

Delta County Public Library District (DCPLD)

*“Serving and Empowering People
Providing Resources for Life, Leisure and Learning”*

The Board of Trustees of Delta County Public Library District (Board) adopts and makes public the following written policy:

UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY

Revision Dates and General Definitions

This revision dated 09/20/2017 overrides all previous versions of **Delta County Public Library District UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY** and any verbal/oral policies, actions and behavior in existence prior to this date.

No individual has the authority to override the provisions contained in DCPLD’s policies either orally or in writing, or by their actions.

Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children while they are in the Library.

DCPLD staff is committed to help children with activities related to the Library. However, Library staff cannot nor is it their responsibility, to serve as baby-sitters, teachers or disciplinarians. Violations of this policy are grounds for suspension of library privileges. Whenever advisable, the Library will notify the parent of incidents involving an unattended child. [Form follows]

Children under the age of six (6) must be accompanied and directly supervised at all times by a parent or other responsible caregiver. When the safety of an unattended child is in doubt or if the library is closing and a parent or responsible caregiver cannot be located, Library staff is authorized to call the police and stay with the child until the police arrive. In no instance will staff take young people home.

From time to time, the DCPLD schedules or provides programs that are designed and suitable for attendance by children without parental supervision. Such program announcements will so indicate and if no indication is included then supervision is required. When so indicated, if the parent or caregiver intends to be absent, they must leave word at the circulation desk as to their whereabouts and a phone number where they or a responsible adult can be reached.

Children age six (6) and older may use the Library unattended by an adult, subject to other Library rules and policies concerning behavior, conduct and demeanor.

Unattended Children Parental Notification Letter

Dear _____,

The Delta County Public Library District has recently experienced an incident involving your child when they were on Library grounds unattended by you or a responsible caregiver. A copy of the Library's policy on Unattended Children is enclosed for your attention. We ask that you review this policy and make every effort to follow it. We do not wish to suspend Library privileges for you or your family, but the safety of children as well as the proper operation of the Library is our first responsibility. If you have any questions regarding this policy or its enforcement, please contact the undersigned.

Very Truly Yours,

Board President or Library Director

Approved by DCPLD Board of Trustees 09/20/2017

Approved by DCPLD Board of Directors

Date

Secretary