

SCHULTZ-HOLMES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Patron Behavior and Hygiene Policy

Objective: To provide a safe and comfortable environment for library patrons engaged in information gathering, entertainment and recreational activities reasonably associated with a public library and in keeping with the mission statement of the Schultz-Holmes Memorial Library. The library is a public place and endeavors to provide equal access to all patrons.

Behavior:

Patrons must respect the rights of other patrons to use the library. While on library property or while using library internet or telephone connections, patrons shall not engage in behavior which disrupts or discourages the use of the library by other patrons, which damages library property, or which limits ability of the staff to complete necessary work assignments and provide equal support to all patrons. The policy is not intended to limit normal conversation, staff communication, or library sponsored and sanctioned programming. Prohibited behavior includes but is not limited to:

- staring at, following, or otherwise harassing another person
- playing audio equipment so that others can hear it
- interfering with another's use of library materials or equipment, including "hovering" in the computer area
- using cell phones except in approved areas with the ringers off (see Cell Phone Policy)
- eating or drinking outside of approved areas or with unapproved containers (see Food and Beverage Policy)
- allowing animals, other than service animals, into the building
- bringing bicycles into the library
- riding skateboards or skates into the library or on the library steps

Note: Even implicitly sanctioned activities, i.e, cell phone use in approved areas, may be limited if patrons report disruption of library use or enjoyment.

Hygiene:

Patrons should be reasonably attired for a public place. No patron, regardless of age, shall be permitted to remain in the building without a shirt or other covering of their upper bodies or without shoes or other footwear.

Patrons must exercise bodily hygiene appropriate to a public, indoor facility. Patrons whose bodily hygiene, including appearance and odor, disrupts or discourages the use of the library by other patrons shall be required to leave the building. Patrons may not use the public washrooms for bathing.

Patrons who violate this policy or who encourage the violation of this policy by others will be asked to stop and may be asked to leave the building and/or to terminate

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electronic or wireless connections immediately. The Blissfield Police Department may be requested at the discretion of library staff.

All Library staff (and the library board on appeal) are empowered to interpret the provisions of this policy. Repeated violations of any aspect of this policy may result in the suspension of library use. The length of suspension may be determined by library staff and will be reviewed by the library director. All appeals must be made in writing, first, to the library director and, then, to the library board.

APPROVED MAY 2013