



Westwood Public Library Director's Report 8 February 2016

STRATEGIC PLAN

Beginning in February 2016, the Westwood Public Library Trustees and staff will be working on the development of a new strategic (long-range) plan for the Library. A **Community Focus Group** is being formed to assist in the formulation of the plan. The goal of the Community Focus Group is to engage in a public discussion relating to the future and values of the Westwood Public Library—including the components of the library's mission such as literacy, innovation and community engagement. Participants will explore the role and value of the Westwood Public Library and provide feedback and information that will guide the formulation of the library's strategic plan.

An invitation has been extended to approximately 35 individuals from various groups, committees and organizations or departments asking if they might be willing to participate in this Community Focus Group. In addition, an invitation will go out to the Westwood community for three "at-large" self-selected participants. This invitation will be published in the upcoming Community Newsletter for the town.

FAX SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE

- SCAN TO FAX and SCAN TO DROPBOX options are now available at the library's scanning station area on the second floor. Cost per page to send faxes (within the USA) is \$.25; cost per page for faxes sent internationally is \$.50

MUSEUM PASSES

The Westwood Public Library has passes available to many local museums and destinations. The Museum Pass Program is made possible by the Friends of the Westwood Public Library, with the generous support of many local Westwood groups and businesses. A list of the Library's passes is attached. (PawSox Opening Day is scheduled for April 7th-- vs Buffalo at 7:05 pm)!

PROGRAMMING

Adult Programming – New Initiatives at the Main Library: Molly Riportella, Head of Adult Services, has added many new adult programming initiatives.

Great Decisions: 8 month discussion group. Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in the library's Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Participants will register one time for all eight sessions. This program will take place on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM in the Library Conference Room on the following dates: 2/24/16, 3/23/16, 4/13/16, 5/18/16, 8/24/16, 9/21/16, 10/19/16 & 11/16/16. Funding for this program has been generously provided by the Foundation for Westwood Education.

Book Groups: In addition to the popular PageTurners program that is led by Nancy Hogan (Head of Circulation Services) the Library has also added two new adult book groups which will meet monthly at the Library: the Friday Morning Book Discussion Group, and Monday Night Mysteries.



Harry Potter Book Night: Last Thursday evening (2/4/2016) our Children’s Library staff hosted a Harry Potter Book Night – with about 125 in attendance. The Children’s Room was transformed into Hogwarts, with Lizzy, Hannah, Jen, Susie and Karen dressed for the occasion!



Teen Study Nights – Extended Hours for Mid-Years: The Westwood Public Library recently held Teen Study Nights for students at the High School. Hosted by the Westwood Public Library and the Westwood High School PTO, nearly 400 students took advantage of extended library hours for the mid-year exam period. This event in itself was a truly collaborative effort; it was made possible with the support of High School Principal Sean Bevan, dedicated members of the High School PTO and Friends of the Westwood Public Library.

