



Bexley Public Library

NOTICE OF VACANCY BOARD OF TRUSTEES BEXLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The public is hereby notified that one position on the volunteer Board of Trustees of the Bexley Public Library will become available on January 1, 2026. This position will be for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2029.

BPL board members demonstrate exceptional board leadership and champion community service and the Library's following vision, mission, and core values:

VISION. To be a trusted institution that builds community through connection.

MISSION. We enlighten, inspire, and empower our community through trustworthy resources and extraordinary service.

CORE VALUES

Access – We uphold the principles of intellectual freedom and the open exchange of ideas. We affirm the rights of patrons to free and equitable access to library resources, services, spaces, and programs.

Connection – We believe creating meaningful and authentic connections with our patrons, community partners, and each other is vital. We are actively engaged in the life of our community and embrace our role as a partner and ally.

Empowerment – We provide a trusted space where people come to improve their quality of life. We believe connecting people to resources, services, experiences, and each other will lead to new opportunities for individuals and our community.

Innovation – We adapt to evolving technology and information landscapes, continuously improving library resources to remain relevant and valuable. We strive to be a leader in developing and delivering creative, bold, and high-quality information, services, and resources.

Literacy – We foster literacy skills and provide trustworthy information. We are committed to literacy in its many forms: foundational reading, digital proficiency, information evaluation, media analysis, and cultural understanding.

Service – We value compassionate, trustworthy, and knowledgeable service, aiming to meet the diverse needs of all patrons while maintaining a welcoming and supportive environment.

Stewardship – We protect and steward our community's resources, collections, spaces, and privacy with honesty and integrity. We promote transparency, equity, and openness in all we do.

A copy of Expectations for the Board of Trustees is attached as a part of this notice.

Anyone interested in being considered for the vacancy must be at least 21 years old, a resident of Bexley, have not been convicted of a felony involving dishonesty, deceit, fraud or breach of the public trust and submit a letter of interest that answers at least the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Board of Trustees?
2. What qualities, skills, and experience would you bring to the Board?
3. What difference has Bexley Public Library made in your life?

Responses should be submitted by 11:59 p.m., local time, Sunday, October 5, 2025. Responses can be emailed to board@bexleylibrary.org, or mailed to Bexley Public Library, 2411 E. Main Street, Bexley, OH 43209, Attn: Board of Trustees. If you have any additional questions, please contact Ben Heckman at (614) 231-2793 or email to: board@bexleylibrary.org.

Board of Trustees Expectations

Ohio libraries funded by the Public Library Fund are led by Boards of Trustees that comprise seven members for seven-year terms. A minimum of four of the seven Board members must reside in the Bexley Public Library's (BPL) service area (Bexley City School District). The Board is responsible for fiscal oversight and for guiding major decisions about strategies and operations.

MEETINGS:

- The Bexley Library Board of Trustees will meet regularly. All board and committee meetings, regardless of size, are subject to Ohio's Open Meetings Law.
- A quorum of at least four Trustees is required for voting purposes.
- Board terms are renewable according to the Ohio Revised Code, but BPL has instituted that no Trustee who begins his or her first term on or after July 1, 2025 may serve more than two (2) full consecutive four-year terms.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Attend an initial orientation meeting and regular board meetings (usually 60-90 minutes) and participate on committees.
- Attend BPL events and support the Annual Fund.
- Serve on one or two committees that meet once or twice annually (unless there is a specific project that requires additional attention). Long-standing Board committees include Building and Grounds, Personnel and Salary, Finance and Budget, Policy, and Nominating. Ad-hoc or task-force committees can be created and populated with expertise as needed when determined by the Board and the Library Director.

TRUSTEE CANDIDATES:

- Board members are recommended by the Nominating Committee, which bases their decisions on the short-and long-term needs of BPL. The Nominating Committee strives to cultivate candidates who can add to the pool of existing Board skills and expertise and offer diversity in all forms.
- Candidates have shown a commitment to BPL through their support of library programs and events, and civic engagement.
- Based on the leadership and the changing needs of BPL, the desired range of skills and expertise offered by board members include strategic planning, legal, levy/public funding, historic preservation, facilities, architecture, fundraising/philanthropy, marketing/branding, community/civic engagement, education, and personnel/human resources.

More details on the role of Ohio Public Library Trustees and the Bexley Public Library(BPL)-specific Trustee Bylaws are found in Chapter 1 of the BPL Administrative Policy Manual.