

The NYS Budget and Your Library

Hoping to hear soon...

As of Tuesday, April 5 the budget has not been finalized. Based on reports from both staff & legislative members, it is expected on Thursday, April 7. Once passed, we'll update you with news on State library aid and construction aid. While both the Assembly and Senate recommend increases (\$106.1M and \$123.1M respectively), we will most likely see a figure somewhere between those two recommendations. Stay tuned!



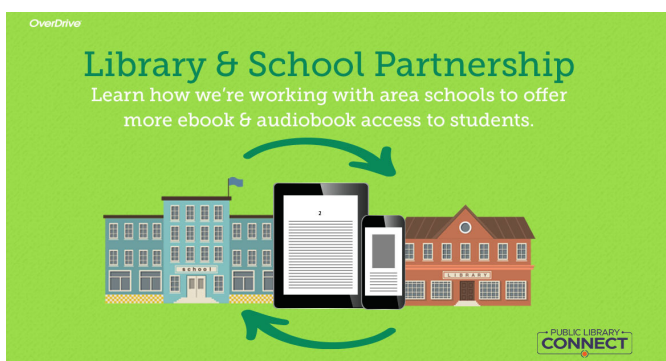
We met with library-supporter NYS Assemblyperson Kelles during Advocacy Day on March 2, 2022

SCHOOL BALLOT REFERENDUM

Sustainable funding is a desirable goal for libraries. One way to achieve this is to request funds directly from school district taxpayers by asking them to vote on a resolution placed on the annual [school district ballot](#). School district taxpayers pay an amount based on their assessed property value. Once passed, the amount collected is the same every year unless your library decides to ask for an increase.

Typically, library Boards start preparing for this in the Fall and must first pass a resolution to pursue funds via a school district vote in the following year.

“ If your library is interested please contact FLLS. We can outline the steps involved and help with your timeline and messaging for a successful campaign.



Public Library CONNECT

April is [School Library Month](#) and many of our libraries have strong partnerships with their local schools and school librarians. Earlier this year, FLLS joined [Public Library CONNECT](#) opening our OverDrive digital collection to school students.

Using their school library [Sora](#) accounts, students can access age appropriate material from our collection. OverDrive is working to integrate the schools in our service area. So far 8 districts have been added.

eContent Contribution Request

The Finger Lakes Library System uses [OverDrive](#) (Libby) to share ebooks and downloadable audiobooks. FLLS covers the platform cost and contributes money to purchase shared content. We request that our member libraries also set aside money in your collections budget for OverDrive content that all of our patrons use. While your library's contribution is voluntary, we recommend designating either 5% of your materials budget or \$1/Overdrive circulation based on last year's statistics. Libraries may also choose to pay what they can.



National Library Week April 3-9

This year's theme, "Connect with Your Library," promotes the idea that libraries are places to get connected to technology by using broadband, computers, and other resources. Libraries also offer opportunities to connect with media, programs, ideas, and classes—in addition to books.

National Library Week Celebration Days

Monday, April 4: State of America's Libraries Report released, including Top Ten Frequently Challenged Books of 2021.

Tuesday, April 5: National Library Workers Day, a day for library staff, users, administrators, and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.

Wednesday, April 6: National Library Outreach Day (formerly National Bookmobile Day), a day to celebrate library outreach and the dedicated library professionals who are meeting their patrons where they are.

Thursday, April 7: Take Action for Libraries Day, a day to rally advocates to support libraries.



This year's theme, "Connect with your Library" is also a call to action. How do you connect with your library?