

Trustee Candidate Questionnaire 2025

Candidate name: Pat McKenna-Bausch



How long have you been a resident of Huntington School District #3?

We moved to Huntington in 1996, almost 29 years ago.

In what community groups are you (or have you been) an active participant?

I have been a Trustee at the Huntington Public Library since 2015. I have been involved with the Huntington Library Foundation as a representative of the Board of Trustees. I have also been a Trustee at the Congregational Church of Huntington on Washington Drive for the past 23 years.

Why do you want to be a library trustee?

I have a passion for the library, its patrons, and its staff. I first became interested in serving when I didn't agree with service cuts that negatively impacted the Huntington community. I spent a year complaining about it at meetings and decided if you can't beat 'em, join 'em. I am devoted to the institution of the library in every community as the place to transform our lives. It is so important for us to be there to provide services to our patrons, whether it is getting the latest best-selling book, downloading audiobooks and movies, taking a cooking class, learning English as a second language, taking yoga classes, or getting homework help. My goal is to provide as much value to our patrons and support our wonderful staff every day.

What is the most important contribution you could make to the library?

As the most senior member of the current board, I have the benefit of being able to recall how things have been done for the past 10 years and bring that to the table. We have many big projects kicking off in 2025, including the renovation of our Huntington Station Library. I believe my experience will be a valuable asset on the board. The last ten years have brought amazing changes to our library. The next five will be challenging as we make HPL a place where our patrons can come to learn about and utilize the most advanced information technology and infrastructure available. We need to anticipate the changes that entails in order to help our community succeed in a world that is changing faster than

ever before, while at the same time making sure that our library is still the center of our community for all. I pledge to do just that.

What do you find are the most valuable library services to you as a patron?

It changes every week. When I got my first library card I was interested in taking out books, and how-to guides for home repair. Then I began taking my little girl to the library to find books for her. Later I started to borrow DVDs and audiobooks, then BluRay disks. I did research at the library when I was looking for a new job. Nowadays I am always on Libby to download eBooks and audiobooks, and as I am getting close to retirement I plan to take advantage of programs that happen during the work day, and maybe even use the passport service we provide. I'll keep you posted.