

# **Northeast Kansas Library System**

## **2010-2011 System Plan**

### **I. Introduction**

This system plan summarizes the intended directions of the Northeast Library System (NEKLS) through the end of 2011. It is based in part on discussion among system member representatives at the Fall 2009 Assembly, and the strategic plan for 2010-2012 adopted by the NEKLS Executive Board (attached). It also recognizes that NEKLS has adopted several major service programs (library accreditation and grants, NExpress regional catalog, and the statewide courier service) that must be maintained at a high level of commitment. This 2010-2011 System Plan has three purposes:

1. To state our vision for the future of the Northeast Kansas Library System.
2. To identify and summarize some of our goals for key service programs on which the system will be focusing between now and December 31, 2011.
3. To summarize key issues in the proposed 2011 budget.

### **II. Northeast Kansas Library System (NEKLS) Vision and Mission**

The Northeast Kansas Library System has adopted a new strategic plan with a vision for library service in Northeast Kansas that continues but expands on our previous emphasis on convenient access to library service:

**Vision.** NEKLS and its member libraries are leaders and innovators in providing exemplary library services.

**Mission:** The Northeast Kansas Library System enables its member libraries to develop outstanding services through:

- Library consulting, continuing education and professional development
- Facilitation of peer communication
- Library technology support and development
- Library advocacy and marketing
- Improved library funding
- Access to regional and statewide resource sharing networks

### **III. Goals for Services for Member Libraries**

The 2010-2011 system service plan addresses three areas of emphasis:

1. Continuation of several major system service programs including public library accreditation, resource sharing and library advocacy.
2. Enabling and supporting increased capability on the part of individual libraries, library personnel and library boards.
3. Participating in the reevaluation and transition of statewide goals and services.

Specific areas of activity in this plan include:

**Communication.** Improved communication with system members is a major goal for NEKLS during the coming year. Action steps include:

- Completely redesign of the NEKLS web site.
- Clarify the responsibilities of NEKLS staff members.
- Increase the frequency of consulting visits to member libraries.

**Continuing Education.** NEKLS is conducting a comprehensive evaluation and plan to upgrade its continuing education program. Action steps include:

- Assess continuing education content and delivery methods for continuing education.
- Implement a revised continuing education program.
- Develop a method to record and archive appropriate presentations and events.
- Develop a program to share member expertise and provide peer training.
- Transition of the current computer training lab to a mobile lab that can be used in all NEKLS training and meeting facilities.
- Prepare library personnel to teach technology skills and resources to end users.

**Advocacy.** NEKLS will continue its strong support for library advocacy. Action steps include:

- Provide increased information about legislative advocacy issues affecting libraries.
- Train librarians and board members to advocate for support from local governments.

**Resource sharing.** NEKLS will continue its major commitment to resource sharing services.

Action steps include:

- Continue migration of additional libraries to the NExpress/Koha regional library catalog. At least 32 libraries will be participating in NExpress by January 1, 2011.
- Continue to evaluate the performance of PTFS, our current support vendor for Koha, and consider of migration to another vendor if advantageous to participating libraries.
- Participate in and support efforts to improve statewide interconnection of library automation systems.
- Continue to support and expand Kansas Library Express, the statewide courier service managed by NEKLS, with substantial increases in participation anticipated during 2010-2011, and continue courier subsidies for NEKLS libraries.

**Accreditation and Grants.** NEKLS will begin work in 2011 for the next cycle in its public library accreditation and grant program. Action steps include:

- Coordination of an accreditation review committee to review the current accreditation standards and recommend revised 2012-2014 standards to the NEKLS Executive Board.
- Approve accreditation standards and determine grant levels for implementation in 2012.

**Statewide Goals and Services.** NEKLS will be an active participant in strengthening statewide library service. Action steps include:

- Participate in revision of shared State Library and Regional System Goals.
- Facilitate and support the transition of the Talking Books service to a new model with a single statewide Talking Books library, and outreach consultants located at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library and possibly other locations in Northeast Kansas.

**NEKLS 2010-2011 System Plan is CONTINUED in the following documents:**

- **2011 System Budget Notes**
- **2011 Estimated Income**
- **2010-2012 Strategic Plan**