

COMMUNITY MESSAGE

FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life.

– Sidney Sheldon, American writer

COVID-19 has brought unique challenges to every one of us. With little notice, the Voorheesville Public Library gently locked its physical doors on March 14, 2020. Since that time, we have worked tirelessly to keep our virtual doors open for our community and the response has been positive, with record numbers of people engaging us on social media, signing up for library cards online, and trying our downloadable books for the first time. Our librarians are telling stories online, hosting virtual book discussions, and helping students within the school district with their online learning needs. Our 3D printer was used to make parts for [face shields](#) for local medical staff. In many ways, the library's doors (and windows) are wide open.



In the weeks before we closed, we surveyed the community about library use and over 300 residents responded, providing us with meaningful information to help plan your library's future. We learned that many patrons would like a better interior layout of the current building, with better designation of space, more comfortable seating, and quiet study areas. With that in mind, the proposed equipment budget includes some funding to replace some of our well-used furniture. With the community's support and our pursuit of grants and state library aid, the Voorheesville Public Library will improve its interior over time.

We have shared some of our accomplishments from the last year throughout the pages of this community message. With your continued support, programs like Storytime and 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten will continue to grow and provide access to social activity and early literacy. Due to popular demand, we increased the number of book discussion sessions, giving more people the opportunity to share their thoughts about the books we read together. Our survey responses show that our community values these programs and enjoys attending events and accessing services at the Voorheesville Public Library.

Looking ahead, the Voorheesville Public Library will continue to offer the traditional library services we know our community values, in addition to introducing more on-demand and digital services that have helped us reach new users of the library. We are also developing programs to assist with job readiness and financial literacy in anticipation of these needs in our community.



We look forward to the time when we can be together in person. Until that time, we are here for you, filled with boundless energy to fuel our community's imagination, open up windows (and doors) to the world and inspire you to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving your quality of life even when we are faced with great challenges.


Bryan Richmond, *President Board of Trustees*


Sarah Clark, *Director*

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

BRINGING YOU A VARIETY OF CULTURE AND LEARNING

55,735
Library visits
2019
(total annual
attendance)



What we circulated:

- Circulation of Adult Materials: 46,739
 - Circulation of Children's Materials: 38,048
 - E-Content Circulation: 21,577
- Total Circulation of Materials: 106,364**



We are your meeting space. Our community room hosts multiple public meetings a month.

10,602
people
2019
512
programs

On-demand Materials:

Accessible with your library card

- [Libby](#)
- [Overdrive](#)
- [Hoopla](#)
- [New York Times](#)

Stay connected with us:

- [YouTube](#) online videos
- [Facebook Voorpl Book Groups](#)
- [Storytimes](#) @ the Virtual Voorpl
- [Virtual Voorpl BINGO](#)



1,605
Summer Reading
2019
(total program
attendance)

Maintaining School Collaborations The youth services staff has continued to offer programs through thematic virtual storytimes and art activities, read alouds, online book discussions, and interactive activities in addition to homework help for children and families. Our strong school partnerships have continued through collaborative lessons and instructional materials for the district's students.



Building Library Community Partnerships

The library plays a leadership role in Voorheesville Cares, a new community-wide coalition formed to support our neighbors during the pandemic. The library staff is spearheading service projects and inviting the entire community to participate, allowing us to stay connected while giving back during a challenging time.



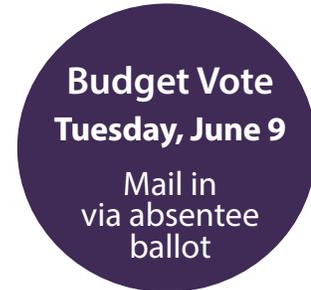
FISCAL YEAR • 2020-2021

Our Community is Growing and so is our tax base. Using the school district's tax base growth factor of nearly 2%, we predict the increase in the library's budget will have little or no impact on your library tax bill. Our 2020-2021 budget is under the tax cap by \$38,592.

	BUDGET 2019-20	PROPOSED 2020-21
Revenues		
Real Property Taxes	\$1,151,289	\$1,174,316
Library Charges	9,900	9,000
Interest and Earnings	4,000	4,000
Donations	10,500	12,000
Library System Grants	5,000	5,150
Reimbursement for Healthcare	2,450	2,500
State Aid for Libraries	83,500	68,080
Interfund Transfer	0	79,920
Total Revenues	\$1,266,639	\$1,354,966

	2019-20	2020-21
Expenses		
Books, Materials, E-Resources, and Software	\$110,650	\$107,050
Library Programs	22,200	18,740
Salaries	617,386	633,300
Employee Benefits	207,373	213,700
Contractual Services	67,750	73,400
Memberships	1,600	1,000
Postage	2,000	2,000
Public Relations and Printing	4,500	5,000
Office Equipment Rental	6,000	6,200
Travel and Training	6,000	6,000
Supplies	11,000	10,300
Custodial Salaries	32,509	33,150
Building Repairs & Maint.	26,000	32,500
Capital Projects	71,000	148,000
Fuel and Electricity	16,000	14,000
Building Insurance	12,000	14,000
Telephone and Internet	7,500	7,500
Equipment	12,000	18,000
Interfund Transfer	33,171	11,126
Total	\$1,266,639	\$1,354,966

	ACTUAL 2019-20	ESTIMATED 2020-21*
Tax Rates		
New Scotland	\$1.23	\$1.25
Guilderland	\$1.13	\$1.15
Berne	\$1.92	\$1.96



State Aid VPL was awarded a NYS Library Construction Aid Grant to help replace our failing boiler with an energy efficient heating system. Funds from the grant will also be used to improve outdoor lighting. The Library's capital account will be used to complete this and additional necessary building maintenance projects.

The 2019 library programs budget included \$5,000 in aid facilitated by Senator Amedore's office.

Proposed Budget is supported by a 31% overall increase in the use of downloadable books, audiobooks, and magazines. Learn how to download unlimited digital materials for free by sending an email to reference@voorpl.org

The 2020-21 budget includes NYS Construction Aid.

\$10,000 of this budget line is designated to purchase new library furniture.

Funds are transferred to establish a savings account in anticipation of increased retirement expenses in upcoming budget years.

*Based on last year's tax base. Actual rate expected to be lower due to new home construction. The tax rate is estimated per every \$1,000 for your assessment.



Voorheesville Public Library
51 School Road
Voorheesville, NY 12186

Visit our re-designed website:
Voorpl.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Albany NY
Permit No. 370

Follow us on our social media channels:



Budget Vote

Tuesday, June 9

Mail in via absentee ballot

Summer
Adventure
@the
Voorpl.



Imagine
Your Story



**Summer Adventure @ the Voorpl.
"Imagine Your Story"
at the Voorheesville Public Library!**

The library is excited to offer a summer reading program where we will read, create, and learn together as individuals, families, and as a community. Look for virtual storytimes with take and make activity kits, online author and illustrator visits, fitness classes, STEAM programs and projects, a parent book discussion facilitated by an expert, a teen writing workshop conducted by an award-winning young adult author, and a parenting series, among other engaging and educational opportunities.

Check our [website calendar](#) for updates. Online registration begins June 1.