# **Board Policy**



Information & Imagination

## Partnerships

#### **Policy Statement**

Pierce County Library System seeks and encourages partnership with non-profit organizations, governments, commercial entities, and other groups, to support and enrich our community.

### Definition

A partnership is defined as a collaboration that results in an exchange of services, use of facilities, a newly-created service or event, or other transactions between the Library System and another entity. While the Library and the other entity may not have identical goals, their goals should be complementary and not contradictory. Each partner contributes to the enterprise.

#### Purpose

The purpose of such partnerships is to create new opportunities to improve life in our community, opportunities that further the missions of the Library and its partner(s). The Library will seek and respond to opportunities to partner with organizations to reach new audiences and cross promote library services and offerings. A successful partnership will build on the strength of each partner, and reach new or shared constituencies that neither partner, working alone, could serve as well.

Certain guidelines apply in deciding the specific nature and conditions of acceptable partnerships. They are:

- All partnerships must be consistent with the Library's philosophy and mission, vision, and values. They do not drive the Library's agenda or priorities.
- All partnerships must be consistent with the Library's policy of equal access to service. Partnerships must not give unfair advantage to, or cause discrimination against, any sectors of the community.
- The Library will seek partnerships with organizations for delivery of library services or space within facilities.
- Partnership decisions shall be made consistent with all other Pierce County Library Board policies.
- A partnership will be approved by the Library Executive Director, who may consult with the Pierce County Library System Board of Trustees.
- To create new partnership relationships, the Library and the potential partner will prepare a set of responsibilities that will outline each party's activities that form the partnership.

#### **Board Policy 1.18 Adopted by the Pierce County Rural Library District Board of Trustees, August 12, 2009.**