

Questions for Libraries – Regarding Proposed Changes to the Public Library Standards

Task force members are interested in all public comment regarding the proposed changes to the public library standards. Task force members have the following questions:

- Do you think that these standards, in your library, will help you achieve the goal of providing sufficient library services to everyone in your community? Why or why not?
- Are any of the essential standards unachievable? Why are they unachievable? What do you think you will need to achieve those standards? What do you need from the Montana State Library?
- Are there any concerns about the percentages listed on the tax revenue standards? What concerns do you have?
- What does “all people are welcome” look like in your library? How can we measure this standard?
- The task force is concerned about salaries for library staff. What do you think about the salary standards and how they are worded?
- What do you think about requiring that at least one library board member will be certified by the Montana State Library?
- What do you think about the excellent standard that says all library directors will have a college degree or equivalent experience?
- There is a national effort to encourage libraries to use data when planning, evaluating, and communicating with stakeholders. This methodology is known as data-driven or data-inspired planning. What do you think of the proposal to add data-inspired to the excellent standard about planning and evaluation of library services?
- The State Library wants to offer more services and opportunities for libraries that provide public library services and are currently located in a Tribal College. What do you think of the proposal to adopt public library standards that include these libraries? What questions do you have about that proposal? What benefits do you think it might bring? What impact could it have?
- Do you have any questions about what any of the essential or excellent standards mean? If so, what are they?