



**FULTON
COUNTY**
LIBRARY
SYSTEM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING
INFORMATION PACKET

APRIL 22, 2026



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Revised

**FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
APRIL 22, 2026 - 4:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comments
- III. Adoption of Agenda* Doc. #26-18
- IV. Approval of Minutes - March 25, 2026* Doc. #26-17
- V. Chairman's Report
- VI. Work Orders Report - Paul Kaplan
- VII. Director's Reports Doc. #26-21
 - Library Services and Trends
 - Monthly Financial Report Doc. #26-19
 - Monthly Usage Summary Doc. #26-20
 - Library Closure Report - 1st Quarter
 - FCLS Look Ahead Events/Programs
- VIII. Unfinished Business Doc. #26-11
 - A. Central Library - Update
 - B. Rental Policy - Discussion
 - C. AFPL Foundation M.O.U. - Update
 - D. Program Policy - Discussion
 - E. Library Board of Trustees Training - Discussion
- IX. New Business
 - A.
- X. Adjournment

*Action is anticipated on this item

Doc. #26-17



**FULTON
COUNTY
LIBRARY
SYSTEM**

**FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MARCH 25, 2026 - 4:00 P.M.**



Members Present: Bolster, Paul
Kaplan, Paul
Piontek, Joe
Radakovich, Nina - Chair
Rice, Beverly - Vice Chair

Members Absent: Franklin, Candice
Jordan, Linda
Joyner, D. Chip

Also In Attendance: Holloman, Gayle H. - Executive Director
Clary, Audrey - Assistant to the Director's Office
Claxton, Zenobia - Assistant to the Director's Office

Guests: Hall, Hirshel, Assistant County Attorney, (via Zoom)

Webinar Attendees: 4

Board Chair Nina Radakovich called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

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CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: My name is Nina Radakovich, I'm here chairing the Fulton County Library System Board of Trustees. This is our March meeting. I'm calling this meeting to order. Do we have any public comments?

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MRS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: Good afternoon. We do not have any public comments today. Thank you.

26-13 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**MOTION**

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All right. At this time, if we can adopt the agenda. Do I hear a motion?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So moved.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Second.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All in favor?

TRUSTEES: Aye.

26-12 APPROVAL OF MINUTES - FEBRUARY 25, 2026**MOTION**

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you. Do I hear a motion to approve our minutes from February 25th?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I move that we approve the minutes.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I second.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All in favor?

TRUSTEES: Aye.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you. I have no report today. Paul?

WORK ORDERS REPORT - PAUL KAPLAN

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Work order reports, okay. So for the total amount of work order reports for February, we had a total of 140 work orders, 140 -- 92 -- out of 140, 92 percent was completed, which is a very high amount, did very well. Other than HVAC and plumbing and electrical, nothing major that I know of. You know what I did notice, I noticed that I'm starting to see more and more work orders about the cleanliness of libraries, the people who do the cleaning, and I haven't contacted anybody from the DREAM team. It doesn't seem to be getting done, because I see work order report, clean this, they didn't come back. And they'll -- and they get it completed, because I can look at the report and somebody did come out and clean it --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It's taking too long.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- but I noticed that it's slipping.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Maybe I'm saying it the right way, and it could be -- you can be the best library in the world, but you walk in --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: No, that's important.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- and they see it dirty, boy --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Oh yes, that's right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- the people really get upset.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It should be spotless.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Especially if they're women, really. So that's something I'm looking at. Landscaping is starting to pop up again.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Always at this time of the year, particularly.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: That's right, landscaping is also coming apart. People say landscaping is not done, things are not cut. But every year it goes like that, it never fails. Other than that, I don't have anything major on any other stuff. I did see one I thought was in there. It came from College Park. They put a work order in for the entire building. I thought that's one of the best ones I've seen in a long time.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: They put the entire building?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: College Park.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Which one? College Park.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes, College Park, green building. The entire building, all the plumbing, they --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: They want the airplanes off the wall.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- replace -- they had the entire building. I haven't seen a work order like that before. I like that one. I was going to keep that. I just had to make comment on that.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's amazing.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Other than that, you know, we have the same thing at Central Library, we're always fighting the heating and air. I don't know how the air has been working this last month.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, it's been up and down in this building in particular. Then in other places, we've had when it was cold, it was too, too cold. Then when it got a little hot, it was too hot. This building fluctuates, especially on this floor and the first -- on the first floor. So it's just a constant situation. But we're looking at trying to find funding if we can ask for it, so that next fall, we'll be in better shape with regard to this heating and cooling, particularly in the heating.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yeah, we were trying to get full-service recertification of all the equipment here. But it was impossible to get all the contractors together and come out.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's true.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Mr. Davis was trying to, he just couldn't coordinate that. It was just too much to get everybody to come in who did the work in here, and recertify their portion of the building. So, this is just something we're going to be dealing with. I know, just like you said, get the money for next year, maybe we can straighten out some of these things.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: As you know, some of the equipment from some of the libraries that had been remodeled, we didn't have the money to replace the main mechanical system. We did a lot of repairs, we did a lot of control work, but it's still there, and things happen. But all in all, they are keeping it up, they're doing the job. So we just -- I just -- watching it closer. That's -- I just thought the entire building was the best one. One of the work orders encompasses every --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Who does the cleaning? Is that something that we farm out? Is that --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes, it goes out --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It's not -- it's not DREAM?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: No, it's a contract.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Contract --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: See if we need to rotate them. They get comfortable, and then you rotate them, and the next people come in, and it is -- shines like a new penny.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Well, I think, my personal feeling is that some of them don't have the supervisor that comes around and watch it, what they do, kind of watch --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Well, sounds like they need a talking to. You know, it's not something --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- that we're going to have to run around behind them is it?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes. It's an ongoing concern that we will get back on it, and mention it again to those who need to know in DREAM. That's how the process works.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes, I try to call. I just --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yeah, I'll let --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Yes, just tell Joe. Joe, look -- Joe would run them off and --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- and see what we can do.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: That's it, that's my report.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Good.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- thank you. I'm so glad these worker orders are getting completed.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: They are.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Our biggest problem always, though, is HVAC.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes and always going to be.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It's always going to be.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- probably always. We have had some plumbing issues, as you mentioned. Then that at Adamsville Collier Heights the other day, that was an all-

day affair with it, and into a couple of more days. So they finally got that worked through, but it took a lot, it really did, to get that straightened out, had to close and everything. But I don't know what happens with this plumbing sometimes.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Well, I don't want to go into technical things. But we -- these buildings were built some years ago. At that time, we used large pipes on underneath, around 4 inch pipes. We started conserving water. We started cutting down the amount of water that flushes through the toilet. So if you have a toilet that had four and a half gallon flush, they went down to one and a half gallons. You got a pipe that's large. So what happens? The water goes down, the waste sits at the bottom of the pipe, and water disappears, and it goes up a dam. Next thing you know, you got the whole buildings down.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: This is what -- this is something we're dealing with, and so are a lot of other buildings, by the way, not just libraries, but other buildings have the same thing. Things have changed, unfortunately, you know, buildings were built the way they were.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right. Well, we are working on it, and meeting about the libraries as they were built. They're going to, Al Collins is working on a project to refurbish them in some ways, as far as chairs that need to be replaced or legs broken, upholstery needs, things of that nature. He finally has the go-ahead to start that project. So he's working on that, particularly with those ten buildings that we built initially, and then all the others as we go forward. We're asking staff to get all of their items to surplus that need to be surplused. So they're working on that project, and I think it's -- I know it's going to make a huge difference --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It's true.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- whether it's surplus of furniture items or surplus of technology items like computers. So we've got cleaning up going on with -- from that aspect, so that our branches can continue to look better. We have had a couple of calls about how some of them are deteriorating a little bit from use.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Right.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It's just one of those things.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Not all patrons are very careful.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: No.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: You know, we can't -- what do you do? You just have -- this is part of the job. This is what we have to watch. I have a Commissioner that watches things very close.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I know.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I can tell you that, so. That, that's it, I'll be quiet now. It's really nice to be in person, by the way.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, we're happy to have you back.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Been nice. Thank you.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Happy to have you.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Director.

26-16 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

LIBRARY SERVICES AND TRENDS

26-14 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

26-15 MONTHLY USAGE SUMMARY

FCLS LOOK AHEAD EVENTS/PROGRAMS

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay, well, good afternoon, everybody. We've got a lot going on here in the Library System with programming wise and all of that. This is our year, the book has been declared, and we've got a lot of things that are part of that. The services and trends, right now, I'm proud to announce that our Fifth Annual One Book, One Read program is the book, *The Last One at the Wedding* by Jason Rekulak. He's very excited about coming here. He's from Philadelphia, and he's going to be here on September 19th at -- from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., and we're just very excited. It's a book about a gentleman who is basically blue collar, whose daughter gets ready to marry into a real rich family, and they've been, he and the girl have been estranged for a while, and there's a story behind that story. She invites him one day, after not hearing from her for a while, he gets a call, and she says, Daddy, I want you to come to my wedding. So that's how it all gets started. It's a mystery, and I think you'll find it captivating and interesting. It moves really, really fast, so I was real, real happy for that. I read it in two days. It kept -- it was very interesting, I thought it kept the interest going. So --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: The last -- what --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: *The Last One at the Wedding*. You should have the book, the Access, do you have it?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: No, I'll get it.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay. He can have this one.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I'll get it.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay, but anyway, so we're excited to have him, and looking forward to that. We've got a lot of other things coming up, though, as you may have seen and heard. I wanted you -- to bring to your attention a few other things that are in your packet that we're doing. We've had a lot of programming that we've instituted through the -- though the Year of the Book process. Right now, we're going to have adult computer tutorials that are going to be in partnership with Inspiredu. It's an adult digital literacy program. They're at various libraries that you'll see on the flyer that's attached to your booklet. We'll also have our Volunteer Recognition Program coming up in April, April 25th, from 1:00 to 3:00 here at Central. And you know, we do this every year to honor and to appreciate or show our appreciation for our numerous volunteers. It's amazing the work they do, and they come as though they're coming to work, getting paid. It's amazing. It's just absolutely fantastic. So I wanted you to know this ahead of time, so that you can

plan to be with us on that day. We also have a lot of programs that continue each month from all sorts of exercise programs, such as yoga or tai chi, and all of those types of things, robotics, chess classes. We've got line dancing, manga and anime, Blind Date with a Book was what we did in February. We had Valentine's Day observance, the Lunar New Year observance, and then all the others that you see in this. So, a lot of activity, a lot of programming, a lot of displays around all this. Because as part of the programming process for Year of the Book, we're asking them to put out books that they have on hand for display, display tables. We're asking them to have book lists and programs that they actually put on for patrons, and it's all a part of that. Part of the Year of the Book includes America 250; you'll be hearing more and more about that as we go forward. So we're doing programming around all of those different things. We're also planning to do programming around FIFA, as the World Cup comes here. So we've got a lot of things happening, and we're just excited about it. I like to have a lot of things going on. I don't know if the staff does, I think they may think I'm doing too much.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It's a lot.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: But there's a lot going on, and some of it is, is that we're participating, because it's not that we created it, but we got to participate in it. So that's where we are with a lot of that. So I hope that you will, you know, be a part of it wherever you can. The Foundation is working real closely with us again in all those things. The Summer Reading program, as you know, will start June 1 to August 1, so we're excited about that. I just think it's -- I'm trying to think of the theme of it, Unearth a Story. So that should be very, very interesting. We're pushing our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, and now we found out it should be 500 books before fifth grade -- before Middle School, and 500 books before high school.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: No.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So we're really pushing all of those things. Yes, that's what they've got outgoing. So, we're working hard to be a part of all that as well.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Great.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes. So anyway, you'll see more and more and hear more and more about those things. I think people seem to be excited. The staff seems to be really taking it and running with it, and I'm very proud of them for that. Any questions about any of those things?

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I had one question, Mrs. Holloman. Does the Foundation get a copy of this, each member?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I -- it's my understanding they get it, yes.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Okay, thank you.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: You're welcome. Also in your packet, you'll see 2025 by the numbers.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: So you can see how our little report card, so to speak, of what the system did as a whole. I'm very proud of it. I think that a lot has been done in so many other areas. We've got not just our regular services, but social services. We've got volunteer services, outreach. We've got the social media all tuned up and running very well. So I think we're moving in, definitely moving in the right direction and continuing in the right direction with so many things, whether it's Central, Auburn, or any of the branches. In spite of the fact that we have face-to-face work that we do, that the staff does every single day, they're doing all these extra things too. Story times are improving, and I think you're going to be very happy with the way this year turns out. So then moving on to the financial reports, do you have any questions about that? We're remaining at about \$26 million, 27 million right now, to spend for the rest of this year, with the overall budget of almost 32 million that we started with. So we're working to make sure we utilize and expend those funds expeditiously, but carefully. Our monthly usage is holding fast for the most part. We still have some concerns with the number of people attending programs, particularly adult programs. But we're -- we didn't have a lot of authors in that particular month. We did have, that was Kenan, Kenan Thompson and Ms. Roberts, what's her name?

MRS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: Deborah.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Deborah Roberts from ABC News. So those were our two drawing cards in the month of February, and people, they were very aware -- very well attended. Let's see what's next. That's it, that was the usage, and I've already done the look ahead, basically. So just keep an eye out for all of these things that we're doing, because I think it's putting our name out. Marketing is doing a really good job of getting us on social media, and getting people to know what the events are. We've partnered with the two events that we had. One of them, we partnered with WABE, and the moderator was -- help me, you all. No, Monica Pearson was Kenan Thompson.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Karyn Greer?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: She's doing One Book.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Karyn Greer is going to be the moderator for this One Book; One Read this year. But any -- WABE.

MRS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: It's Scott something.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Scott, Rose Scott, and so she was our moderator for the -- for that one, and so we're having a -- that, that brings a lot of attention to what we're doing. I also served on something she calls Coffee and Conversation that was held at a coffee shop not far away. That was a really, really wonderful opportunity to be a part of something I'd never done before. So, she has these from time to time around the city. I was there with other people who are involved in reading and literacy and all of that. We talked about the state of children in schools and the lack of the ability to read at certain age levels. So that was really a great conversation about three weeks ago. It lasted for an hour and a half, so that was really good, on WABE. It was her in person, her event

offsite rather, instead of in her studio. I understand she puts those on once a year, usually in February at that particular location. So it was very good to be able to talk to like-minded people, get their opinion, and have her ask us questions from our favorite children's book, which mine was Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. They talk about questions about what we can do to help children advance in reading and get the literacy numbers up. So several of the participants own bookshops or a couple of them had actual mobile units that they take around the community, and that was very interesting to know. So I got some information to share with our staff, of people that I made contact with that they can also partner with, hopefully, and who can do some really good things together. So I'm glad when I can find those types of opportunities. Any questions on any of that?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Just a little addition. I was listening to the WABE's Politically Georgia, or something like that and had the Speaker of the House on. He's advocating for a huge Bill related to literacy, and I think they have, like, \$60 million in the budget that they're hoping to transform the way Georgia policy across the whole state deals with literacy. So we might want to monitor that to see how the library could participate in what they're doing --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Certainly.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- they're basically changing the philosophical or the scientific approach to how to teach reading.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay. Sounds good.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I want to also bring up two additional dates. On April 6th, it's National Library Day --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: National Library Day.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: -- and also the week of April 19th through the 25th is National Library Week.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: National Library Week. Yes, thank you. We'll have programming around that. So be mindful of those, National Library Week. Every year is opportunity for us to do so many good things, and to try and reach out. We are, I think, we're creating a lot more interest and a lot more partnerships. I know that we're getting people talking about the library more and more, and we're getting people in the -- in the county talking more about the library. That's a real plus, because there are 5,000 employees in Fulton County, and we really love it when they talk about the library, come and use the library, and recommend the library. So that's been a real plus for us as well.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Also, as a -- I'm on the Advocacy Committee for the Foundation, and I would just like to suggest that, you know, maybe, you could talk to your friends or relatives about the library during that time. They may even want to give a donation.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: That's true.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I was a -- I had sort of a question that little bit relates to the advocacy question and to the -- there are often -- we're about to have a primary. It's coming up very quickly, on May the 19th. In many local areas, the House and Senate

people will be decided by that primary, because the districts don't have much competition in November. I wonder -- I don't see any -- it seems to me that there would be a role for the library, or at least it coalesces with some other people to have forums so that the public could better understand what the candidates are doing. I was a candidate for office a couple times, and sometimes I couldn't find anybody to talk to. So I -- really, in our society, the politics has been relegated to this mechanism where you raise a lot of money and send out brochures and -- and you do social media. But there's not much interaction between the voters and the actual people running for office. I think that means they don't learn very much in the process.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It's the door knocking (indiscernible, simultaneous speakers) --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Then the door knocking, and that's -- that's where average people get involved and go and have that conversation at the door. But there's not an intellectual discussion of maybe what the issues are. So I would always hope that the library would sponsor kind of forums where everybody gets invited, you have a neutral party, and you let them all be heard, and our media publicize that so people have a place where they can be heard.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, we've found that to be of great concern when we've had those things years and years ago that they get out of hand, they become partisan. So, we try to stay very much away from that. We have some of our Commissioners who will have, early on, some of them have chosen to have to speak and to have a sort of greeting or get to know you kind of event. But now, they've kind of steered away from all of that because of the political climate now, so we don't do a lot of that.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, in my opinion, that's a wrong, because I think you can have a bi -- a nonpartisan kind of forum, that's what I'm talking about, where everybody --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I understand.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- gets a chance, and you have a neutral party that is well situated in the community, and they manage the forum so that everybody gets an equal chance to talk. Otherwise, our society is so limiting where you can have that kind of discussion. There are very few places left where you can actually have that kind of community, policy-based discussion with the people running for office.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I agree with you on that. As a matter of fact, I was thinking about that same thing today, and I was wondering why we in the libraries, we cannot -- there are several races that are nonpartisan, like the Commissioner's race that's coming up, Commissioner Chair, that's coming up very soon. I believe that it can happen, you know, without, you know, political party activity. But you just have to set those straight guidelines and find out a -- find a library who's willing, you know --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes, but to think that everybody's invited, everybody has an equal chance to talk --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- and you have a good management of that process, you can have a community discussion --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: You can.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- which doesn't happen very often.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes. Our town, town halls, and that kind of thing, so you can really know --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, the town halls have become sort of partisan thing. Each candidate puts on their own town hall.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: They kind of dominate -- their friends, and they dominate the discussion. There is some discussion that happens there that's valuable because the average person can go and can speak out. But it's managed by a candidate, and that's not what I'm talking about. I don't think the library can do any of that.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Paul, I agree with you a hundred percent. But let me just -- let me just tell you how it went. When we -- they were doing that up in Alpharetta, and -- because Alpharetta has got a gorgeous amphitheater built into it. It's better now, isn't it? I mean, it flooded --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, yes.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- but we're all good now, right? Yes. Anyway, Alpharetta is super. But there was a particularly partisan issue that I'm not even talking about. It was wild. TV crews, people made a point of singling out the library and pulling a librarian out. It was so ugly, because of the way the politics are now. It's -- we could put whatever restrictions on it we want, and we can't put whatever restrictions on we want. It is a free-speech thing. So it gets to be so ugly, Paul. I --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Amazing. Amazing.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: You want me to talk about it? My phone was off the hook.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I thought it was going to be my head that time --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It was --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- because I'm up in Alpharetta.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- you, myself, because I'm right by Alpharetta --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I know. You and I were right together on that, Paul --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: However. It was crazy. It was just absolutely crazy. The pressure was on our Director, pressure especially on the Trustees at that time --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Right. The Commissioner was just pushing it down --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- and they didn't care one way or another, if not they remove us as a Trustee. It was that bad.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Wow.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: We talked about it, and it's a great idea and everything. But I'm telling you something, some of those people are still here. I will tell you, if you do it --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Paul --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- that phone, my phone will be off the hook right away.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Paul Bolster.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: It's strange you brought that up, because I'm actually moderating tomorrow a forum, so --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: At the library?

MS. BEVERLY RICE: -- and it's going to be at the church. It's going to be at a church.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Oh, okay.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Well, they're okay with the church. It doesn't do --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, it's at a church. It will be the three Commissioners.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: So anyway, it was a -- it got to be very partisan and very ugly.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: That's not -- I just want to let you in a --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Can you speak a little bit more about why it got to be ugly --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I can't. I can't go into the subject matter --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Not the subject matter --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- it would be --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- but the way it was managed?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Okay, sure. So the library was very, really good about it. But we had to come up with a couple policies after that about who you had to -- you had to fill out forms, and who you had to get the forms into and who approved you having that meeting, because it did get to be a real free-speech problem. The library got lambasted, and we -
-

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: We got it --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- we took it, but -- but as well we should have, because it was really no way to -- it came up out of the blue. You couldn't really tell your Commissioner about it, because you didn't see it coming. But it was really ugly.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: The library couldn't really manage it. It wasn't -- it wasn't -- that's not our function.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: No, no.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: You know, and so it just became -- it was just amazing, and it had far-reaching implications later on too, and that lasted that just went on and on and on.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It doesn't sound like it's going to be a can of worms, but it definitely is.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, I hate the fact that we concede to this --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I agree. I agree with you --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- political divide that we have --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- and that is -- that's the --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- that we don't try to do something to bring people together to have other kinds of discussion. I -- but we just can't concede that our politics are so divided the way they are.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Sometimes I think politics are made difficult, and they're made confusing to keep you out of them, not you, but you. They keep you out of them by making it confusing. Most people just go, oh, well, you know, I don't know, or they call a friend, who you voting for? Which is, I think, the worst way to vote. But it's -- it's difficult to put something on without causing a furor right now, and it's not going to get any better, I don't believe it is. But I think the situation we're in right now, it's overly heated.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes, well, I know it is.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: The libraries are limited public forums.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Yes.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: So, there are certain rights that everybody have -- has. Rules, it's difficult to enforce rules in a library because there aren't people there to serve that function. You can have one person disrupt a group of 50 people, and then that is going to make people less likely to want to come to the library since they had a bad experience. I think it's a great idea in theory.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: In principle, yes, yes, in principle.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Maybe there's a way, you know, to kind of deal with the problem --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It's just that people behave differently in groups than they do individually. Individually, it's a good -- if you can go talk, just like door knocking, you talk to somebody individually. But people behave differently in groups. I think that was the cause of our problems.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: If you had one group doing it, then you would have many groups doing it, and everyone has equal access. So it's going to be very difficult to manage.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Well, I bring this up because I'm doing something a little bit along those lines. I -- and this, so far, all the people in my part of town all -- it's Democratic vote. So I have begun interviewing Democratic candidates. They get -- we talk a little bit, and then I've got a guy that edits it, and so it goes up on YouTube. So, so far, I got the two Attorney Generals that are running for the --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Fantastic.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- nomination for the Democratic Party. When -- when the primaries are over, I intend to have Republicans and Democrats, you know, on together, discussing. So then you come down with two. So, so far, it's been wonderful. But it's just a one-on-one conversation, and then people can tune in and they could listen to whoever they want to listen to, or however they want to listen. But it's a very kind of controlled environment where --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Right.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- and I don't take any position on any of those --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: That seems like how people want to take information --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- any of the people.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- in these days, over YouTube or take -- I think it's great, Paul, that's a great way to distribute information --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I'd love to have your comments if you go and look --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I will go and look at it, absolutely.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I have a YouTube channel called Election ATL 26. So far, there are only two interviews up there with the two Attorney Generals.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: You know, high schools, their auditoriums are usually a better place to do this sort of thing. I, in my mind, I go, what's the difference between a library and a high school? A huge difference.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: But the public school system --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: People seem to behave better --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- doesn't --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: -- in high schools. I don't know why.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- doesn't conduct any of those forums. The only forums I've seen has been the churches occasionally, like Ebenezer has a good forum every year, and they --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: The churches, absolutely.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- and the Congregational Church has a forum. But --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I'm just think through my head when I ran, it was a church, great church in Roswell, the original church. Then we went to the high school, and then we were at City Hall. City Hall is a good place to go.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: They can hardly say this is not that political.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: People have this sort of distorted idea of political too. That political, in my mind, is you're out supporting one candidate to be in office. A political discussion is about issues and other kinds of things that aren't -- they aren't promoting the election of one particular thing. Nonprofits can do that kind of activity, but they can't do the here's the guy to vote for kind of thing.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Most people our age have been married, they are political. So they're disingenuous to say that they're not political. If you've ever been married, you're political.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: I think we're getting a little bit off the subject here --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I'm sorry, we're way off.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I was just going to say something --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Thank you, Nina.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: So back to the agenda.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I think we're at unfinished business.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Unfinished business.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I apologize. That was terrible.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CENTRAL LIBRARY - UPDATE

RENTAL POLICY - DISCUSSION

AFPL FOUNDATION M.O.U. - UPDATE

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Unfinished business, Central Library, I have -- we did not have a lot of programs in March, as far as updates that I can tell you about coming up as far as August. But we are working to get those together. In February, they were programming around the holiday, which was, well, not necessarily real holiday, but Valentine's Day, as well as African-American History Month. Now, of course, we are into March, which was centered on Women's History Month. We are continuing here at Central to have our art collections, our Artists in Residence. In fact, I was downstairs earlier today and saw two of the artists, they were in their studios working very quietly, and the people were actually observing and walking by and seeing what they were doing, checking out what they were doing. Oftentimes, they'll build a program around an artist who will get an audience to stand while they talk about their work and while they're actually doing some of the work. So we're very proud of that operation. That's what's been going on here at Central. The rental policy, we still do not have it going forward yet. It's still being worked on out of DREAM. As soon as it's brought or about to go to the Commissioners, I will make you aware of it. But so far, it has not reached that stage. That's the final -- that's the next stage, is that it will be presented as an item before the Commissioners.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: M.O.U., we have no news on that. I think there's too many people involved, and it's hard to get one place and time.

NEW BUSINESS

PROGRAM POLICY - DISCUSSION

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: To new business, we have down here the program policy. You know, in your notebook, you have a section on policies and it has policies for everything. It's amazing. The program policy has in it a sentence that says it will be reconsidered every three years. Well, it's been a little bit longer than that for us. So it's overdue. A program policy overlaps with collection development policy. We have both of them. Some libraries have them together in one package. Another thing that's included in there is use of community room, because it has to do with access to services and equity. You know, if one person wants a room, another person should be able have a room also if you have two rooms, or at different times, the same room. So the program policy talks about the substance of programs, who, what, when, and where, the mechanics of delivering programs; and that overlaps. The substance of programs is also considered in the collection development policy, and that includes the process for removal

of books, or otherwise known as book banning. So this is an important policy for us to get right. There's actually a book, the whole book is on intellectual freedom or First Amendment in libraries, prisons, schools. The newest version of this ALA book just came out a week ago. So you can't look at a 1970 book, and have an up-to-date law. This is not heavy on law at all. It's very well written so that it's understandable. So anyway, I'm getting off on this, I need to finish. With the help of this, we can have as nice a policy as anybody has anywhere. In fact, our three-year-old-plus policy really is perfectly good the way it is. There are few little tweaks that we can do from here. But you have been given a copy of the --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Mine is the rental.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: It should be a resolution of Fulton County Library System Board of Trustees to amend the current policy containing guidelines for selection, scheduling and presentation of library programs.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: That's where I am here. So we weren't that far off.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: So you don't have this?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I do. I do. I'm sorry, Nina, I'm reading -- go right ahead. I'm sorry, I lost a stitch there. Go right ahead.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Okay. So in some ways, the heart of this policy is the procedure for challenging books. This is what every library goes through, and that's really the center of it. What that is, it's a preprinted form that someone objecting to a book fills out. They ask them, did they read the whole book, and if not, which parts did they read, what did they liked or disliked about the book. Then the library has a committee that will hear this. They look at things like how many people checked out the book, how popular it was, are there are positive reviews online for that book. They're looking for the basic value of the book if the library, you know, has it. But the decision is based on, what would you say?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: The decision is based on all of those factors, the decision to keep the book or not. It's based on our reconsideration policy, in that we will look at it, and we will consider what the person is commenting about. But our overarching response is usually that we will give you an alternate version or alternate opinion, beside the one you're complaining about. That's how we have addressed it over the years. Now, if it gets more detailed than that, whereas a thing about whether or not a child should read it or not, that becomes a little bit different. There again, we have had a policy, where we do not remove a book from the building. Now, some people will say that if you just moved it to another department, that's a form of censorship. But the idea behind it from our standpoint is that, it'll still be in the building, and you could still go to it, or you could keep -- you can monitor your child so that your child doesn't go to it. But we will not remove the book in its entirety. So that's how we've approached them in the past. So far that has been doable for us.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Is there more pressure now on you about removing books? Do you --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I'm sorry?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Do you feel more pressure on you?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Oh, there's been a little bit more pressure over the last several months, and --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: How many of those forms do you get in? The forms that people fill out, how many of those do you --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Very rarely. We may get two a year.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Oh, okay.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: You know, but we get comments. We get calls and comments that are not formal a lot of times. But that's the formal complaint when they do the reconsideration form. It goes through, you know, it goes to Collection Management. There's a committee, like Judge Nina said, and they review it, and then they send it to me. I look at what they wrote about how they experienced the book, what they thought of the book. Then I read over it, I look at it. Sometimes I read the entire book, sometimes I read whatever the person identified as the key component that they disagreed with, and then we make a decision about it.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: I think the process is working. If it wasn't, we'd probably get more than two forms a year.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: But I think a lot of it has to do with respecting other people. Somebody who complains about a book comes in ready for a fight, and they're given a form. They're told exactly what's going to happen, when the form needs to be in, and what form the answer will be in, that it will be in writing, and --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: There's a process.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: -- feel like they've been listened to.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Yes.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: The process is to help them.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Fair.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: So that's, if we had something to worry about that would be it. But it seems just fine. So we can give it one more look. We can discuss it next time. I think it would be good since we're overdue on our deadline to vote on it next month

--

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Okay.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: -- if that's okay. But it's a good area to know about too, because it's the essence of what libraries provide is, you know, a visit to the marketplace of ideas. If we're going to have that, we need to be able to deal with people who have complaints. If it's going to be free and open for everyone.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: And my Commissioners are interested in this subject.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: What was that?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: My Commissioner is very interested in this subject.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Oh.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So given our discussion earlier on -- I'm -- for some reason I'm brash today. The -- on the third page when it talks about discrimination against materials or programs, there's the usual list of people of origin, race, color, age, sex, religion, background or views, sexual orientation, or disabilities of themselves and that's -- okay. What if it said political affiliation there?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: It says political affiliation?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Can we discriminate against people based on their political affiliation?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: I don't know. Hirshel, are you listening?

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Hirshel, you there?

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: Hey, hello.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Hi. Can we, can the library, in providing programs, discriminate against someone based on their political party or orientation?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Affiliation.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: To clarify, is this in reference to a particular policy that is subject to this program policy discussion?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Yes. This is the proposed program policy that we, unfortunately you don't have, but we have in front of us. It's the one in the notebook with the policy section. But it has a few changes in it, but not this, what we're talking about now. There are no changes. This is the current policy.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: Well, I would certainly like to look at that question in context with the policy, and I'll be happy to review that after this meeting in the near term, and certainly prior to the next meeting, and then I could advise you all on that issue.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So it's the second paragraph on page 3, which gives the list of things where you cannot discriminate against for material or access. My suggestion is that we also should say political affiliation.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: Got it. I'll take note of that, and I'll review it in context, and I'll certainly advise on that prior to the next meeting.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Thank you.

MR. HIRSHEL HALL: You got it.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Any other questions? Beverly, are you ready?

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I am.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All right. We have a presentation.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Oh, good.

26-11 LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES TRAINING - DISCUSSION

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Well, it's not a presentation, because I didn't want you all to feel that we were already engaged in the training. So we're not doing a presentation. We're actually just doing a discussion in which I want to involve everyone. I know that many of you said that the training would be very beneficial for you, and you would like to participate in it. So, we are going to have just a brief discussion. I kind of want to start off with a discussion I had with Paul as we were coming in today, because he was saying that one of the things about being a member, since he has been a member, he felt like we kind of really don't do anything. So, you know, we kind of go over, you know, what we have been doing data and this kind of thing. So I said this is something we definitely can talk about as Trustees, and what the role and responsibilities are. But before we do, I do want to say, go back to National Library Day, April 6th, and ask Mrs. Holloman, how can we support you all on that day as Trustees? Also, if you would let us know, because we will not be having a meeting now and April 6th about programs and surrounding it. Perhaps we can do something at our own library in our community. So if you would let us know, and let us know how we support you, I -- we would appreciate it.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOWAN: Certainly.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Also, I want to encourage the Board, the Trustee Members, to sign up for the newsletter, because by visiting libraries, I've found out the newsletter is what kind of gives us, you know, up-to-date events about what's going on. I was thinking that, you know, we could just come to board meeting and find out everything that's happening at the libraries, but it's really not. We need to sign up for the newsletters. Zenobia, I think, said that we can sign up for at least three separate libraries. So of course, we do want to do Central, because I realize we have been missing a lot of events. So, Paul, I know one of the priorities we can do is support the activities that's going on in the library. In the past, we haven't always known, but hopefully, we can know better, know more now, okay? Now, I'm going to open this up for discussion on training, how you would like to see the training. I said it would only be probably 15 minutes after our meetings, you know, if we can, you know? We have to agree on all this, it's not like I'm saying this, and this is what we're going to do. These are things that we have to agree on. If we can, like after each meeting, we could spend 15 minutes. Another thing Paul said, well, yes, I read the manual, but you know, I really didn't get a lot out of it, you know, it really didn't tell me anything. So if we can do an additional 15 minutes, probably for about four meetings, because we only meet once a month, maybe four or five times a month, and you know that could be our training. So it's nothing that's going to be extensive, but it will be thorough. One of the reasons why this training came about is because if you did not fill out the survey, you only looked at the survey, you did not fill it out, one of the things they asked about was our training on the board, and where do we get the training from. We also need to realize here that on -- in January of 2027, you know, maybe a least two or

three of us won't be here, because they will be transitioning, or at least three of us may not be here, because they'll be transitioning with the Commissioners.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Move on to the next person.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, we can -- yeah, definitely. You know, we can -- if, you know, if that's what they choose to do. But they do kind of move people in and out. We are -- we've witnessed that. So what do you all think? How do you all want the training to go? We do have some people who have already volunteered --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Well, that's a good thing about the training, because a lot of times, you get board members that have never been on boards before.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: I actually said this to my, now, ex-wife, that people on boards get on boards, because they know how boards work. They know how things run. They know what to expect. So -- and that's -- if they haven't been through board training, how do they know?

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right, I agree.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: You can't expect people to know things like Robert's Rules, and you know, the consistency of a board meeting structure. So it is good to train on that sort of thing.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I think it's a great idea. I've been on boards for years, longtime, 26 years in Illinois and four elections later. We had training every year. How we did it was we did it as a retreat. We did it in one day. We got a hotel, I remember this, we had a hotel, we had a room. We had a facilitator that ran, not any of the board members, there's somebody on outside who knew about it, and we did training. We trained every single year, they went through it. The problem was you always had to keep notes. They had to keep records because boards change.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: That's -- and then you start losing it.

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Institutional knowledge.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Then you're right back to zero and no training. It's something you have to set up that you do all the time, annually. You have to have it in -- or any new board members has to go through the training. You have to work up some kind of policy to get it done. I think it's very important. Also, I think it's important for board members, and I've always been that way, I think you need to get out there and get to know the people, talk to -- talk to our employees. Talk to the managers of the libraries. You got to know what's going on, how the workings work. Because I thought, and I still think that Friends of Library, and there's 12 Friends, talk to them, they'll tell you exactly what's going on, either pro or con. You have to listen to them, and then you bring it up to the meeting, and then we discuss some of the problems that have to be changed. It's very important. It's -- you have to go -- you can't go to a board meeting and sit there once a month, and

then leave and wait the next following month. You're missing a lot of things going in between. So I unfortunately can't travel to all the libraries, but I'd travel all of them except for, I think, two I missed. That all took me over a year to do it. I got to know every -- got to know every, every place. Everybody has different dynamics. What one library system expects, the other one is different. Your Commissioners, they're one who -- my Commissioner has certain things that he likes to do, and that's it, so. But it's a good idea.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Thank you.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I would -- I actually would like the yearly retreat kind of training. I'd go for more training rather than less. I worry a little bit about what we get in 15 minutes, because I -- I talk a lot, and therefore -- therefore that may chew up a lot of those 15 minutes. But there are some topics that I'm pretty interested in, and that is the budgeting process. How do we -- what are the details of that process by which decisions are made on what the library's budget is, and what it goes for, and what our requests are in the county? That, I think -- I think that how you spend your money is a good indication for what your values are. So I'd like to know a better -- better grip on how we're spending our money. Anyway, that would, it seems to me that would -- that would take a whole session for sure.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right. We do get a copy of that every month. So what all, you know, all the finances and what they're spent on. So in our book, we do get a copy of that. So we thank you for that, so we can be aware of what money is being spent and where it's being spent. But budget cuts is one of the things that as a board we should be talking about. Also, what we just talked about, censorship challenges, community programming, debates. As I was going through this, a lot of what that's included in board training, we kind of do already, but we don't look at it as being training. Now, there are some things that we may look at as on-the-job training. When someone is banned from the library and they appeal it, you know, we don't really know until --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: We've had that --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: -- and then and that could be something new to us. Paul, you want say something about that?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: We did have that training.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes, yes. So, you know, we have done that before. That was, you know, a little new. As far as a retreat, you know, know that's money, so you would have to pay, you know, for a retreat where, unless we're going to have it here at the library, where we can just come and spend the day in training, and that would be good. Maybe someone can provide food, or you know, we can get a sponsor to provide lunch for us. So that is a good idea instead of staying, Nina?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: I'm thinking, let's not forget about the lawyers. I think Hirshel has been very good at providing periodic updates to open meetings, open records laws in Georgia. But those, you cannot be too careful with. It's just nice to know when you can have conversations with your --

MR. JOE PIONTEK: Right.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: -- co-board members. When, depending on the event or the number of people or the telephone or whatever you're doing, it's very important, all those factors are in determining whether you can have a conversation or make a decision or just meet and talk, small talk. So he has provided that, but he can answer questions, and there are other legal issues having to do with policies and library, since they are a limited forum, public forum.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I ask Hirshel to be a part of the training, because of course, we will need information from Legal. So -- and he did agree, so I think we need to just talk about, you know, when, what, where, how, how often. This is nothing we have to do, like, right now or next week. This is just a discussion today. At some point, we can vote on it. When we decide when we want to have it, if we want to continue with it. As was already stated, we do have to take good notes so we can pass it on to the next board member and to those board members who may not be here. I think there are a lot of things we have to talk about, like attendance, you know? I know that it is in our bylaws, you know, when we can and when we need to be here and voting and this kind of thing. So there are a lot of things that we can talk about, and you know, we will need Legal to be a part of that training.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: I think another training we've had, without calling it that, is the Library Leadership, different individuals coming and telling us about their job and their responsibilities. Some of those have been the most interesting, absorbing meetings --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: -- of all. The enthusiasm that they show, it's amazing in the endurance that they have.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Also, Zenobia mentioned too that she can help with, you know, provide training. So you know, we can do one day, and maybe have a, you know, plethora of speakers, or you know, however, you know, the board decide. But we would like to have training so we can move forward and with other boards from the other libraries.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: I know it would help me if I have better understanding of the strategic plan, which is already in place. But I wasn't here when it was adopted, and I don't -- I don't really have a very clear understanding of it. Then I think there'll be another process by which we're going to get a new strategic plan --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Right, we're --

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: -- at some point, so --

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: -- going to revise and update it.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Right.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: We're working on that.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: So I -- it would seem to me, the board should be involved in working on that.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: One of the things too that I found out that all boards are not appointed by Commissioners. So, you know, we have a very varied way of getting Library Board of Trustees. So all the, you know, different aspects of it, you know, you go somewhere else, it would be a little different. That's why it's important for us to know and understand what our role is as Trustees.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: May I say something?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Yes.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Okay. Just, Mr. Bolster, so that you'll know, our strategic plan, our former strategic plan, was the first one we've ever had in that regard. It was financed by the Library Foundation. So they were heavily involved in that preparation, because what they did was they paid sizable funds to hire a company to work with us on the strategic plan. Then for several months, for about six months or more, they actually met with people, they met with community people, they had all kinds of meetings and everything to come up with that strategic plan. They met with staff and all of that. So it wasn't just a staff process. It wasn't just something I came up with. This was formal, and this was financed. So that's how we came up with our strategic plan.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Is it -- when do we need to do another one?

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Well, I don't know that we are going to be able get any funding to do another one, so we're just going to look at where we are, what we've accomplished so far. Basically, we're going to continue what we're doing and add a few things to it, particularly with regard to literacy. But it still stands, because everything has not been accomplished yet, so we're still working on it. But this, it was a very, very formalized process, they'll tell you. It was not easy, it was very long. They had to have a -- they had people to bid on the contract, so it was contractual and a sizable amount of money was spent to create it.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It was expensive.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It was very expensive.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: But what came out it is -- is unbelievable.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Maybe it wasn't finished completely. But there were so many more things that it required that turned out to be a greater fit than you could have imagined. There are all these things, like a simple thing like partnerships, that was a priority. There's so much, there's so many partners now in so many ways that we did not imagine at the time. We just thought of the basic ones. So it caused the Library System to blossom, that strategic plan.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: Yes. It really became our roadmap, it really has.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I think that maybe some of our new board members can see that strategic plan, (indiscernible) -- Paul can look at it. Beverly, I don't know if you've seen the strategic plan. You might have, I don't know.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Yes.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: We can get it to you.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It's amazing, what we accomplished.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: It was amazing.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Does anyone else want to say anything? We're just having a discussion, and then perhaps whenever Nina decides to put it on the agenda, we can have another discussion. We can discuss it for the next three months, you know, before we even make a decision. Or we can vote on if we want it to be all, an all-day event, or do we want it to be 15 minutes at the end? We can discuss all of that. But we can think about it right now. But if there's nothing else in the discussion, we can end it for today. Today, I don't want to prolong the time.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: If we can each bring one idea --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Okay.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: -- for this training, whatever it is, you know, or the type, the schedule, the subject matter, whatever appeals to you, we want things that will be interesting.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Okay.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: But that was --

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Also, for the library, you all have a speaker that can come in and help, you know, with that. Like I said, if we do it all day, maybe we can give them about 30 minutes each, something like that. That's just an idea, you know, nothing concrete.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: One time, many years ago, the Trustee Board had a retreat. Do you remember that, Nina?

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: No, but I have a notebook someone passed on to me from that.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: What they did was, they had the Director go in and have a period of time, like you just said, to come in and speak, and others from all of wherever, and it was very good, it was very well done.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: I like that.

MRS. GAYLE H. HOLLOMAN: I think that's when John Szabo was here.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Thank you for saying that. A retreat, yes, I like that idea.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Well, thank you for bringing this up, this whole idea of training. We're in our little silo, and not doing training with other organizations, and I'm sure many of us are. We just didn't think about having it here, and it seems a wonderful idea.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Yes. I, for one, need a lot of training.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: We all do.

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: My wife tells me that every day.

MS. BEVERLY RICE: Okay. That's it for me.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you. Does anybody have any other new business?

TRUSTEES: (No responses.)

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I make a motion, we adjourn.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Second?

MR. PAUL BOLSTER: Second.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: All in favor?

TRUSTEES: Aye.

CHAIR NINA RADAKOVICH: Thank you. We are adjourned.

(Whereupon the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees concluded at 5:06 p.m.)

Director's Report

Doc. #26-21

March 2026

**PROGRAMS AROUND THE LIBRARY SYSTEM FOR THE
YEAR OF THE BOOK**

Therapeutic Woman Painting.

March 2, 2026 | 5:30 PM | Palmetto Branch

Had a long day? Come and spend some time with us for some Adult Canvas Painting. This creative activity might help you relax your mind, as well as provide you with a keepsake for Women's History Month. All materials will be provided. Just bring your creative painting ideas if you can!

Email for Beginners

March 3, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Central Library

Learn key skills to effectively email with Gmail or Outlook for personal and professional uses. Participants must have basic computer skills, internet skills, and may need a valid phone number for email sign up. No registration required for this class. Can't make it to a class or need extra help? Book-A-Librarian at <https://forms.office.com/g/VGxXDF3mx>. All appointment requests must be at least 24 hours in advance. A valid email address or phone number is required to complete the request form. * The schedule is subject to change. * Central Library Staff do not complete resumes, job applications, or other personal forms. Visit <https://www.fulcolibrary.org/social-services/> for those service referrals. * **PARKING INFORMATION FOR CENTRAL:** Central Library does not have access to free parking. The lot associated with the Central Library is fee-based. <https://www.fulcolibrary.org/central-library/central-parking/>

Monthly MODA Lego Club

March 3, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Peachtree Branch

Unlock your inner designer! Join us for the MODA (Museum of Design Atlanta) Lego Club. Participants will take part in unique design challenges, learn engineering basics, and build incredible structures using LEGO bricks. Perfect for young creators who love to build and innovate. For our March session, we will design and build colorful coral reefs, schools of fish, and mysterious marine life. This program is appropriate for kids 6-12 years of age with a parent or caregiver in attendance.

Lilith Fair: Building A Mystery

March 3, 2026 | 6:00 PM | Metropolitan Branch

We're sharing the stories of women musicians this month at Metropolitan. Along with the books we're presenting this new documentary about the Lilith Fair touring festival of the late 90s created by Sarah McLachlan. Archival footage and new interviews with the artists illuminate why it felt so necessary, how difficult the music business was for women, and how far we still have to go.

Family Storytime: Read Across America Celebration

March 4, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Peachtree Branch

Join Ms. Adrienne and friends for a special storytime celebrating Read Across America Day and Week. We will read some stories, sing, dance, have bubble time and do a special craft. Hope you will join us. Appropriate for kids 0-6 years old with a parent or caregiver in attendance. See you at storytime.

Teeny Tiny Tots Story Time - Read Her Story

March 4, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Kirkwood Branch

Join us as we build successful readers through language development, listening and social skills. Move, sing, listen to stories and meet other babies and preschoolers in the neighborhood. Today's storytime will tie in to The Year of the Book's March theme: Read Her Story! Ages 6-36 months.

March madness storytime

March 4, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Wolf Creek Branch

March Madness Storytime Join us this month for stories of leprechauns, booster buddies, and Dr. Seuss!

Women's History Celebration!

March 4, 2026 | 4:00 PM | East Atlanta Branch

Who is Phillis Wheatley? Join me as we celebrate her legacy and honor other remarkable women during Women's History Month.

Women's History Celebration!

March 4, 2026 | 4:00 PM | East Point Branch

Who is Phillis Wheatley? Join me as we celebrate her legacy and honor other remarkable women during Women's History Month.

Computer Basics for Beginners

March 5, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Central Library

Learn how to use computers at Central Library's Computer Basics Classes. Participants for this class must be new computer users or have minimal computer skills. No registration or experience is required for this class. Can't make it to a class or need extra help? Book-A-Librarian appointment for one-on-one help at <https://forms.office.com/g/VGxXDF3mx>. All appointments must be requested at least 24 hours in advance. Participants will need a valid email address or phone number to complete the request form. * The schedule is subject to change. * Central Library Staff do not complete resumes, job applications, or other personal forms. Visit <https://www.fulcolibrary.org/social-services/> for those service referrals. * PARKING INFORMATION FOR CENTRALSPECIAL NOTE:Central Library does not have access to free parking. The lot associated with the Central Library is fee-based.<https://www.fulcolibrary.org/central-library/central-parking/>

Silent Book Club

March 6, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Louise Watley Library at Southeast Atlanta

Join us for a relaxing Silent Book Club Reading Hour at the library! Bring any book you'd like to read, find a cozy spot, and enjoy quiet time surrounded by fellow book lovers. There's no assigned reading or pressure to discuss—just a peaceful hour devoted to reading and unwinding together.

Monster Jam Quiet Read

March 6, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Adams Park Branch

Are you a Monster Truck fan? Tell a friend to bring another friend for Monster Jam Quiet Read! Readers will have the opportunity to receive a coupon for a free kid's ticket to Monster Jam (with the purchase of an adult ticket held on April 11th & 12th at EchoPark Speedway! EchoPark Speedway Address 1500 Tara Pl Atlanta, GA 30228

Early Teen (E.T.) Book Club

March 6, 2026 | 4:45 PM | Milton Branch

Join Ms. Liane as we discuss a new book every month! Year of the Book March's theme is Read Her Story. Participants may receive a free copy of the title to keep, while supplies last. Ask for a copy of the book at the information desk. Please register in advance. Email Liane with any questions. Ages 12 - 14. Sponsored by the Friends of the Milton Library

Just Gen! – The Genealogy Databases

March 7, 2026 | 10:00 AM | Central Library

Class providing an overview of our three genealogy databases: Ancestry Library Edition, Fold3 (the military database), and MyHeritage Library Edition. An examination of and searching techniques for each database will be presented. No Registration Necessary.

Little Listeners Book Club at Hapeville Library

March 7, 2026 | 12:00 PM | Hapeville Branch

This is a cozy book club for parents, caregivers, and their toddlers. Families choose age-appropriate books and enjoy reading together in a warm, welcoming space designed for little listeners. Interested in starting or joining the Little Listeners Book Club? Please contact Ms. Janice Wilson at janice.wilson@fultoncountyga.gov for more information and book selections.

Quiet Reading Hour

March 9, 2026 | 2:00 PM | Sandy Springs Branch

Stop by the Sandy Springs Library for a quiet hour of reading. Sit back, listen to soft music, relax, and read. Bring your own book or pick one from our shelves.

Ruby Bridges

March 9, 2026 | 4:00 PM | East Point Branch

Join us as we watch an inspiring film about the remarkable life of Ruby Bridges.

Pajama Storytime

March 9, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Peachtree Branch

Join Ms. Adrienne and friends for stories, songs and bubbles as you wind down for bedtime. Appropriate for kids aged 0-6 years old with a parent or caregiver in attendance. Hope you will join us.

Atlanta Science Festival Science Experiments

March 10, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Peachtree Branch

The Peachtree Library is participating the 2026 Atlanta Science Festival. This drop-in event features center-based experiments and activities for kids to explore psychology, how the brain works, the five senses, body science and how to tell if someone is lying. Our main experiment is " Three-Truths and Lie" which is an experiment to tell if someone is lying. It is geared for kids 9-13 years of age. However, we will have activities and experiments for kids of all ages. Hope you will join us for this fun, family event.

The Talk Tank: Supporting Parents of Children with Disabilities

March 10, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Kirkwood Branch

The Talk Tank® is designed to create a safe space for women to connect, share experiences, and learn practical tools to support mental health. Join your host, Tara Seals, for an empowering and insightful chat, where we dive into the complexities of women's mental health as it pertains to caring for family members with disabilities.. This is an opportunity to talk openly and leave with a renewed sense of community, confidence and balance! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library in Kirkwood! Light refreshments will be served! For more information about Ms. Seals, visit www.TheBossyEducator.com

Silent Reading

March 10, 2026 | 5:30 PM | Cafe Bartique

Join us at Cafe Bartique (2315 Cascade Rd SW, Atlanta, GA 30311) for an evening of reading, coffee and fun. Even though we are not at the library the same rules apply SILENT reading. We hope to see you there!

America250 Lecture: The American Revolution: Women and Folklore

March 10, 2026 | 6:30 PM | Milton Branch

The third lecture in the Milton Library's America250 celebration will be led by Dr. Heather Hollimon, Brenau University Department of Political Science. Join us as we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in our year long look at the American Revolution. The event is our monthly Milton Historical Society Meeting time. Thank you to the Alpharetta and Old Milton County Historical Society for their support with these programs and events.

Special Storytime: Girl Power!

March 11, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Northeast/Spruill Oaks Branch

Join us at NESO for a Special Storytime session! After reading, children and caregivers will have the opportunity to learn more about influential women throughout history and participate in an "Introducing Future Me!" activity.

Teeny Tiny Tots Story Time - Disability Awareness Month

March 11, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Kirkwood Branch

Join us as we build successful readers through language development, listening and social skills. Move, sing, listen to stories and meet other babies and preschoolers in the neighborhood. This week we're reading stories in honor of Disability Awareness Month. Ages 6-36 months.

Celebrate Women's History Month Storytime

March 11, 2026 | 10:30 AM | East Roswell Branch

Join us for a fun-filled storytime with plenty of stories and songs! Children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. Perfect for ages 2-5 but all ages welcome. No registration required. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Program If you read just one book a night to your child, you'll have already read 1,095 books in three years! It doesn't matter if your child is a baby or a toddler; there's no better time to start than now. To register for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten visit the Beanstack website or download the app for Apple or Android. To learn more, speak with the Youth Service Librarian during Storytime. Food and drinks are not allowed during storytime (milk bottles and water are allowed).

March madness storytime

March 11, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Wolf Creek Branch

March Madness Storytime Join us this month for stories of leprechauns, booster buddies, and Dr. Seuss!

Celebrate Women's History Month Storytime

March 11, 2026 | 11:15 AM | East Roswell Branch

Join us for a fun-filled storytime with plenty of stories and songs! Children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. Perfect for ages 2-5 but all ages welcome. No registration required. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Program If you read just one book a night to your child, you'll have already read 1,095 books in three years! It doesn't matter if your child is a baby or a toddler; there's no better time to start than now. To register for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten visit the Beanstack website or download the app for Apple or Android. To learn more, speak with the Youth Service Librarian during Storytime. Food and drinks are not allowed during storytime (milk bottles and water are allowed).

Kirkwood Library Chess Club

March 11, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Kirkwood Branch

Come and learn chess with Coach Jackson. The club is open to anyone who wants to learn or play chess. All ages are welcome. Free lessons and fun activities for the family.

Quiet Reading Hour

March 12, 2026 | 12:00 PM | Mechanicsville Branch

Stop by the library for a sensory-friendly environment with dimmed lights, soft music, and minimal announcements. Bring your own reading or borrow a book from the library.

Craft Her Story!

March 12, 2026 | 3:30 PM | Metropolitan Branch

Come join our new Thursday Kids' Club! This March, stop by the Program Room to learn about famous women, complete crafts, and even make something for the special woman in your life! Recommended for ages 5 to 12.

Silent Book Club

March 13, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Louise Watley Library at Southeast Atlanta

Join us for a relaxing Silent Book Club Reading Hour at the library! Bring any book you'd like to read, find a cozy spot, and enjoy quiet time surrounded by fellow book lovers. There's no assigned reading or pressure to discuss—just a peaceful hour devoted to reading and unwinding together.

Women Advancing Literature and Libraries

March 13, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Adams Park Branch

Together we will go through the history of women in literature and highlight their accomplishments. Take a deep dive into Women inspired literature during Women's History Month!

Teen Crafternoon: Alma W. Thomas

March 13, 2026 | 4:30 PM | East Atlanta Branch

Celebrate Women's History Month and unlock your creative side by learning about Alma W. Thomas and creating your own work inspired by her. Ages 13-17 welcome! Supplies provided!

Sojourner Truth: A Woman of Justice

March 14, 2026 | 11:00 AM | East Point Branch

In celebration of National Women's History Month and Year of the Book...Join us for a live performance of Sojourner Truth: A Woman of Justice presented by Dr. Binta Masani. Travel back in time with Dr. Masani and prepare to witness One Woman... One Truth...One Unforgettable Performance!

Women's History Month Art Project

March 14, 2026 | 2:00 PM | Ocee Branch

Come join us to have fun with women's history month art project with Maddie from The Art Center. Adults 18+ only. Registration is required. Limited to first 15 people.

Atlanta Science Festival Science Experiments

March 14, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Peachtree Branch

The Peachtree Library is participating the 2026 Atlanta Science Festival. This drop-in event features center-based experiments and activities for kids to explore psychology, how the brain works, the five senses, body science and how to tell if someone is lying. Our main experiment is " Three-Truths and Lie" which is an experiment to tell if someone is lying. It is geared for kids 9-13 years of age. However, we will have activities and experiments for kids of all ages. Hope you will join us for this fun, family event.

Silent Book Club

March 16, 2026 | 11:00 AM | Milton Branch

You're Invited! Milton Library's First-Ever Silent Book Club for Kids Join us at the Milton Library for our very first Silent Book Club for Children on Monday, March 16—a day with no school, making it the perfect time to relax with a good book! How it works: Read quietly for one hour in a cozy, calm space. Then spend 30 minutes sharing what you read with the group—everyone gets a chance to talk about their book if they'd like! Bring a book you love or choose one when you arrive. This is a great way to enjoy reading, discover new stories, and hear what others are reading too. Since this is our first time trying a Silent Book Club for kids, we're excited to see how it goes and would love for you to be part of it!

Code Elephant (Grades:3-4)

March 16, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Wolf Creek Branch

Code Elephant is a technology education company dedicated to helping young people develop strong problem-solving skills through engaging, hands-on coding projects. Our 6-week coding program is designed so that each class builds on the previous one, allowing students to steadily grow their knowledge and confidence. Along the way, students learn how to break complex problems down into simple, manageable steps — a foundational skill that strengthens critical thinking both in and out of the classroom.

St. Patrick's Day Storytime & Craft

March 16, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Peachtree Branch

Join Ms. Adrienne and friends for a special story and craft in honor of St. Patrick's Day. The story and craft are appropriate for all ages with a parent or caregiver in attendance. Feel free to dress in green and share your luck of the Irish. This will be a fun-filled story and crafternoon. Hope you will join us.

Snuggle Up and Read Quietly for an Hour!

March 16, 2026 | 6:00 PM | East Point Branch

Grab your favorite book, snuggle up in your coziest pajamas or comfy clothes, and enjoy a peaceful reading adventure! Bring along your favorite blanket and stuffed animal to make it extra special.

READ HER STORY Storytime

March 17, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Adams Park Branch

The Adams Park Library welcomes City Council President Marci Collier Overstreet as a guest reader and role model for young girls in our community! Please join us for books featuring ambitious, curious, and intelligent female protagonists, along with an empowerment craft. All children welcome!

Quiet Reading Hour

March 17, 2026 | 1:00 PM | Northside Branch

Celebrate reading and the Year of the Book with a Quiet Reading Hour. Our meeting room will be set up as a sensory-friendly environment with low light, soft music and minimal announcements. Patrons of all ages can bring their own reading or borrow a book from the display.

Quiet Reading Hour

March 17, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Northeast/Spruill Oaks Branch

Join us at NESO for a quiet reading hour, where we'll have a dedicated space for patrons to enjoy their books, accompanied by calming music and a comforting essential oil diffuser.

Families and Children Quiet Reading Hours

March 17, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Peachtree Branch

Join us in the Children's Area for some quiet reading time. We will have some books out on carts or you can select your own. For children 2-12 years old, if you read 5 books, you will get a certificate to attend Monster Jam with a parent or caregiver. We have special stickers for the children under 2. Don't forget to log those books on Beanstack. Staff will be available to help you sign up for Beanstack and log those books. Hope you join us for this special reading time.

Hapeville Library "Page Turners" Book Club

March 17, 2026 | 6:30 PM | Hapeville Branch

Calling All Adult Readers!!! The Hapeville Library Page Turners Book Club will meet on 03/17/26. It will meet monthly on the third Tuesday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Hapeville Libraries Page Turners' March book selection is Trust by Hernan Diaz Please contact Ms. Janice for more information

March madness storytime

March 18, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Wolf Creek Branch

March Madness Storytime Join us this month for stories of leprechauns, booster buddies, and Dr. Seuss!

Hapeville Library Sunshine and Stories: A March Storytime

March 18, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Hapeville Branch

Sunshine & Stories: A March Storytime Join us at the Hapeville Library for a bright and cheerful celebration of reading! Sunshine & Stories is a fun-filled March storytime featuring engaging books, interactive songs, and playful activities that welcome the spring season. Children will enjoy listening to delightful stories, moving to lively tunes, and participating in a simple craft that captures the joy of sunshine and new beginnings. Bring your little ones and let's welcome March together with laughter, learning, and lots of stories! Contact Ms. Janice at janice.wilson@fultoncountyga.gov

Heroines in the Pages: Dress Up & Share! at Hapeville Library

March 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Hapeville Branch

Children are invited to celebrate Women's History Month by sharing their favorite books about female heroes! This engaging after-school program encourages young readers to talk about stories that inspire them and the strong women and girls who make a difference in their worlds. Participants are welcome to bring a favorite book featuring a woman hero and share what they love about the character. Children may also dress as their favorite heroine, whether from history, literature, or their imagination. This program promotes reading, confidence, creativity, and appreciation for the powerful stories of women and girls. What to Expect: Book sharing and show-and-tell Dress-up fun as favorite heroines Short sharing circle to build confidence Celebrate inspiring women through stories Contact Ms. Janice at janice.wilson@fultoncountyga.gov

Quiet Reading Hour

March 18, 2026 | 4:30 PM | Roswell Branch

Step into a calm and cozy space designed for the simple joy of reading, complete with dimmed lights, soft background music, and minimal distractions. Bring your own book or explore something new from our curated display and settle in for a relaxing, uninterrupted reading session with your Roswell Library

Steam Story Hour with MODA

March 19, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Peachtree Branch

Join the Museum of Design Atlanta (MODA) and the Fulton County Library for a playful introduction to STEAM—science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. MODA's friendly educators will share picture books that show how everything around us is designed, from buildings and bridges to clothes, tools, and toys. Each session connects big STEAM ideas to the everyday world, helping children see how curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving shape the way we live. In March, we will learn about Skyscrapers. Appropriate for kids 2-6 with a parent or caregiver in attendance. Hope you will join us.

Book Buffet: Celebrating Women's Voices

March 19, 2026 | 1:00 PM | East Roswell Branch

Celebrate Women's History Month with a special book talk highlighting powerful stories by and about women. Library staff will showcase a diverse selection of titles across genres—including historical fiction, romance, mystery, science fiction, and nonfiction—that uplift women's voices, experiences, and achievements. Whether you're looking to discover a new author or build your next To Be Read list, this engaging book talk offers something for every reader. Participants will receive a handout featuring all highlighted titles. Ages 18 and up. Note: This class is for adults only. Children will not be allowed in the room. Join the Beanstack "Year of the Book" Challenge. Challenge yourself during the year of 2026 to read beyond what you can imagine! Stretch your reading skills and explore new genres, or specific types of books. Read new books and complete activities to earn the Year of the Book Bingo! The program is for all ages. <https://fultoncounty.beanstack...> Note: Select East Roswell as your branch. There's also the Beanstack Tracker App: (App Store) or (Google Play Store) Happy Reading!

Quiet Reading Hour

March 19, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Ocee Branch

We invite patrons to bring their own reading material or borrow a book from the library and enjoy a quiet reading hour to celebrate reading and the Year of the Book.

Read All About It

March 19, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Washington Park Branch

Come join fellow patrons and read about women stories in honor of Women's History Month. Light refreshments will be served. All ages welcomed.

Craft Her Story!

March 19, 2026 | 3:30 PM | Metropolitan Branch

Come join our new Thursday Kids' Club! This March, stop by the Program Room to learn about famous women, complete crafts, and even make something for the special woman in your life! Recommended for ages 5 to 12

Draw a Self-Portrait like Frida Kahlo

March 19, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Palmetto Branch

Frida Kahlo's colorful self-portraits, iconic unibrow, and pop culture presence are well known, and Women's History Month is a great time to dive deeper into the artist's life with an artistic activity! Join us as we draw our very own self-portraits inspired by Frida Kahlo's art!

Read Her Story Reading Hour

March 19, 2026 | 4:00 PM | East Atlanta Branch

Celebrate Women's History month by joining EAB at Read Her Story Reading Hour. Find some inspiration, learn about someone new, or read a story you know and love. Bring your own book or select one from our collection! Drop in anytime during the hour

Silent Book Club

March 20, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Louise Watley Library at Southeast Atlanta

Join us for a relaxing Silent Book Club Reading Hour at the library! Bring any book you'd like to read, find a cozy spot, and enjoy quiet time surrounded by fellow book lovers. There's no assigned reading or pressure to discuss—just a peaceful hour devoted to reading and unwinding together.

Adult Silent Book Club

March 20, 2026 | 3:30 PM | Milton Branch

You're Invited! Milton Library's First-Ever Silent Book Club for Adults Join us at the Milton Library for our very first Silent Book Club for Children on Monday, March 20—a day with no school, making it the perfect time to relax with a good book! How it works: Read quietly for one hour in a cozy, calm space. Then spend 30 minutes sharing what you read with the group—everyone gets a chance to talk about their book if they'd like! Bring a book you love or choose one when you arrive. This is a great way to enjoy reading, discover new stories, and hear what others are reading too. Since this is our first time trying a Silent Book Club for adults, we're excited to see how it goes and would love for you to be part of it!

Families and Children Quiet Reading Hours

March 21, 2026 | 10:00 AM | Peachtree Branch

Join us in the Children's Area for some quiet reading time. We will have some books out on carts or you can select your own. For children 2-12 years old, if you read 5 books, you will get a certificate to attend Monster Jam with a parent or caregiver. We have special stickers for the children under 2. Don't forget to log those books on Beanstack. Staff will be available to help you sign up for Beanstack and log those books. Hope you join us for this special reading time.

"Remember When Storytime" for Seniors at Hapeville Library

March 21, 2026 | 11:00 AM | Hapeville Branch

Step back in time with us on Saturdays for "Remember When: Storytime for Seniors, a heartwarming program led by Ms. Janice. Each session invites seniors to relax, reminisce, and enjoy the magic of telling their stories. We'll share meaningful moments from the past, family memories, stories about children, treasured traditions, and the everyday experiences that shaped our lives. It's all about sitting together, talking, laughing, and celebrating the joy of connection through our own stories. Join us for a beautiful blend of nostalgia, friendship, and fun, and bring your favorite book to share. Please email at janice.wilson@fultoncountyga.gov or call the Hapeville Library to let us know you are coming.

Hidden Figures

March 21, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Palmetto Branch

Join us for a movie screening of Hidden Figures. The inspiring true story of three brilliant African American female mathematicians who served as the brains behind one of the greatest NASA operations in U.S. history, overcoming racial and gender discrimination to become pivotal figures in launching an astronaut into orbit. A monumental achievement that helped secure America's success in the Space Race.

Alvin Curl Author Talk and Book Discussion

March 21, 2026 | 3:30 PM | Joan P. Garner Library at Ponce De Leon

Join us for a book discussion and author talk from Alvin Curl, author of *Ex'posed: When the Truth Tells Lies*. *When the Truth Tells Lies* is a character-driven story exploring truth versus perception and how identity can be shaped by pressure, family expectations, fear, and the stories we hide to survive. Alvin Curl is an Atlanta-based author dedicated to telling stories that challenge perception and encourage honest conversation. His writing focuses on identity, accountability, emotional growth, and healing within relationships and communities. With a passion for creating dialogue-driven literature, Alvin writes with the intention of sparking structured discussion in men's ministries, young adult groups, nonprofits, and book clubs. Through *Ex'posed: When the Truth Tells Lies*, he aims to bridge storytelling with personal development — offering readers not just a narrative, but a reflective experience. Alvin is actively partnering with community organizations across Atlanta to promote literacy, conversation, and cultural engagement.

Hello Spring Storytime & Craft

March 21, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Peachtree Branch

Join Ms. Adrienne and friends for a fun storytime program in honor of Spring. We will read, sing, dance and finish with a fun spring themed craft. Appropriate for kids of all ages with a parent or caregiver in attendance. Hope you will join us. Don't forget to sign up for the Year of the Book and other Beanstack challenges here. Beanstack: Reading Challenges and Personalized Recommendations

Fashion Portraits: Dreaming Through the Lens

March 23, 2026 | 10:00 AM | Kirkwood Branch

Explore the intersection of fashion and dreams through this collection of photography and styling by artist Akila Andre. Her work examines the visual dialogue between image and garment, lighting and form, and the way her aspirations for the future illuminate her creative process in the present! For more information on the artist, visit Akila André - Fashion Photographer

Code Elephant (Grades:3-4)

March 23, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Wolf Creek Branch

Code Elephant is a technology education company dedicated to helping young people develop strong problem-solving skills through engaging, hands-on coding projects. Our 6-week coding program is designed so that each class builds on the previous one, allowing students to steadily grow their knowledge and confidence. Along the way, students learn how to break complex problems down into simple, manageable steps — a foundational skill that strengthens critical thinking both in and out of the classroom.

Cascade Library Book Club

March 23, 2026 | 6:00 PM | Cascade Branch

Do you enjoy reading and discussing books? Join the Cascade Library monthly book club to explore various genres and, most importantly, to make new friends who share your passion! Adults.

Hapeville Library Sunshine & Stories: A March Storytime

March 25, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Hapeville Branch

Sunshine & Stories: A March Storytime Join us at the Hapeville Library for a bright and cheerful celebration of reading! Sunshine & Stories is a fun March storytime featuring engaging books, interactive songs, and playful activities to welcome spring. Children will enjoy listening to delightful stories, moving to lively tunes, and participating in a simple craft that captures the joy of sunshine and new beginnings. Bring your little ones and let's welcome March together with laughter, learning, and lots of stories! Contact Ms. Janice at janice.wilson@fultoncountyga.gov

March madness storytime

March 25, 2026 | 10:30 AM | Wolf Creek Branch

March Madness Storytime Join us this month for stories of leprechauns, booster buddies, and Dr. Seuss!

Women's History Month: Colorful Collage

March 25, 2026 | 3:30 PM | East Roswell Branch

Celebrate Women's History Month as we create a circle collage inspired by artist Howardena Pindell. Participants may drop in anytime between 3:30 - 4:30 pm for this self-guided activity. Ages: 3-8 Note: For children under 9, an adult must stay in the library during the program.

Her Story on Canvas: Celebrating Women Through Books at Hapeville Library

March 26, 2026 | 10:00 AM | Hapeville Branch

Join us at the Hapeville Library as we celebrate Women's History Month through books, conversation, and creativity. Seniors will enjoy a short reading about an inspiring historical figure, followed by a relaxing canvas-painting craft. This program is a wonderful opportunity to share stories, reflect on powerful women in history, and express creativity through art. Contact Ms. Janice at janice.wilson@fultoncountyga.gov

Quiet Reading Hour

March 26, 2026 | 12:00 PM | Mechanicsville Branch

Stop by the library for a sensory-friendly environment with dimmed lights, soft music, and minimal announcements. Bring your own reading or borrow a book from the library.

Art Class for Kids - Women's History Month

March 26, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Ocee Branch

Join the Art Center at the Ocee library for an art class for kids in grades 2-6. Learn about the artist Alma Thomas and learn to paint in her signature style in a class for all skill levels! This program celebrates Women's History Month as part of Fulton County's Year of the Book celebration!

Craft Her Story!

March 26, 2026 | 3:30 PM | Metropolitan Branch

Come join our new Thursday Kids' Club! This March, stop by the Program Room to learn about famous women, complete crafts, and even make something for the special woman in your life! Recommended for ages 5 to 12

Silent Book Club

March 27, 2026 | 3:00 PM | Louise Watley Library at Southeast Atlanta

Join us for a relaxing Silent Book Club Reading Hour at the library! Bring any book you'd like to read, find a cozy spot, and enjoy quiet time surrounded by fellow book lovers. There's no assigned reading or pressure to discuss—just a peaceful hour devoted to reading and unwinding together.

Year of the Book - Saturday Matinee at Auburn Film Series - FENCES

March 28, 2026 | 12:30 PM | Auburn Avenue Research Library

Join the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History for our monthly Saturday Matinee at Auburn, a cinematic experience dedicated to celebrating powerful storytelling from across the African American diaspora—bringing timeless classics and contemporary masterworks to the big screen in community. This month, we present *Fences*, directed by and starring Denzel Washington alongside Academy Award-winning actress Viola Davis. Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by August Wilson, *Fences* is a deeply moving portrait of Troy Maxson, a former Negro League baseball player navigating family, pride, race, and deferred dreams in 1950s Pittsburgh. Come ready to reflect, engage in thoughtful post-screening discussion, and connect with fellow film lovers in an atmosphere that honors history, artistry, and community. Light refreshments will be provided. Watch. Reflect. Discuss. Celebrate the stories that frame our lives.

Friends of the Library Book Club

March 28, 2026 | 2:00 PM | Adamsville-Collier Heights Branch

The Friends of the Library Book Club will meet and discuss *Black Cake*.

Men of a Certain Age (M.O.C.A.)

March 28, 2026 | 2:00 PM | Wolf Creek Branch

Join us for a conversation to inspire the next generation as the Men of a Certain Age share courageous and compelling stories from their book, highlighting the lived experiences of eight African American Savannahians. With special guest Coach Thomas Howard, Savannah State University's new head football coach!

Did you know?

March 28, 2026 | 4:00 PM | Adams Park Branch

We are not all the same! What makes you different? Can you see far but not near? Ever seen or touched braille? Can you hear really low sounds?

Women's History/Disability Awareness Month Bingo Scavenger Hunt!

March 30, 2026 | 10:00 AM | Kirkwood Branch

This event runs March 2-31, 2026! Parents, caregivers, and kids can help each other find the images of titles related to Women's History and Disability Awareness Month hidden throughout the children's library. Get 5 in a row for bingo or find them all!

Fashion Portraits: Dreaming Through the Lens

March 30, 2026 | 10:00 AM | Kirkwood Branch

Explore the ethereal intersection of fashion and dreams through this collection of photography and styling by artist Akila Andre. Her work examines the visual dialogue between image and garment, lighting and form—treating every frame as a living stanza in a larger narrative. In Andre's world, photography is more than just a medium; it is poetry in motion. Just as a poet selects words for their weight and rhythm, she composes her shots to capture the lyrical flow of fabric and the quiet cadence of a moment caught in time. Her aspirations for the future act as a guiding light, illuminating her creative process in the present. This collection proves that when the logic of dreams meets the precision of the lens, fashion becomes a rhythmic expression—a visual verse that speaks to where we've been and where we are going. For more information on the artist, visit Akila André - Fashion Photographer

Code Elephant (Grades:3-4)

March 30, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Wolf Creek Branch

Code Elephant is a technology education company dedicated to helping young people develop strong problem-solving skills through engaging, hands-on coding projects. Our 6-week coding program is designed so that each class builds on the previous one, allowing students to steadily grow their knowledge and confidence. Along the way, students learn how to break complex problems down into simple, manageable steps — a foundational skill that strengthens critical thinking both in and out of the classroom.

Between the Lines Book Club: Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982

March 30, 2026 | 5:00 PM | Kirkwood Branch

Ready for compelling fiction from diverse perspectives? Expand your world one story at a time with lively, open-minded discussions. This month, we'll discuss the book Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982 by Cho-Nam-Joo, featured on TIME's list of the must-read books from for 2020!

Metro Year of the Book Club

March 30, 2026 | 6:00 PM | Metropolitan Branch

2026 is the Year of the Book at your Fulton County Library System! Join the new Metro Year of the Book Club to read all of the monthly featured titles we are recommending this year, followed by a lively discussion of the book at the end of the month. We can't wait to meet you at the library!

Make Your Own Alma Thomas Mosaic!

March 31, 2026 | 4:30 PM | Cascade Branch

Join us at the Cascade Library to make your own colorful mosaic in the style of Georgia artist Alma Thomas. All materials will be provided. Ages 4-13 are welcome!

America250 Lecture: Thomas Paine, Common Sense and Patriot Thought

March 31, 2026 | 6:30 PM | Milton Branch

The fourth lecture in the Milton Library's America250 celebration will be led by Dr. Amy Dunagin, Associate Professor of History, Kennesaw State University. Dr. Dunagin will explore the importance of Paine's Common Sense and will examine how Paine's words were a spark that lead to the American Revolution. Join us as we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in our year long look at early American History. Thank you to the Milton Historical Society; The Alpharetta and Old Milton County Historical Society for their support with these programs and events.

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - TOTAL LIBRARY

AS OF MARCH 31, 2026

Doc. #26-19

SERVICE TYPE	2026 BUDGET ALLOCATION	MARCH EXPENDITURES	2025 YTD EXPENDITURES	2025 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2025 YTD COMMITTED	2025 YTD % COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE
REG SALARY	16,825,356	1,270,910	3,728,968	-	3,728,968	64%	13,096,388
SALARIES-OVERTIME	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-
PART TIME SALARY	525,091	34,803	98,135	-	98,135	23%	426,956
SEASONAL	104,208	-	-	-	-	0%	104,208
BENEFITS	8,620,520	638,113	1,905,264	-	1,905,264	63%	6,715,256
BOOKS	3,395,984	283,578	1,145,753	1,377,717	2,523,471	98%	872,513
CONTINGENCY	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-
COPIER MACHINE	174,000	10,947	16,856	-	16,856	10%	157,144
EQUIPMENT	145,061	1,800	1,800	-	1,800	2%	143,261
OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR	66,057	-	1,400	29,223	30,623	46%	35,434
OFFICE FURNITURE	5,738	-	-	-	-	0%	5,738
OTHER SERVICES	285,922	14,315	43,495	101,622	145,118	85%	140,805
PROFESSIONAL SERV	26,800	200	400	-	400	2%	26,400
RENT	286,056	10,978	15,387	128,509	143,896	50%	142,160
SUPPLIES	122,140	-	1,230	-	1,230	2%	120,910
TRAVEL/CONFERENCE	18,500	1,781	3,311	-	3,311	18%	15,189
HOSPITALITY	44,643	-	-	-	-	0%	44,643
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	27,211	1,842	5,868	-	5,868	22%	21,343
COMPUTER HARDWARE	498,917	486,742	486,742	-	486,742	98%	12,175
GENERAL INSURANCE	825,217	68,668	206,004	-	206,004	0	619,213
TOTAL	31,997,421	2,824,678	7,660,613	1,637,072	9,297,686	29%	22,699,736

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - BY ORG TYPE

AS OF MARCH 31, 2026

ORGANIZATION TYPE	SERVICE TYPE	2026 BUDGET ALLOCATION	MARCH EXPENSES	2026 YTD YTD EXPENDITURES	2026 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2026 YTD COMMITTED	2026 YTD % COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE	
PUBLIC SERVICE	REG SALARY	\$ 11,761,332	\$ 906,604	\$ 2,668,989	\$ -	\$ 2,668,989	23%	\$ 9,092,343	
	SALARIES-OVERTIME	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ -	
	PART TIME SALARY	\$ 439,021	\$ 34,263	\$ 97,343	\$ -	\$ 97,343	22%	\$ 341,678	
	BENEFITS	\$ 6,194,479	\$ 467,851	\$ 1,404,132	\$ -	\$ 1,404,132	23%	\$ 4,790,347	
	BOOKS	\$ 2,584,456	\$ 283,578	\$ 1,145,753	\$ 1,377,717	\$ 2,523,471	98%	\$ 60,985	
	OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR	\$ 66,057	\$ -	\$ 1,400	\$ 29,223	\$ 30,623	46%	\$ 35,434	
	EQUIPMENT	\$ 105,795	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$ 1,800	2%	\$ 103,995	
	OFFICE FURNITURE	\$ 3,306	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 3,306	
	PROFESSIONAL SERV	\$ 22,000	\$ 200	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 400	2%	\$ 21,600	
	COPIER MACHINE	\$ 174,000	\$ 10,947	\$ 16,856	\$ -	\$ 16,856	10%	\$ 157,144	
	SUPPLIES	\$ 56,289	\$ -	\$ 562	\$ -	\$ 562	1%	\$ 55,727	
	RENT	\$ 284,956	\$ 10,978	\$ 15,387	\$ 128,509	\$ 143,896	50%	\$ 141,060	
	OTHER SERVICES	\$ 58,350	\$ 1,614	\$ 6,726	\$ 9,995	\$ 16,721	29%	\$ 41,630	
	HOSPITALITY	\$ 25,252	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 25,252	
	GENERAL INSURANCE	\$ 560,400	\$ 46,700	\$ 140,100	\$ -	\$ 140,100	25%	\$ 420,300	
			\$ 22,335,693	\$ 1,764,535	\$ 5,499,448	\$ 1,545,445	\$ 7,044,893		\$ 15,290,801

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - BY ORG TYPE

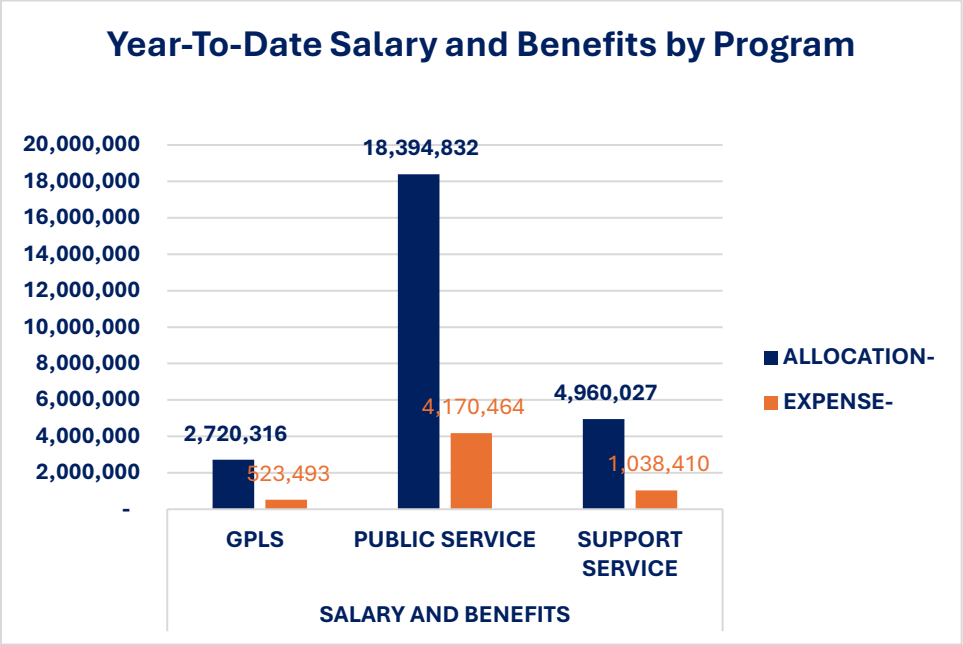
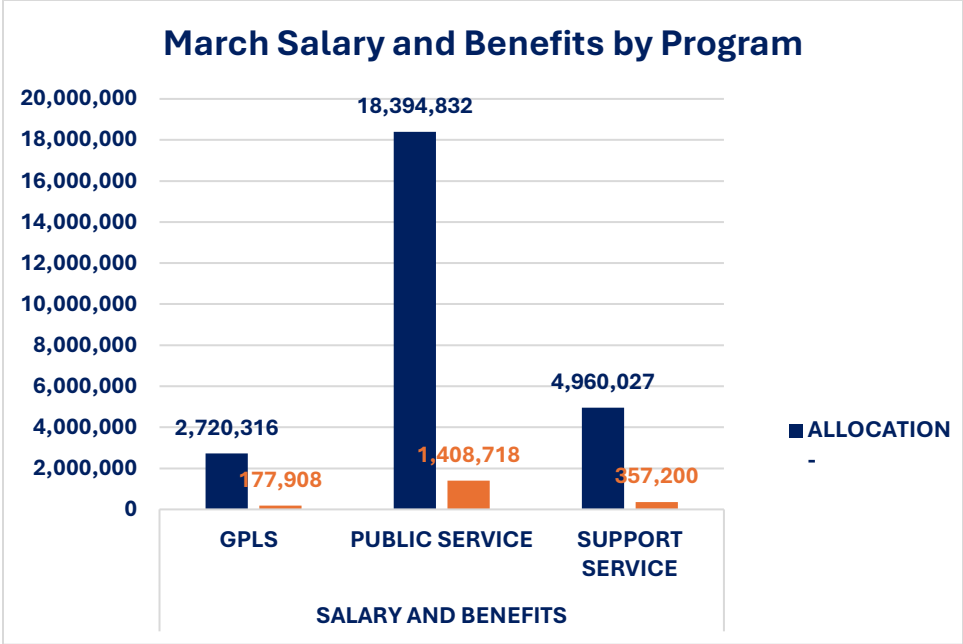
AS OF MARCH 31, 2026

ORGANIZATION TYPE	SERVICE TYPE	2026 BUDGET ALLOCATION	MARCH EXPENSES	2026 YTD YTD EXPENDITURES	2026 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2026 YTD COMMITTED	2026 YTD % COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE
SUPPORT SERVICE	REG SALARY	\$ 3,166,960	\$ 240,912	\$ 698,022	\$ -	\$ 698,022	22%	\$ 2,468,938
	PART TIME SALARY	\$ 86,070	\$ 540	\$ 792	\$ -	\$ 792	1%	\$ 85,279
	SEASONAL	\$ 104,208		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 104,208
	BENEFITS	\$ 1,602,789	\$ 115,748	\$ 339,596	\$ -	\$ 339,596	21%	\$ 1,263,193
	EQUIPMENT	\$ 39,266	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,266.00
	OFFICE FURNITURE	\$ 2,432	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 2,432
	PROFESSIONAL SERV	\$ 4,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 4,800
	SUPPLIES	\$ 65,851	\$ -	\$ 668	\$ -	\$ 668	1%	\$ 65,183
	COMPUTER HARDWARE	\$ 498,917	\$ 486,742	\$ 486,742	\$ -	\$ 486,742	98%	\$ 12,175
	OTHER SERVICES	\$ 227,572	\$ 12,702	\$ 36,770	\$ 91,627	\$ 128,397	56%	\$ 99,175
	TRAVEL/CONFERENCE	\$ 18,500	\$ 1,781	\$ 3,311	\$ -	\$ 3,311	18%	\$ 15,189
	HOSPITALITY	\$ 19,391	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 19,391
	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$ 27,211	\$ 1,842	\$ 5,868	\$ -	\$ 5,868	22%	\$ 21,343
	GENERAL INSURANCE	\$ 264,817	\$ 21,968	\$ 65,904	\$ -	\$ 65,904	25%	\$ 198,913
	RENT	\$ 1,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 1,100
CONTINGENCY		\$ -				0%	\$ -	
SUPPORT SERVICE TOTAL		\$ 6,129,884	\$ 882,235	\$ 1,637,672	\$ 91,627	\$ 1,729,299		\$ 4,400,585

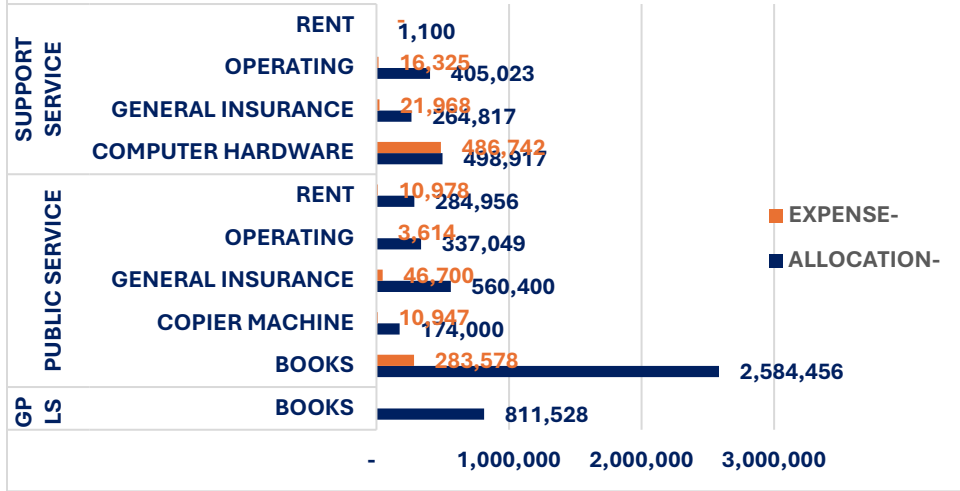
FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - BY ORG TYPE

AS OF MARCH 31, 2026

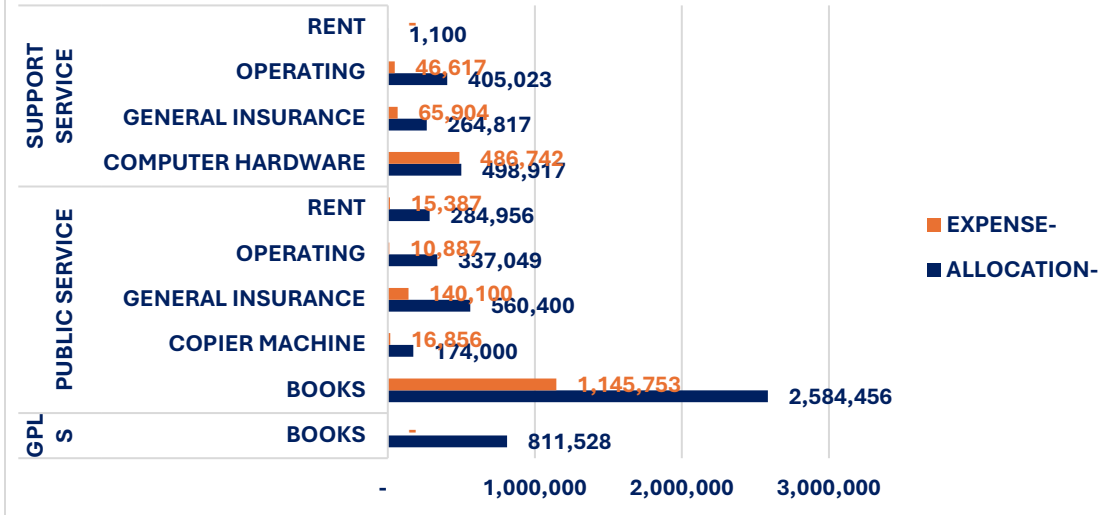
ORGANIZATION TYPE	SERVICE TYPE	2026 BUDGET ALLOCATION	MARCH EXPENSES	2026 YTD YTD EXPENDITURES	2026 YTD ENCUMBRANCES	2026 YTD COMMITTED	2026 YTD % COMMITTED	BUDGET BALANCE
GPLS	REG SALARY	\$ 1,897,064	\$ 123,394	\$ 361,957		\$ 361,957	19%	\$ 1,535,107
	BENEFITS	\$ 823,252	\$ 54,515	\$ 161,536		\$ 161,536	20%	\$ 661,716
	BOOKS	\$ 811,528		\$ -		\$ -	0%	\$ 811,528
GPLS TOTAL		\$ 3,531,844	\$ 177,908	\$ 523,493	\$ -	\$ 523,493		\$ 3,008,351



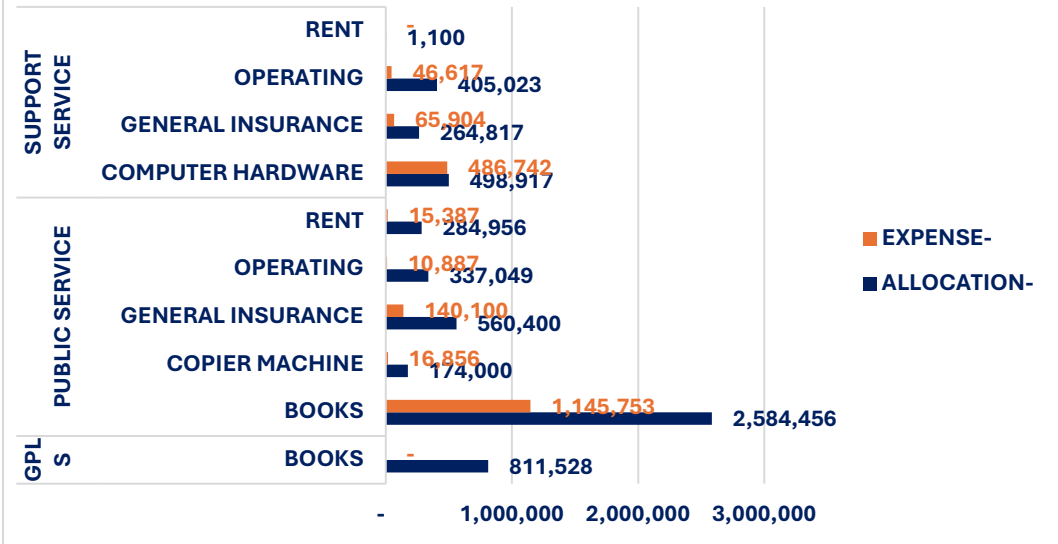
March Operating Expenses by Program



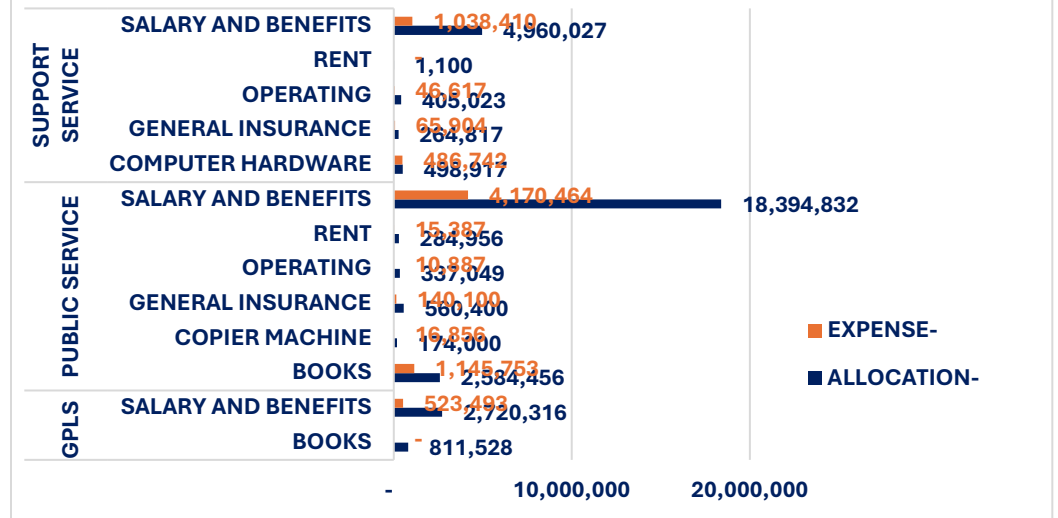
Year-To-Date Expenses by Program



March Total Expenses by Program



Grand Total Expenses by Program



Monthly Usage Summary - March 2026

Doc. #26-20

Activity and Description	2026	YTD	2025	YTD	YTD % +/-
Circulation					
Total number of items checked out of the library	180649	526543	192908	542716	-3%
Holds					
Number of requests by patrons	42,594	133243	46423	138074	-3%
Visits					
Number of people entering a library for any reason	218948	603382	193382	511623	18%
Computer/Internet Usage					
Number of computer sessions (Internet access and office software)	73334	207064	78231	215063	-4%
Number of hours of computer use	36,832	100197	32259	87259	15%
Web Page Visits					
Number of times people have visited the library's websites	1327826	4033550	1267810	3832733	5%
Web Visitors					
Number of people who visited the library's websites	245,144	709844	199513	604719	17%
Virtual Circulation					
Number of materials downloaded or streamed	189063	543092	188810	550218	-1%
Virtual Circulation Users					
Number of people who downloaded or streamed	41283	124663	39073	115958	8%
Children's programs					
Library sponsored programs offered for children (birth - 12)	476	1198	300	756	58%
Number of people attending programs	13225	31252	7523	18785	66%
Teen Programs					
Library sponsored programs offered for teens (13 - 17)	114	262	98	201	30%
Number of people attending programs	928	2595	1249	2293	13%
Adult Programs					
Library sponsored programs offered for adults (18 +)	553	1395	541	1384	1%
Number of people attending programs	7121	16913	8163	20732	-18%
Programs - Total					
Library sponsored programs offered (includes all-ages not counting)	1321	3333	1098	2753	21%
Number of people attending programs	26212	65312	22986	55371	18%
Meeting Rooms					
Non-library sponsored meetings or activities scheduled	553	1428	472	1288	11%
Number of people attending meetings or activities	7073	17789	6332	17904	-1%

March 2026 Executive Write Up

We are working with the Dogwood staff to address issues with their gate counts.

Fulton County Library System Circulation Stats - March 2026

AGENCY NAME	ADULT	JUVENILE	Y/A	OTHER	Month-2026 TOTAL	Month-2025 TOTAL	INCREASE/ DECREASE	PERCENT CHANGE	YTD 2026 CIRC	YTD 2025 CIRC	INCREASE/ DECREASE	PERCENT CHANGE
ADAMS PARK	372	554	28	1	955	996	-41	-4.12%	2,664	2,831	-167	-5.90%
ADAMSVILLE/COLLIER HEIGHTS	417	579	82	0	1078	1269	-191	-15.05%	2,990	3,356	-366	-10.91%
ALPHARETTA	4715	13333	467	9	18524	19316	-792	-4.10%	53,800	53,415	385	0.72%
BUCKHEAD	3937	5690	184	4	9815	11467	-1652	-14.41%	28,417	32,486	-4,069	-12.53%
CLEVELAND AVE	280	355	51	0	686	17	669	3935.29%	1947	44	1,903	4325.00%
COLLEGE PARK	520	959	86	0	1565	1886	-321	-17.02%	4,307	5,390	-1,083	-20.09%
DOGWOOD	335	310	22	0	667	184	483	262.50%	1,415	999	416	41.64%
EAST ATLANTA	2102	3353	143	3	5601	6448	-847	-13.14%	16,875	18,105	-1,230	-6.79%
EAST POINT	498	194	33	1	726	863	-137	-15.87%	2,304	1,836	468	25.49%
EAST ROSWELL	4091	7420	292	6	11809	12837	-1028	-8.01%	35,049	35,252	-203	-0.58%
EVELYN G. LOWERY @ CASCADE	965	1363	108	1	2437	2093	344	16.44%	6,865	6,569	296	4.51%
FAIRBURN	608	798	64	0	1470	1618	-148	-9.15%	4,086	4,987	-901	-18.07%
GLADYS S. DENNARD @ SOUTH FULTON	1012	1697	95	0	2804	2915	-111	-3.81%	8,034	8,123	-89	-1.10%
HAPEVILLE	775	884	119	0	1778	1648	130	7.89%	4,996	4,480	516	11.52%
JOAN P. GARNER @ PONCE DE LEON	4200	5512	283	7	10002	11887	-1885	-15.86%	28,884	33,578	-4,694	-13.98%
KIRKWOOD	1524	4346	142	0	6012	6402	-390	-6.09%	17,025	18,187	-1,162	-6.39%
LOUISE WATLEY @ SOUTHEAST ATLANTA	584	876	64	0	1524	2031	-507	-24.96%	4,711	6,357	-1,646	-25.89%
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR	478	505	30	1	1014	920	94	10.22%	2,675	2,363	312	13.20%
MECHANICSVILLE	165	182	19	3	369	449	-80	-17.82%	1,240	1,403	-163	-11.62%
METROPOLITAN	1347	2928	114	2	4391	5095	-704	-13.82%	12,532	14,339	-1,807	-12.60%
MILTON	3905	8069	372	8	12354	14223	-1869	-13.14%	36,267	40,952	-4,685	-11.44%
NORTHEAST/SPRUILL OAKS	2397	6846	407	2	9652	10716	-1064	-9.93%	28,963	29,741	-778	-2.62%
NORTHSIDE	2744	5754	227	2	8727	9898	-1171	-11.83%	26,405	29,104	-2,699	-9.27%
NORTHWEST @ SCOTTS CROSSING	1003	2533	135	3	3674	3953	-279	-7.06%	10,697	10,671	26	0.24%
OCEE	3887	11364	738	11	16000	18122	-2122	-11.71%	47,367	51,792	-4,425	-8.54%
PALMETTO	449	1021	45	0	1515	1314	201	15.30%	4,191	3,692	499	13.52%
PEACHTREE	2046	1551	122	4	3723	669	3054	456.50%	10,928	1,822	9,106	499.78%
ROSWELL	5000	8406	358	14	13778	14616	-838	-5.73%	40,357	41,733	-1,376	-3.30%
SANDY SPRINGS	5863	10711	394	17	16985	17790	-805	-4.53%	48,666	49,397	-731	-1.48%
WASHINGTON PARK	415	995	82	1	1493	1241	252	20.31%	4,014	3,438	576	16.75%
WEST END	547	930	71	0	1548	1586	-38	-2.40%	4,608	4,578	30	0.66%
WOLFCREEK	1267	2544	173	1	3985	4109	-124	-3.02%	11,249	10,986	263	2.39%
BRANCHES TOTAL	58448	112562	5550	101	176661	188578	-11917	-6.32%	514,528	532,006	-17,478	-3.29%
CENTRAL	2367	1385	151	1	3904	4248	-344	-8.10%	11,794	10,493	1,301	12.40%
OUTREACH SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	2	-2	-1	0	7	-7	-100.00%
AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH	83	1	0	0	84	80	4	5.00%	221	210	11	5.24%
SYSTEM TOTAL	60898	113948	5701	102	180649	192908	-12259	-6.35%	526,543	542,716	-16,173	-2.98%

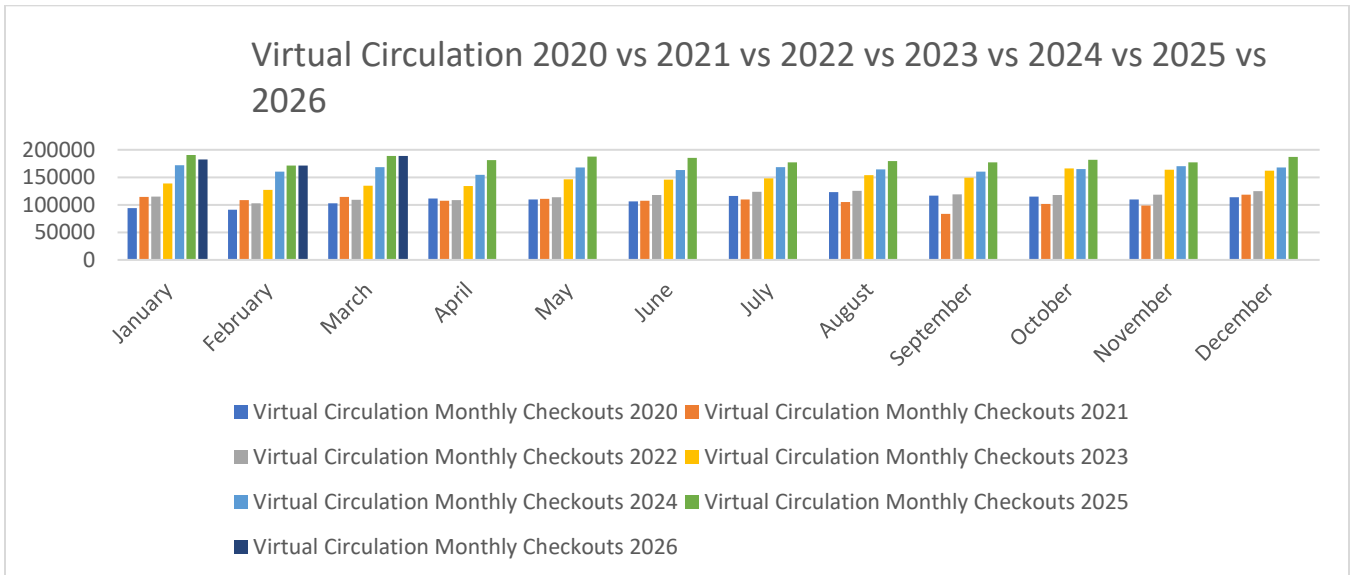
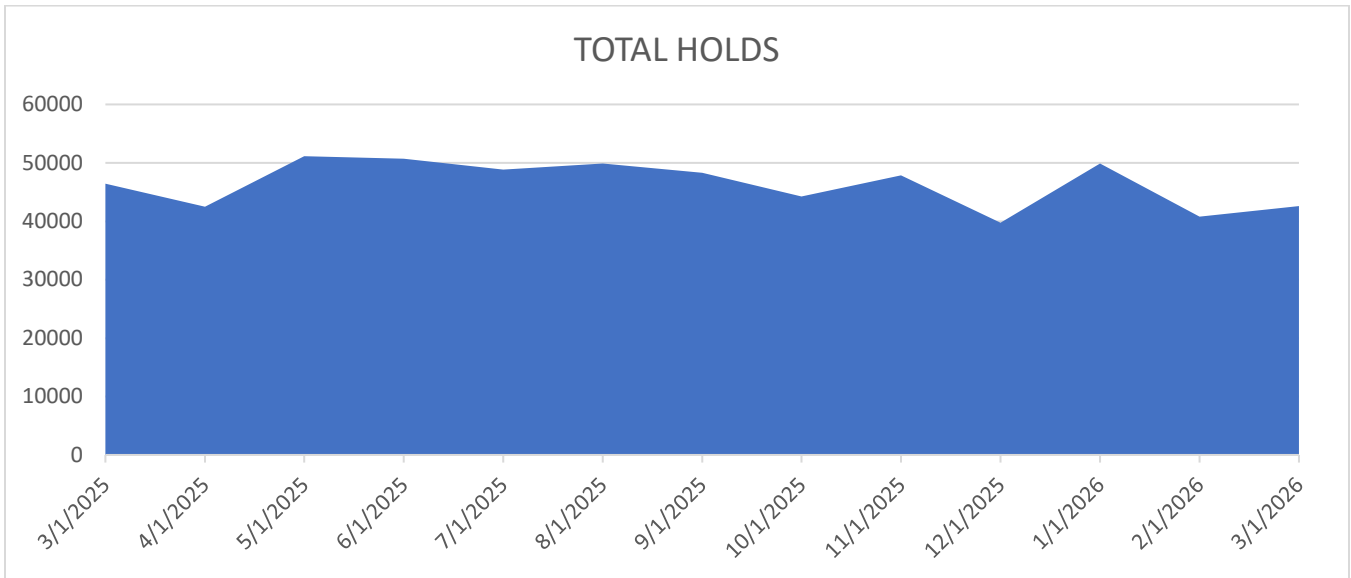
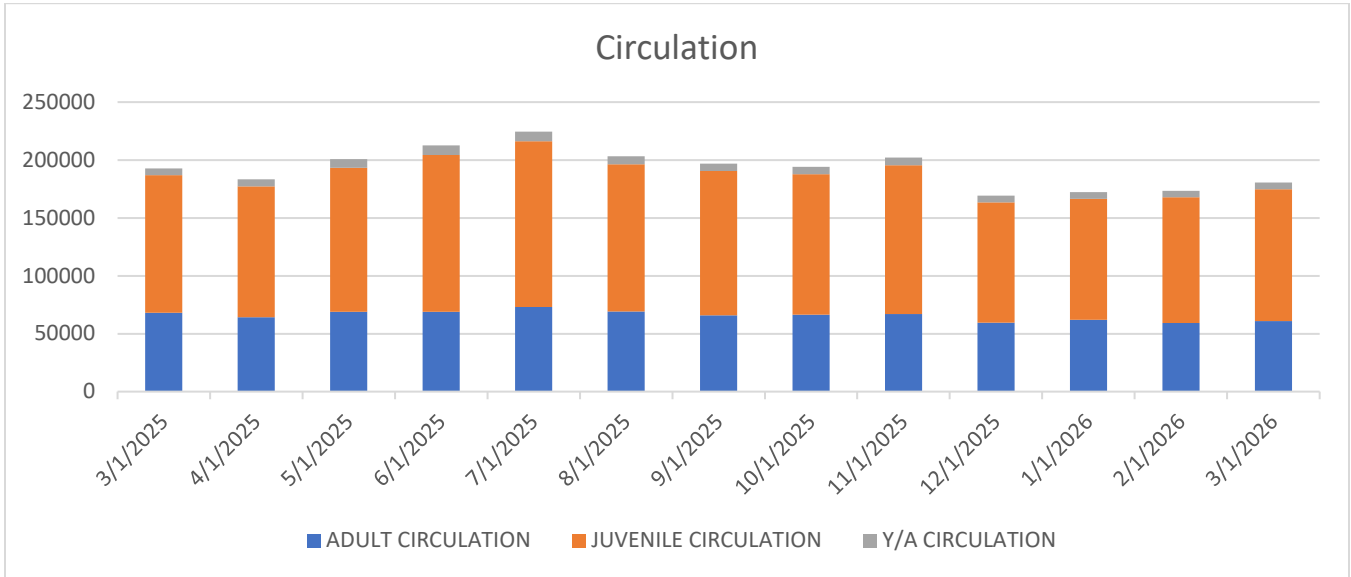
FULTON COUNTY SYSTEM STATS AT A GLANCE - March 2026

AGENCY NAME	TOTAL CIRCULATION	TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	COMPUTER USAGE	LIBRARY VISITS	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	NUMBER OF MEETINGS	MEETING ROOM ATTENDANCE	VOTER REGISTRATIONS
ADAMS PARK	955	107	3015	4,566	38	163	16	150	0
ADAMSVILLE/COLLIER HEIGHTS	1078	97	3501	4,028	39	156	2	23	1
ALPHARETTA	18,524	642	780	5,950	65	2329	23	779	0
BUCKHEAD	9,815	621	2779	9,761	34	1010	39	904	0
CLEVELAND AVE	686	49	599	1621	14	70	11	250	0
COLLEGE PARK	1,565	126	1122	4,216	19	121	5	77	0
DOGWOOD	667	62	727	0	31	135	3	52	3
EAST ATLANTA	5,601	306	1828	9219	19	222	8	48	0
EAST POINT	726	167	1857	7361	45	626	35	90	0
EAST ROSWELL	11,809	296	956	6,386	63	1295	9	91	0
EVELYN G. LOWERY @ CASCADE	2,437	264	1424	6,308	32	484	40	150	0
FAIRBURN	1,470	219	1020	3270	28	428	32	355	4
GLADYS S. DENNARD @ SOUTH FULTON	2,804	241	1933	6,569	51	626	10	34	1
HAPEVILLE	1,778	70	1591	2078	21	146	26	223	2
JOAN P. LOWERY @ PONCE DE LEON	10,002	415	7689	5,857	53	454	1	6	0
KIRKWOOD	6,012	196	1139	5,333	27	754	9	114	0
LOUISE WATLEY @ SOUTHEAST ATLANTA	1,524	84	1120	3675	48	368	15	150	0
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR	1014	95	500	1749	32	90	35	90	1
MECHANICSVILLE	369	42	1043	2,975	13	3	13	201	3
METROPOLITAN	4,391	201	1458	6,614	41	875	51	272	0
MILTON	12,354	407	437	6,386	74	1410	9	86	4
NORTHEAST/SPRUILL OAKS	9,652	234	512	9,336	80	1550	19	390	3
NORTHSIDE	8,727	250	808	6,076	22	1020	3	78	2
NORTHWEST @ SCOTTS CROSSING	3,674	148	1421	5,528	31	609	6	196	0
OCEE	16,000	446	797	10,637	38	676	1	8	0
PALMETTO	1,515	62	381	2,852	27	154	9	272	0
PEACHTREE	3723	381	1507	5370	32	312	0	0	3
ROSWELL	13,778	453	917	14431	52	1198	10	187	0
SANDY SPRINGS	16,985	641	2572	19,071	91	3046	3	29	9
WASHINGTON PARK	1493	39	2857	4,366	14	2322	7	103	1
WEST END	1,548	91	2250	4,720	10	26	8	86	0
WOLFCREEK	3,985	213	1125	5,285	34	373	38	347	0
BRANCHES TOTAL	176,661	7,665	51,665	191,594	1218	23,051	496	5,841	37
CENTRAL	3,904	575	21538	25,457	56	660	35	467	4
VIRTUAL PROGRAMS					4	26			
OUTREACH VIRTUAL PROGRAMS	0	4			31	2054			
AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH	84	0	131	1897	12	421	22	765	0
SYSTEM TOTAL	180,649	8,244	73,334	218,948	1321	26,212	553	7,073	41

FULTON COUNTY SYSTEM STATS AT A GLANCE - Q1 2026

AGENCY NAME	TOTAL CIRCULATION	TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	COMPUTER USAGE	LIBRARY VISITS	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	NUMBER OF MEETINGS	MEETING ATTENDANCE	VOTER REGISTRATIONS
ADAMS PARK	2,664	363	8,959	13,087	107	468	59	318	0
ADAMSVILLE/COLLIER HEIGHTS	2,990	251	10,384	12,414	80	371	7	73	5
ALPHARETTA	53,800	1,892	1,950	18,854	192	5,826	51	1559	0
BUCKHEAD	28,417	1,980	7,161	28,185	88	3,102	97	2,187	1
CLEVELAND AVE	1947	150	1685	8265	37	130	21	375	0
COLLEGE PARK	4,307	327	2,829	9,930	49	361	14	180	0
DOGWOOD	1,415	186	2,455	7,493	73	310	7	130	6
EAST ATLANTA	16,875	998	4,767	24083	51	744	23	177	0
EAST POINT	2304	561	4893	18554	114	1728	73	324	0
EAST ROSWELL	35,049	939	2,189	17,771	150	3,181	25	257	0
EVELYN G. LOWERY @ CASCADE	6,865	783	5,804	17,326	84	1,287	141	1095	0
FAIRBURN	4,086	715	2,622	8189	60	921	74	776	14
GLADYS S. DENNARD @ SOUTH FULTON	8,034	773	5,401	17,596	128	1,813	30	155	3
HAPEVILLE	4,996	206	4,132	9,170	53	526	61	576	2
JOAN P. LOWERY @ PONCE DE LEON	28,884	1,472	21,270	17,274	127	1169	2	16	1
KIRKWOOD	17,025	692	2,808	15,758	77	2,030	24	226	3
LOUISE WATLEY @ SOUTHEAST ATLANTA	4,711	227	2,917	10,620	125	889	40	480	0
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR	2675	304	1277	4,764	91	184	93	183	2
MECHANICSVILLE	1,240	146	6,006	8,244	42	85	24	336	7
METROPOLITAN	12,532	631	3,965	17,704	106	2,229	129	788	0
MILTON	36,267	1158	1,273	18,512	206	3,852	38	440	8
NORTHEAST/SPRUILL OAKS	28,963	763	1,219	16,969	178	3,525	44	817	7
NORTHSIDE	26,405	843	2,289	18,189	61	2,742	13	210	2
NORTHWEST @ SCOTTS CROSSING	10,697	497	4,134	15,553	69	1,240	10	307	0
OCEE	47,367	1,323	2,244	28,954	91	1,859	8	81	0
PALMETTO	4,191	228	908	7,548	63	469	19	514	0
PEACHTREE	10,928	1246	4088	15022	76	773	3	44	13
ROSWELL	40,357	1,543	4,500	32,810	144	3,379	26	353	0
SANDY SPRINGS	48,666	2,162	7,802	53,337	231	9,460	13	148	17
WASHINGTON PARK	4,014	176	7,343	11,861	31	2506	15	198	2
WEST END	4,608	254	6,551	13,206	33	178	35	286	0
WOLFCREEK	11,249	639	2,974	10,929	68	653	99	1,509	0
BRANCHES TOTAL	514,528	24,428	148,799	528,171	3,085	57,990	1318	15,118	93
CENTRAL	11,794	1,496	57,963	70,115	156	3,264	88	1,906	24
VIRTUAL PROGRAMS	0	0	0	0	12	84	0	0	0
OUTREACH VIRTUAL PROGRAMS	0	9	0	0	64	3,282	0	0	0
AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH	221	3	302	5,096	16	692	22	765	0
SYSTEM TOTAL	526,543	25,936	207,064	603,382	3,333	65,312	1428	17,789	117

March 2026 Executive Summary – Charts



January 2022 virtual circulation and virtual circulation users numbers were revised upward due to Hoopla.

