

# COMMUNITY MESSAGE

## FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

## BUDGET OVERVIEW

It's been a year like no other at the Voorheesville Public Library. Slowly but safely, our staff has returned to the building to offer patrons the now popular curbside service and resume in-house browsing and computer use by appointment. We are confident that as COVID cases decline and the vaccine becomes available to more of our community, we will be able to expand our services and start to resemble the pre-pandemic library you remember.

As challenging as the last year has been, the pandemic created an opportunity for the library to be more flexible and creative, and to strengthen our community partnerships and forge new ones. We've learned that virtual programming removes barriers for some of our patrons and late-night book discussions for parents, scheduled long after the kids are in bed, work extremely well. Our Take & Make kits have been hugely popular, and a new Craft & Chat program grew organically from a conversation between participants at our Virtual Ugly Sweater Party. VPL loves to offer you these fun activities!



Library services for our school-age patrons keep us virtually running! Our children's and teens' librarians have partnered with the school district on countless virtual programs, visits, and book deliveries. The Kindergarten Virtual Field Trip to the library is right around the corner and yes, they will get their library cards!



VPL connects with the community in so many ways! In response to those in need of better internet access, we assisted adults working from home, individuals searching for work or for a vaccine site, and community members looking to file taxes or complete their household's census questionnaire. To support remote learning, we lent hotspots to Voorheesville students in need of Wi-Fi access. We also improved the Wi-Fi signal throughout the library parking lot, and with the help of the Village, installed Wi-Fi at the Rail Trail parking lot and pavilion.

When we say we're doing fine, we mean fine-free! At the beginning of the pandemic, VPL suspended library fines because access to our book drop was limited, and returned items had to be quarantined before we could process them. The feedback we received was that this decision was a huge relief! After careful consideration and researching other libraries who have a successful fine-free system, we have decided to make this a permanent change. Effective immediately, the Voorheesville Public Library will no longer collect fines on most overdue items! See the fine print on the back page.

In summary, the lessons learned, and connections made during the pandemic will undoubtedly shape how the Voorheesville Public Library provides services in years to come. We don't anticipate curbside pickup going away anytime soon, and why not continue to offer late night parent book discussions? To all our patrons, we invite you to enjoy a new, yet familiar and safe library experience. We can't wait to see you!



Bryan Richmond, President, Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Richmond".

Sarah Clark, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Clark".

# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

BRINGING YOU A VARIETY OF CULTURE AND LEARNING



## We're growing:

743 new library patrons-  
an increase of nearly 25%!

### Curbside Pickup:

Since we started curbside pickup in June 2020,  
we've packed **5,683 bags** with 29,618 items.  
We've had **931 in-person visitors**.



From June 2020-April 2021  
**541 Maker Monday kits**  
have been taken home.



### 8,483 titles added to the e-content collection

(not including the titles included in Hoopla). In 2020, we circulated 25,082 digital items (e-books, audiobooks, video, and magazines- an increase of 46% from last year).

During the October power outage, 316 devices connected to our **free Wi-Fi** at the Library and Rail Trail parking lots.



## How did we do it?

Throughout the pandemic, when the doors to the world were shut, we consistently provided high quality, online educational opportunities for all ages. This included professional videos, interactive online meetings and programs, and virtual opportunities to connect with one another.

### Teens Care Projects

benefited the New Scotland Community Food Pantry, Orange Street Cats, AMCH Cardiac Care Unit, and local senior citizens and families.



• **11,591 attendees at 381 programs** in-person and virtual combined for 2020.

• **Seven fold (600%+) increase** in YouTube views from March 2020 to March 2021 (116 library created videos)!

A large grid of 15 smaller photos illustrating various community programs. The top row shows people cooking in kitchens, a woman smiling on a video call, and two women in a library. The middle row shows a woman on a video call, a girl smiling in a kitchen, a woman smiling, and two girls with a salad. The bottom row shows a family cooking together, a woman on a video call, and a woman and a girl sitting together.

### Spring Into Family Cooking ☺

Sunday, April 11

ZOOM = Zoom Program with ☐ = Take & Make Kits

# FISCAL YEAR • 2021-2022

The 2021-2022 budget was developed without increasing your library taxes and was approved by our Board of Trustees on March 6, 2021. For this reason, a public vote on the budget is not required and will not appear on the 2021 ballot. The library's budget is under the tax cap by \$54,868.

	BUDGET 2020-21	PROPOSED 2021-22
<b>Revenues</b>		
Real Property Taxes	<b>\$1,174,316</b>	<b>\$1,174,316</b>
Library Charges	9,000	500
Interest and Earnings	4,000	2,200
Donations	12,000	12,220
Library System Grants	5,150	3,500
Reimbursement for Healthcare	2,500	2,500
State Aid for Libraries	68,080	
Interfund Transfer	79,920	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,354,966</b>	<b>\$1,195,236</b>

	2020-21	2021-22
Books, Materials,		
E-Resources, and Software	\$107,050	\$118,550
Library Programs	18,740	25,620
Salaries	633,300	632,065
Employee Benefits	213,700	216,275
Contractual Services	73,400	51,646
Memberships	1,000	1,150
Postage	2,000	2,300
Public Relations and Printing	5,000	5,000
Office Equipment Rental	6,200	6,000
Travel and Training	6,000	6,000
Supplies	10,300	11,300
Custodial Salaries	33,150	33,830
Building Repairs & Maint.	32,500	27,500
Capital Projects	148,000	»
Fuel and Electricity	14,000	13,000
Building Insurance	14,000	13,500
Telephone and Internet	7,500	8,500
Equipment	18,000	23,000
Interfund Transfer	11,126	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,354,966</b>	<b>\$1,195,236</b>

	ACTUAL 2020-21	ESTIMATED 2021-22*
<b>Tax Rates</b>		
New Scotland	\$1.23	\$1.23
Guilderland	\$1.12	\$1.12
Berne	\$2.08	\$2.08

\*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.

**The Friends of the Voorheesville Public Library** fully fund our all ages Summer Reading Program, provide books for our book discussions (free for kids), and pay for special events throughout the year. Their support allows us to offer and expand these important and popular services. Please consider becoming a Friend!



**Library Trustee Vote**  
**Tuesday, May 18**  
In-person & via  
absentee ballot  
by request



We have some exciting capital projects planned for 2021-22, including an improved front entrance. These projects are funded in part by NYS Library Construction Aid, as outlined in our previous years' budgets.





Voorheesville Public Library

51 School Road  
Voorheesville, NY 12186

Visit our website:  
[Voorpl.org](http://Voorpl.org)



Follow us on our social media channels:

## Library Trustee Vote

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

2:00-9:00 pm at VCSD

# Most items are now going...



- **The Fine Print:** Overdue fines on fine free materials will be waived at the circulation desk. Patrons must pay any existing or future fees for lost and damaged items. To alleviate concerns that materials will not be returned in a timely manner, items that are overdue will automatically incur a replacement bill

after 14 days. Renewing or returning overdue items will remove replacement bills from the account. Replacement bills for lost or damaged items must be addressed to be able to borrow more items. Borrowers must have less than \$25 accrued on their account to be considered in good standing with the library. For more information, please speak with our staff.

Most Materials	No Fines
Videos and CDs	No Fines
Museum Passes	\$1 per day
E-readers and Tablets	\$1 per day
Hotspots and Laptops	\$1 per day
Other Major Electronics	\$1 per day
Library of Things Items	\$0.10 or \$1 per day (as marked)