



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Library

ACM: Christine Taylor

DATE: March 5, 2024

SUBJECT

Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement between Denton Independent School District and the City of Denton to work collaboratively to enable students and employees of DISD to have greater access to Denton Public Library resources through a Books2Go Account at the Denton Public Library; and providing an effective date.

BACKGROUND

Denton Public Library accounts are free to all Denton residents, regardless of age. Non-resident full-service accounts are available for an annual \$50 fee. Denton Public Library created a Youth Courtesy Account when non-resident fees were instituted in 2004 to ensure that all children and teens have access to educational and enrichment materials.

Despite regular DPL marketing, outreach efforts, and information sharing with parent and teacher groups, many DISD families remain unaware that their children are eligible for a free library account. DISD teachers, aides, and support staff who live outside City limits also need access to informational or curriculum support materials available at Denton Public Library but may not be able to afford the non-resident fee to check out the materials.

In 2020, the Books2Go account was created to provide library services to students. The formal agreement between the City of Denton and DISD embedded public library account registration for students as an opt-in feature during student registration. The parent or guardian registering a student for school may opt-in to get their child a Books2Go account with Denton Public Library. The account offers the same level of access as the library's Youth Courtesy Account. Students with a Books2Go account can check out up to 3 items at a time, use library computers, download ebooks and digital audiobooks, and access Denton Public Library online resources and databases. Each school year, parents or guardians activate 300-400 Books2Go accounts for their children.

Denton Public Library and DISD wish to expand the agreement to offer DISD employees who live outside Denton city limits the opportunity to get a free Denton Public Library account with the same services as the DISD Books2Go account that students use.

Student accounts would continue to be set up when parents and guardians opt-in to register their child for the library's DISD Books2Go account as part of the DISD online registration process. DISD employees would register for an account by visiting any library branch, completing the library application form, and showing their DISD employee ID.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

The original agreement for student Books2Go accounts was approved by City Council on June 16, 2020. The expanded agreement was discussed at the July 10, 2023 Library Board meeting.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Approximately 20 hours of library staff time per school year to upload and process new student accounts.

Youth Courtesy Accounts are free for all children and teens ages 0-17. There is no loss of potential revenue from Books2Go student accounts.

There would be a potential loss of revenue for DISD employee accounts. The amount of impact would vary, depending on the number of employees who get a library account. Some DISD employees may continue to purchase an annual non-resident full-service account for \$50 to be able to check out additional materials. The Books2Go accounts only allow up to three items checked out at a time. Full-service accounts allow up to 75 items checked out at a time.

Total non-resident DISD STUDENT enrollment	Active Books2Go accounts	Non-resident fee that would have been applied if there were no agreement	Potential Financial Impact
32,466	374 (1.2% of opt-in requests activated)	\$0 (Youth Courtesy Accounts are free)	\$0
Total non-resident DISD EMPLOYEES	Estimated Active Books2Go accounts	Non-resident fee for a full-service library account	Potential Financial Impact
2,510	50 (if 2% participated)	\$50/per account	\$2,500
	125 (if 5% participated)	\$50/per account	\$6,250
	251 (if 10% participated)	\$50/per account	\$12,550
	502 (if 20% participated)	\$50/per account	\$25,100

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1-Agenda Information Sheet DISD Agreement

Exhibit 2-Ordinance with Books2Go MOU

Respectfully submitted:
Jennifer Bekker
Director of Libraries