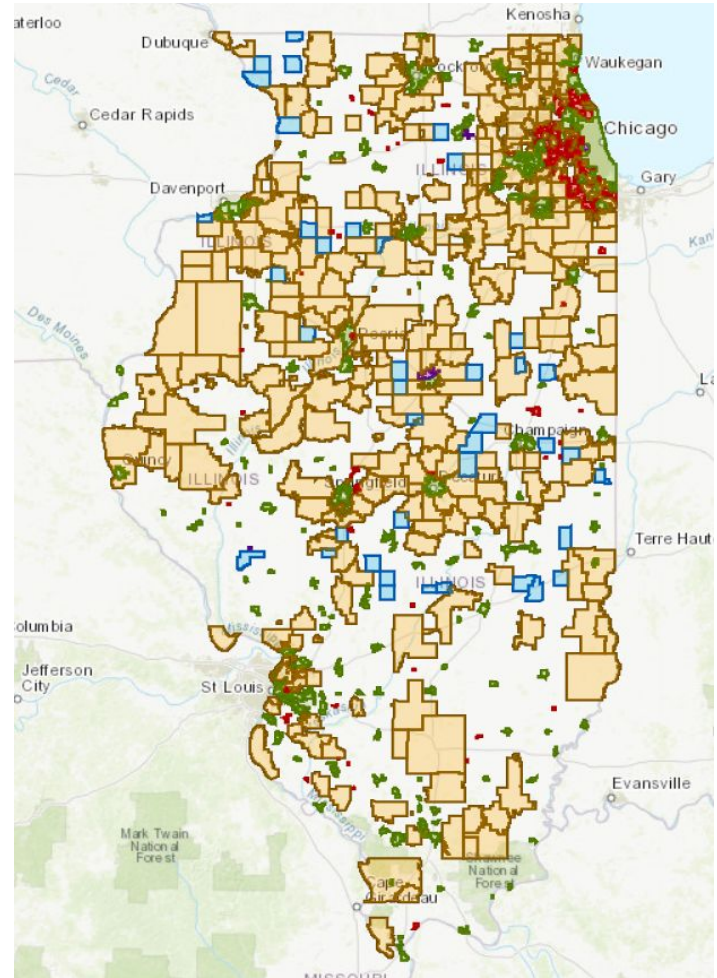


Every Student Gets a Card: Leveraging IGAs to Grant Library Access to Illinois Students

By Kristen Lawson, Youth Services
Department Manager, and Deanna Siegel,
Youth Services Librarian
Roselle Public Library District

Where Are We Now?



Where Do We Want
to Go?

Give every public
school student
access to a public
library by 2025.



Recent Developments & Advocacy

IL HB 2096, which includes the Cards for Kids Act:

- Applies to libraries who elect to provide non-resident cards
- Gives cards to students whose households fall below a certain income level
- Note: This does NOT cover all students!

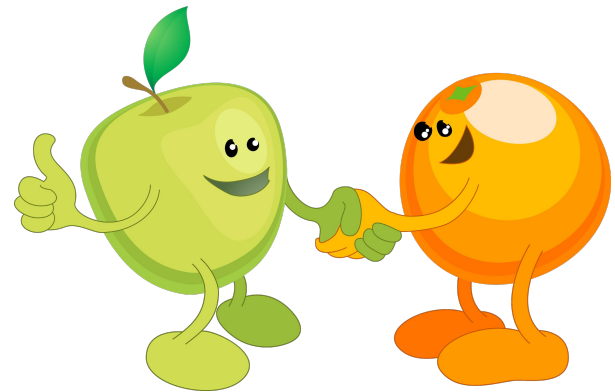
Advocacy:

- Community advocacy: talking points
- State representatives



What is an IGA?

- Two or more governmental organizations
- Equal exchange of goods, services, funds, permissions, etc.
- Mutually beneficial
- Legal document using legal language



How Many Students Benefit?

- Use the IL Secretary of State's Library District map to figure out how many students in a school district live in an unserved area.
- Once you have an approximate student count, you can then determine what an equal exchange would look like



Writing the IGA

- How we created ours
- Template available from RAILS

Next step:

- Directors/superintendents must approve
- Lawyers edit and approve on both sides
- Boards edit and approve on both sides

Remember: this takes MONTHS.



One IGA is Not Like the Other

There is no “correct” IGA.

Similarities:

- Library Services
- Term and Renewal of the Intergovernmental Agreement

Differences:

- Maintenance; Closing
- Insurance

Bottom line: your IGA should best reflect the needs of your community--so don't be a stickler about the template!

Your IGA is Approved! Now What?

- Marketing
- Library card signups
- Staffing (cross-departmental)



Current Status of RPLD's IGAs

- Medinah, District 11
- Keeneyville, District 20
- 2020 school year plans



Now Is the Time!

IMPORTANT: You do not have to delay starting your IGA because of the pandemic.

You can:

- Form a first draft
- Contact administration and lawyers via email
- Send IGA via email
- Discuss the IGA via Zoom, WebEx, Go To Meeting

Bottom line: utilize technology to execute your IGA.



Quotes from (new!) patrons and staff from library card sign-up events

“You just don’t know what it means to me to be able to let my kids check out from your library.”

“Your library is amazing, and it’s been killing me that I can’t let my kids check out because we can’t afford the yearly fee.”

“We desperately wanted to get the kids cards, but we just couldn’t. I’m a single mom, I can’t buy a library card.”

I had two mothers today who stopped at the table we had set up and almost burst into tears when we told them that they could have library cards for their kids for the year.

One woman got down on her knees in front of her kids and began excitedly telling her daughter that she could actually take home all of the Elephant and Piggie books she wanted from the library instead of reading them in the building.

Another woman’s son tried to give his mom his “I got a library card!” sticker because she was so happy that they could get a card, and he hoped it would make her happier and not cry.

What will your community members say?

Joe Filapek at RAILS

And now a word from Joe Filapek!

Questions?



Kristen Lawson:

klawson@roselle.lib.il.us

Deanna Siegel:

dsiegel@roselle.lib.il.us