for technological improvements.
- Develop a budget for technology-related expenses, including hardware, software, training, and maintenance.
- Collaborate with local organizations, schools, and technology experts to leverage resources.
- Monitor progress and update the technology plan based on emerging needs and technological advancements.

Conclusion: The Beacon Falls Public Library's technology plan serves as a roadmap to enhance services, promote digital literacy, and provide access to information for our diverse community. By strategically integrating technology into our operations, we aim to create a welcoming and inclusive space that empowers individuals to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of the Beacon Falls Public Library on 08/28/2023.