2025 Ballot Northeast Kansas Library System Executive Board

Nominee Information

Cindy Davis, was raised with a love of reading and relished visiting the local libraries in Fort Scott and Girard, KS. The tiny school libraries are also fondly remembered. She received an Associate of Arts degree from Fort Scott Community College, attended Wichita State University, and completed her Bachelor of Science degree at Pittsburg State University. She has held several types of jobs since graduation from PSU. Retail, banking, and administrative work at Fort Scott Community College. Working with students at FSCC, Cindy realized she wanted to teach students how to research the information they needed to succeed. She returned to school at Emporia State University in August of 2016; academic librarianship was her focus, and her goal was to work in a community college. Cindy graduated in August of 2018 with her MLS. Highland Community College hired her in February 2018 as their Director of the Library.

Norine Lauhon, is a forty-plus resident of Lansing, KS. Lansing has a very efficient community library with an active Friends of the Library. Norine is currently the Vice-President of the Friends and make it a point to attend the scheduled Library Board meetings for purposes of support and valuable communications between the entities. She retired from a fifty-year rewarding career three years ago. Her role was at management level which provides the benefit of understanding budgets (creating and evaluating), policies and compliance, communications and strategic planning. Norine is a believer in encouraging new ideas and improvement.

Laura Hunt Pellegrino, has 20 years of public library experience, including library administration, management, youth services, and teen services. She earned a Master of Library and Information Science from Dominican University and a B.A. in Journalism and Media Studies from the School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies at Rutgers University. She is currently serving as the Executive Director of Kansas City, Kansas Public Library.

Jacque Slingsby, had her first job at age 14 at the Abilene Public Library. She then spent a couple of decades working with juvenile offenders before she returned to library land. She has experience working in both large and small libraries. Jacque worked in a smaller rural library as Director of the Atchison Public Library; as an Elementary Outreach Librarian and Branch Manager at Mid Continent Public Library; and a very, very short stint as a Reference Assistant at Rockhurst University. Her current job as Assistant Director for Leavenworth Public Library allows her to do her favorite librarian things; managing the adult collection and dealing with the random and odd things that happen in public settings. She has a small farm in Leavenworth County where she raises lots of veggies, weeds and horses. Of course, she has cats, as all librarians should.

Sarah Goodwin Thiel, recently retired from the University of Kansas after serving 23 years as the Digital Imaging Librarian and the Community & Faculty Engagement Librarian. She is committed to libraries and places a high value on the innumerable ways they serve their communities. Sarah began her career as Assistant Consultant for NEKLS and understands the unique and invaluable role the System plays in supporting libraries and librarians.

David Tyler, Thirty-nine years in distribution facilities, the last being the Walmart facility in Ottawa. He was on the Board of Trustees in Ottawa for nine years and President for the last two years of his term. As busy as his mother was, she made time to take David to the Carnegie Library in their hometown, which resulted in his lifelong love of reading and books.