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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Library

**ACM:** Frank Dixon

**DATE:** May 11, 2026

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding:

- Summer Reading Challenge June 1-July 31
- Splish Splash Story Time
- DISD Photography Interns
- Staffing Update
- 2026 Game On! Grant from American Library Association

### **BACKGROUND**

The 2026 Summer Reading Challenge literacy initiative is in the final stages of planning. The theme is “Unearth a Story,” featuring dinosaurs, paleontology, and archeology. The reading program runs during the months of June and July. Starting June 1, readers can log into the ReadSquared software to register and begin tracking reading. After 5 hours of reading, participants earn a certificate and a drawing entry into a prize pack of their choice. Once participants complete the program by reading an additional 5 hours (10 hours total), they receive a book and another entry for a prize pack of their choice. Readers earn an additional entries for prize pack drawings for each additional 5 hours they read to continue building the habit of reading.

The library is partnering with Denton Water Works Park to offer Splish Splash Story Times each Thursday morning at 10 a.m. in June and July. Admission is waived and attendees can enjoy the Children’s Play Pool until 10:45.

Two photography interns from Denton ISD’s LaGrone Academy spent three weeks photographing the library and editing photos. The photos will be used in various library marketing and informational materials.

The library is in the process of posting, interviewing, and hiring for a variety of positions that will lead to full staffing levels across the system. A full-time Adult Services Librarian at Emily Fowler, a part-time Library Specialists in Technical Services, and six part-time seasonal page positions are in various stages of being filled.

Denton Public Library has been awarded the American Library Association’s 2026 Game On! grant for \$1,000. The grant funds a project to work with teens in the Juvenile Detention Center. The project aims to build communication, collaboration, creativity, empathy, and problem-solving skills in a fun

environment by teaching them to play tabletop role-playing games, like Dungeons & Dragons. The program will also build literacy skills as it requires reading and writing to develop characters and understanding complex rules. The grant program and submittal were developed by Haley Phillips, Outreach Librarian, Ross Scoggin, Teen Librarian at South Branch, and Robbie Sittel, South Branch Manager.

**EXHIBITS**

1. Agenda Information Sheet

Respectfully submitted:  
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Director of Libraries

Prepared by:  
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Director of Libraries