

Memo

To: Jennie Stapp, Stapp Librarian **To:** Montana State Library Commission

From: Tracy Cook
Lead Consulting & Learning Librarian **From:** Jennie Stapp, State Librarian

Date: January 29, 2020

Re: Public Library Standards

The Public Library Standards Task Force is recommending changes to the public library standards. The meeting materials for the recommended changes include an overview of the task force and timeline; a draft of proposed changes to the Administrative Rules of Montana; survey tools that interpret the meaning of the standards; and a series of questions the Task Force has for the Montana library community.

As you can see on the timeline that appears on the overview document, we have reached the stage of presenting draft recommendations to you. Given the importance of these changes the Task Force is recommending a lengthy public comment period to understand and address any questions or concerns public library directors, staff, or board members may have about these proposed changes.

The draft ARM document lists the proposed changes. These standards would replace the current public library standards which are found in Administrative Rules 10.102.1150 through 10.102.1157. Only the essential public library standards must be met in order to receive state funding. The two survey tools provide guidance for libraries on what it means to meet a standard. The public questions document lists the specific questions members of the task force would like to ask the Montana library community. We look forward to discussing these documents at the next Commission meeting.