

Bulverde Area Rural Library District

Strategic Plan 2020-2022

INTRODUCTION

MISSION

The mission of the Bulverde Area Rural Library District is to promote literacy, inspire a lifelong love of learning, and support the arts, science and literary needs of our community.

VISION

Our vision is to provide welcoming, flexible and blended spaces, where community members can gather and have access to valuable resources, learning, and leisure pursuits, no matter what age or stage of life.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

- Lead the community as a center for literacy and lifelong learning
- Foster a culture of exploration, innovation and forward thinking by creating environments that support learning and growth
- Provide easy access to materials and information for all ages, through responsive professionals, engaging programs and state-of-the-art technology in a safe and friendly environment
- Anticipate & respond to changing community needs

WHERE ARE WE NOW

The BARLD currently has one library building, the Mammen Family Public Library, centrally located in the 200 square miles of the District, near most of the retail in the western part of Comal County, Texas. In 2019, we completed the expansion/renovation of the existing 2008 library building from 18,000 square feet to over 32,000 square feet. The expansion included flexible meeting spaces, additional parking, more study rooms, a makerspace and dedicated areas for teens and children.

In early 2020 our world changed with the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic. While our hours and access changed temporarily, we continue to offer browsing, drive up services, computers, wifi access, copy, scan and print services. Our programming team also continues their wonderful programming in a virtual environment. We will continue to increase our offerings as the world becomes safer.

The Mammen donation for the library building naming right ensures we will continue to be able to provide literacy and learning opportunities to our community at or exceeding what we have been doing. For this we are very grateful. We are closely monitoring the effect of the pandemic on the sales tax our District is dependent on as our primary source of income.

WHERE ARE WE GOING

During the pandemic crisis we are currently experiencing, we will continue to evolve our services to, as safely as possible, meet the needs of our community. With that in mind, our strategic plan is purposely short term as our world changes almost daily.

The population in our area continues to explode. As our service community grows and funds allow, we will address the next steps in our long term facilities plan. These steps include providing services in areas of our District that are more than 15 minutes from the library. Options include lockers or kiosks for picking up and dropping off materials and/or some type of branch, either in a retail space or a stand-alone building.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE

We will continue to work closely with our Friends and Foundation in grant writing and fundraising. Our staff will closely monitor the budget and cut out unnecessary expenses, focusing on optimizing our resources to best serve our community.