

State Library Posts 2004 Kansas Public Library Standards to Blue Skyways

by Shannon Roy, Editor

In the closing months of Duane Johnson's administration, the Public Library Standards Committee completed the 2004 Revision of the Public Library Standards. These were recently posted on Kanlib-L and may be found online at:

<http://skyways.lib.ks.us/KSL/development/standards2006.html>

There are some changes from the 2000 Revision of the Public Library Standards.

- The material on library budgets has been pulled into a new chapter.
- The chapter on Planning and Marketing has been expanded to include heavy emphasis on service to target populations including Business, Ethnic and Cultural Communities, English as a Second Language, Children, People who Work with Children, Young Adults, Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities.
- The chapter on Library Services reflects increasing recognition that collections include access to electronic information, as well as physical materials.
- The chapter on Automation and Technology has been updated to reflect current developments and to emphasize the importance of staff training.
- The chapter on Personnel includes new material on director and staff evaluation.
- The chapter on Physical Facilities has been updated. It contains new material on emergency preparedness, an updated ADA Checklist for Libraries and a new Maintenance Checklist.

The Public Library Standards Committee for the *2004 Kansas Public Library Standards* included:

Rob Banks, Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library
Roy Bird, State Library
Patty Collins, Dorothy Bramlage Library in Junction City
Carla Kaiser, Basehor Public Library
Susan Moyer, Dorothy Bramlage Public Library in Junction City
Kay Russell, North Central Kansas Library System
Joe Tholen, Southeast Kansas Library System
Diana Weaver, Northeast Kansas Library System

The *Kansas Library Standards* were first created in 1988 and have been revised and expanded four times since then. The Kansas document has traditionally been developed as a training tool as well as an assessment tool and has always contained materials for qualitative as well as quantitative review.

The 2004 Revision will be the last revision. The next time the *Kansas Library Standards* are created they will be in a new format and will reflect many new developments in Kansas library service. The new standards document will have more emphasis on standards that can be specifically measured and more emphasis on the desired outcomes for Kansas library users.