

## **OWLS Director report**

October 18, 2018 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

### **Brown Bag Meeting**

Evan, Chad, and I attended the Brown Bag meeting for children's librarians on September 28th. OWLS Youth Services Liaison Sue Abrahamson facilitated the meeting which was hosted by the Shiocton Public library. Children's librarians from OWLS member libraries gave brief book talks and shared information about successful programs and events. We discussed the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program and the new app. There were some new faces in attendance, including Katherine from Clintonville, Trisha from Fremont, and Margo from Weyauwega.

### **TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grants**

Nine OWLS member libraries are eligible to apply for TEACH infrastructure grants for discounts on purchases of specific networking technology such as routers, switches, internal cabling, and wifi access points between July 2018 and December 2020. I have contacted each of the eligible libraries and Dave has reviewed the eligible services list for potential needs at those libraries. The grant deadline is November 9, 2018.

### **E-rate**

The Appleton Public Library is now CIPA compliant and therefore eligible for E-rate discounts on many IT services, some of which are provided by OWLS. OWLS and APL staff are working together to submit applications for the 2019 E-rate fiscal year, beginning July 2019.

### **Staff Development**

Several OWLS staff members will be participating in training in the coming months. Catalog Librarian John Wisneski will complete authority control training. Circulation Specialist Molly Lawlor will complete SQL training. OWLSnet Manager Amanda Lee will be a panelist for a WLA conference session on Curating Community Digital Collections related to our summer intern's work, and Amanda will attend the annual Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) forum in Minneapolis in November. I am registered for continuing education seminars on Facilitation and a Lean Overview in November.

### **Continuing Education on Workforce Development**

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, Kevin Virobik, Business Services Consultant for the Department of Workforce Development will lead a conversation about the no-cost programs and services offered at the Menasha Job Center. At the end of the session, library staff will be able to confidently refer library customers to community experts in job search techniques, resume creation, interview preparation, career exploration and similar resources.