



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 10, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Council Chambers: 201 North Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025

WELCOME TO YOUR BOARD MEETING

We welcome your interest and involvement in the legislative process of Escondido. This agenda includes information about topics coming before the board.

PRESIDENT

Maribel Cruz Reyes

SECRETARY

Giselle Luevanos

TRUSTEES

Francis X. Bova III

Virginia Bunnell

Carolyn Clemens

CITY CLERK

Zack Beck

HOW TO WATCH

The City of Escondido provides one way to watch a board meeting:

In Person



201 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The City of Escondido provides two ways to communicate with the board during a meeting:

In Person



Fill out Speaker Slip and Submit to City Clerk

In Writing



<https://escondido-ca.municodemeetings.com>

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact our ADA Coordinator at 760-839-4869. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the city to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired – please see the City Clerk.



ROLL CALL

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Review and approve the Minutes for the August 13, 2026 meeting.

CURRENT BUSINESS

2. GENERAL UPDATES FROM THE CITY

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Community Services Department: Leticia Leal, Management Analyst)

Presenter: Leticia Leal, Management Analyst

3. REVIEW THE FOURTH QUARTER OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 OF THE LIBRARY TRUST

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Community Services Department: Leticia Leal, Management Analyst)

Presenter: Leticia Leal, Management Analyst



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

STATISTICS REPORT

4. STATISTICS REPORT

Presentation of monthly statistical report.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Dan Wood, Interim Library Director)

Presenter(s): Dan Wood, Interim Library Director

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Presentation of monthly report and general library updates.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Dan Wood, Interim Library Director)

Presenter(s): Dan Wood, Interim Library Director

TRUSTEE LIBRARY USE REPORT

6. REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Reports by the Library Board of Trustees of their use of the library and its services.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

7. Unless otherwise noted, the Library Board of Trustees meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

10/8/2026 – 6:00 PM

11/12/2026 – 4:00 PM

12/10/2026 – 4:00 PM



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 13, 2026 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Secretary Giselle Luevanos
Trustee Francis X. Bova III
Trustee Virginia Segarra Bunnell
Trustee Carolyn Clemens

ABSENT

President Maribel Reyes

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. REVIEW AND APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE JULY 9, 2026 MEETING

Motion made by Trustee Segarra Bunnell

Seconded by Trustee Bova III

Approved 4-0

CURRENT BUSINESS

2. Updates: City of Escondido

General updates from the City.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Community Services Department: Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services)

Presenter: Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 13, 2026 at 4:00 PM

3. Library Trust Fund Project Accounts

Review and approve the closure of the Library Technology, Literacy Projects, Pioneer Room, Youth Services Library, and Library Circulating Materials project accounts either upon expenditure of all remaining funds or upon determination that the accounts are no longer needed, as detailed in this report.

Staff Recommendation: Approve (Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services)

Presenter: Leticia Leal, Management Analyst

Motion made by Trustee Clemens

Seconded by Trustee Bova III

Approved 4-0

4. Policy: Library Programs

Review and approval of a new Library Program policy. This policy applies to programs developed, sponsored, co-sponsored, or presented by the Library, whether held at the Library, online, off-site, or in partnership with another organization.

Staff Recommendation: Approve (Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter: Rino Landa, Library Director

Motion made by Trustee Clemens

Seconded by Trustee Segarra Bunnell

Approved 4-0

5. Policy: Public Technology and Internet Use

Review and approval a Library policy governing the use of public technology and internet access.

Staff Recommendation: Approve (Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter: Rino Landa, Library Director



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 13, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Motion made by Trustee Clemens

Seconded by Trustee Bova III

Approved 4-0

6. Policy: Makerspace and Creative Equipment

Review and approval of a new Library policy that establishes broad guidelines for safe, equitable, and responsible use of Library-provided makerspace equipment and creative tools.

Staff Recommendation: Approve (Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter: Rino Landa, Library Director

Motion made by Trustee Bova III,

Seconded by Trustee Clemens.

Approved 4-0

7. Policy: Room Reservations

Review and approval of a new Library policy that establishes broad guidelines for the reservation and use of Library rooms and study spaces that are made available to patrons at no cost as part of regular Library services.

Staff Recommendation: Approve (Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter: Rino Landa, Library Director

Motion made by Trustee Clemens

Seconded by Trustee Segarra Bunnell

Approved 4-0

8. Policy: Community Information Materials

Review and approval of a new Library policy to guide the review, placement, display, distribution, and removal of community information materials submitted by outside individuals, organizations, agencies, or groups.



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 13, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Staff Recommendation: Approve (Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter: Rino Landa, Library Director

Motion made by Trustee Segarra Bunnell

Seconded by Trustee Clemens

Approved 4-0

9. Library Director Departure and Transition Plan

Discussion of the departure of Rino Landa, Library Director, effective August 21, 2026 and the transition plan for library leadership, recruitment, and next steps.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services)

Presenters: Robert Rhoades, Assistant Director of Community Services; Heidi Dolamore, Vice President – Library Operations, Library Systems & Services.

STATISTICS REPORT

10. Statistics Report

Presentation of monthly statistical report.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

11. Director's Report

Presentation of monthly report and general library updates.

Staff Recommendation: Receive and File (Library: Rino Landa, Library Director)

Presenter(s): Rino Landa, Library Director



CITY of ESCONDIDO

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 13, 2026 at 4:00 PM

TRUSTEE LIBRARY USE REPORT

12. Reports by Board members

Reports by the Library Board of Trustees of their use of the library and its services.

Trustee Bova - Unable to attend reopening but has since visited the new library and shared kids were very interested in the teen space

Secretary Luevanos - Attended the Library's grand reopening and shared kids enjoyed the Lego build activity

Trustee Clemens - Attended Library's grand reopening, noted it was fantastic and appreciated the passion and excitement

Trustee Bunnell - Enjoyed Library's grand reopening, invited friends that are not regular patrons of the library and they are excited to go back

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Secretary Luevanos inquired about the annual report that was coming in September

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

13. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, the Library Board of Trustees meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

9/10/2026 – 4:00 PM

10/8/2026 – 6:00 PM

11/12/2026 – 4:00 PM

12/10/2026 – 4:00 PM

PRESIDENT

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026

LIBRARY TRUST FUND

Fourth Quarter	Janaury 1, 2026 - June 30, 2026
Fiscal Year Beginning Balance	\$ 745,313.72

REVENUE July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Library Trust Dividends	\$ 1,631.22
Investment earnings	\$ 22,437.09
Library Sales	\$ 42.00
General Donations	\$ 10,010.00
Reimbursement from Outside Agencies	\$ -
Other Revenue	\$ -
Transfer Out (Children's Library Mural)	\$ 10,000.00

TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 24,120.31
----------------------	---------------------

BUDGETED EXPENDITURES	Beginning Budget	Expenditures	Remaining Budget
Library Infrastructure Project	\$ 60,170.25	\$ -	\$ 60,170.25
Neihoff Donation	\$ 36,493.00	\$ -	\$ 36,493.00
Library Technology	\$ 5,848.02	\$ -	\$ 5,848.02
Literacy Projects	\$ 4,463.87	\$ -	\$ 4,463.87
Pioneer Room	\$ 17,388.30	\$ -	\$ 17,388.30
Youth Services-Library	\$ 4,973.66	\$ -	\$ 4,973.66
Ryan Trust Pioneer Room	\$ 31,920.80	\$ -	\$ 31,920.80
Library Circulating Materials	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 201,257.90	\$ -	\$ 201,257.90

ENDING FUND BALANCE (as of 12/31/2025)	\$ 769,434.03
REMAINING PROJECT BUDGETS	\$ (201,257.90)
AVAILABLE FUND BALANCE FOR FUTURE PROJECTS	\$ 568,176.13

as of 6/30/2026



STATISTICS REPORT

Monthly Statistics 2025-2026		April	May	June
CIRCULATION:	Physical Materials	30,487	29,965	33,273
	Digital Materials	8,179	8,303	8,485
	Overdrive Libby	7,102	7,190	7,068
	Hoopla	627	624	644
	Total Circulation	38,666	38,268	41,758
	Physical Holds Satisfied	1,512	1,516	1,523
INTER-LIBRARY LOANS:	ILLs Checked Out	4	4	5
	Link+ Items Borrowed (EPL patrons)	447	481	319
	Link+ Items Lent (to patrons at other libraries)	168	157	90
POPULATION & BORROWERS:	Total Registered Borrowers	102,700	103,357	104,074
	New Cards	694	647	715
	Monthly Unique Borrowers - Physical	4,364	4,542	4,654
	Monthly Unique Borrowers - Digital	2906	3027	3438
REFERENCE QUESTIONS:	Total Reference Transactions	5,421	5,517	4,651
LIBRARY SERVICES:	Public Service Hours	260	260	260
	Library Visits	20,371	20,748	21,720
ELECTRONIC SERVICES:	Users of Public Internet Computers	457	432	432
	Wireless Sessions	4,506	5,209	6,103
	Number of Website Visits	11,433	12,487	17,724
VOLUNTEERS:	Total Active Volunteers	65	56	48
	Total Volunteer Hours	676	713	664
PROGRAMS:	# of live, in-person programs	73	71	49
	Live, in-person attendance	1,492	2,123	1,377
	# of live, virtual programs	-	8	8
	Live, virtual program attendance	-	36	32
	# of pre-recorded programs	-	-	-
	# of views of recorded program content	-	-	-
	# of live, off site programs (outreach)	4	5	1
	Live, off site program (outreach) attendance	373	515	25
PIONEER ROOM:	Pioneer Room Visits:	550	550	2,000
	Digital Collection Items Accessed:	189	729	1,749
	On-Site Items & Resources Accessed:	158	103	60
LITERACY:	Class Attendance	64	21	0
	Classes Taught	22	16	0
	Active Learner Pairs	27	27	22
	Books Distributed	39	34	44
	# of take home kits given out	80	80	80





LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

LIBRARY RIBBION CUTTING CEREMONY

August marked a significant milestone for the Escondido Public Library as the community gathered on August 1 to celebrate the reopening of the Main Library at 239 S. Kalmia Street with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House following the completion of the renovation project. Community members, City of Escondido Staff, elected officials, project partners, Library Board of Trustees members, Friends of the Library volunteers, and library staff were in attendance to commemorate the occasion and welcome patrons back to the Library's historic home. More than 700 people attended the event throughout the morning, demonstrating the community's enthusiasm and support for the Library's return.



The event provided visitors with an opportunity to tour the renovated facility and experience many of the improvements made through the project, including enhanced accessibility features, dedicated study spaces, expanded community gathering areas, and a new Teen Space. Attendees also participated in the dedication of the Kumeyaay Creation Story mural and land blessing, recognizing the cultural significance of the site and celebrating a new chapter in the Library's history.

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony represented the culmination of years of planning, construction, and staff effort to modernize the Library while preserving its role as a welcoming community resource. The strong attendance and overwhelmingly positive community response reflected the excitement surrounding the Library's return to South Kalmia Street and reinforced its importance as a center for learning, connection, and civic engagement. The successful reopening marked the beginning of a new chapter for the Escondido Public Library and the resumption of full library services in a refreshed and revitalized facility.





SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Library's 2026 Summer Reading Challenge, *Unearth a Story*, concluded on August 16 after running from June 1 through August 16. A total of 3,173 participants registered for the program, with 1,213 readers actively logging their reading progress and 641 completing the challenge. Registration numbers were particularly strong this year due in part to the popularity of the San Diego County Fair pass incentive, which attracted participants across all age groups. Participants collectively logged more than 1.26 million minutes of reading during the program.

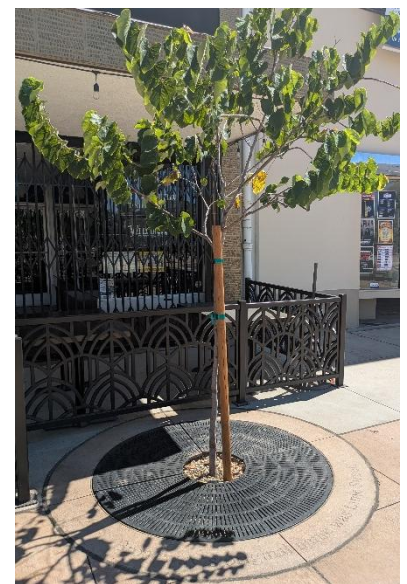
Program participation and reading achievements included:

- **Babies:** 236 registered, 114 logged reading, 60 completed the challenge, and read 53,869 minutes.
- **Kids:** 852 registered, 443 logged reading, 243 completed the challenge, and read 289,167 minutes.
- **Tweens:** 352 registered, 170 logged reading, 108 completed the challenge, and read 188,484 minutes.
- **Teens:** 192 registered, 70 logged reading, 44 completed the challenge, and read 126,592 minutes.
- **Adults:** 1,541 registered, 416 logged reading, 186 completed the challenge, and read 605,962 minutes.

To support reading and help build home libraries, the Library distributed 774 books and 1,295 San Diego County Fair passes during the program. Based on this year's participation trends, staff will evaluate offering Fair passes as a milestone-based incentive in future Summer Reading Challenges, requiring participants to log reading activity before earning a pass. The program's strong participation and reading totals demonstrate the Library's continued success in promoting reading and community engagement among residents of all ages.

THE PIONEER ROOM

In August, the Pioneer Room served 82 patrons and continued to expand its local history collection with the addition of several architectural drawings. Staff also partnered with the City of Escondido to research and verify historical information that will be featured in the new tree wells along Grand Avenue as part of the Grand Avenue Vision Project. These interpretive elements help highlight important moments and stories from Escondido's past while enhancing the downtown streetscape. Community members are encouraged to explore the newly installed tree wells and learn more about the rich history of Escondido through these engaging historical displays.





YOUTH SERVICES

Following the reopening of the Main Library in August, attendance at Youth Services programs increased significantly as families returned to the renovated facility. During the first week alone, Little Explorers welcomed 142 attendees, Toddler Tales hosted 190 attendees, Rhyme & Shine drew 150 attendees, and Baby Lapsit attracted 90 attendees. As part of the Summer Reading Challenge, Youth Services also presented several animal-themed programs that proved especially popular with families. Critter Encounters welcomed 255 attendees and provided opportunities for participants to interact with a variety of exotic animals, while Wild Wonders brought in 117 attendees and featured animals such as an armadillo and an opossum. EcoVivarium's Dino Dig program introduced attendees to reptiles from the sanctuary's collection and attracted 75 participants.

Teen Services continued to provide engaging opportunities for creativity, learning, and social connection throughout the month. Teen Art Studio invited participants to design and carve their own rubber stamps in the Library's new Teen Space and was attended by 11 teens. The August Teen Book Club welcomed 4 attendees, who discussed the selected title while participating in a themed craft activity and creating their own custom boba drinks. These programs highlight the Library's ongoing commitment to providing meaningful experiences that foster creativity, exploration, and community engagement for youth and teens.





ADULT SERVICES

On August 26, Adult Services launched **The Sewing Lounge: Sewing 101**, the Library's first sewing class, led by Archivist Ashley Hays and assistant Sara Mitchell. Eight participants learned sewing machine basics, including machine operation, maintenance, and parts terminology, before applying their new skills to create a pin cushion as their first sewing project. The program introduced patrons to textile arts in a welcoming, hands-on learning environment and provided an opportunity to develop practical creative skills.

This new offering was made possible through the generosity of several partners and supporters. The Southern California Library Cooperative's EmPOWERing Access Project donated seven sewing machines to support future textile arts programming, while a donation from Baltazar Murillo III funded the purchase of sewing supplies. These contributions have established a strong foundation for expanding creative arts and maker-focused learning opportunities within the Library's Adult Services programming.

