



defiance public library system
Defiance • Sherwood • Hicksville

PRESS RELEASE

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Defiance Public Library System Names Rob Giesige Interim Director

[DEFIANCE] – The Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) Board of Trustees appointed Rob Giesige to serve as interim library director during its regular meeting Wednesday.

Since Aug. 10, DPLS Director Cara Potter has remained with the library system on a part-time basis following her relocation to Kalamazoo, Mich. Potter and Giesige will each work 20 hours per week during the transition. Potter's part-time appointment was initially established for 12 weeks and may be extended monthly as needed. The board referred the search for a permanent director to its personnel committee, which will meet in September.

Giesige's appointment is a subcontracted position, renewable monthly.

Giesige retired as CEO of the Four County ADAMhs Board in late 2023 after four years in the position. He previously served for 10 years as the organization's director of finance and administration.

Before joining the ADAMhs Board, Giesige served as treasurer of Paulding Exempted Village Schools and as chief fiscal officer for DPLS. He also spent 12 years as a state auditor, auditing governmental entities throughout the four-county area.

"My wife always came to the library, and when I worked as an auditor, I liked the people there," Giesige said, adding he has fond memories of bringing his sons to library programs and events.

Giesige holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Bowling Green State University. He served on the DPLS Board of Trustees from January through July 2026.

In other business Wednesday, the board:

- received an update from Branch Manager Angela Powell on renovations at Hicksville's Johnson Memorial Library. The final shelving arrived this week, and a new music garden has been installed outside. The Friends of JML reported that a renovation celebration held Aug. 20 was well attended and a success.
- heard from Mark Weaner of the Friends of Sherwood Branch about another successful Free Summer Lunch Program for children and plans for a Trivia on Tap fundraiser in October.
- heard from Board Member Chris Korhn that the levy committee has met twice and is currently engaging with the community at a booth at the Defiance County Fair. In May, the board voted to place a 1.65-mill, 35-year levy on the November ballot. The levy consists of a renewal of the existing 0.75-mill operating levy and a 0.9-mill addition to backfill the operating budget, covering debt payments on a construction loan and operating costs for the proposed annex across from Defiance Public Library.
- discussed new renderings for the proposed annex, received last week from SHP Architecture & Design. For more information about the levy and to view the renderings, visit **defiancelibrary.org/annex**.

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