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# NEWS RELEASE



April 8, 2022

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## **Pierce County Library’s Board to discuss intellectual freedom and other issues**

**PIERCE COUNTY, Washington** – The Pierce County Library System Board of Trustees will discuss intellectual freedom and its grounding in public libraries and other issues at its Board meeting on **Wednesday, April 13, 3:30 p.m.**

Join the meeting by phone or online:

- Phone: 253-215-8782, webinar identification: 853 3159 8218, passcode: 305939
- Zoom with a Zoom account from a web browser or an app:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85331598218?pwd=TVRWcEVYTFY3N0tod0FSa1ZBV2xqQT09>

Tamara Meredith, PhD, the current director of the Jefferson County Rural Library District and a nationally renowned expert on intellectual freedom will brief the Board of Trustees on the critical role public libraries play in this foundational right. This core principle for library services is about access – an individual’s right to access the information they seek, explore ideas, form decisions, and make decisions on issues affecting their lives, and to do so privately.

Meredith will give an overview on intellectual freedom’s principles and practices and how public libraries are true gate openers, supporting and advocating for every person’s right to access the information they seek.

This year, the Library System plans to review its [Selection of Library Materials Policy](#), which the Board will ultimately approve. The discussion at the April Board meeting will help further the Board’s understanding of the important role public libraries play in upholding First Amendment rights for all people.

**More information:** <https://www.piercecountylibrary.org/about-us/board-trustees/board-agenda-packets/Default.htm>

### **About Pierce County Library System**

The nationally acclaimed [Pierce County Library System](#) serves 634,000 people throughout Pierce County with 20 libraries and online services. The system is the fourth largest in the state and is funded primarily through property taxes. People may choose from more than one million books, e-books, audiobooks, movies and other materials. Pierce County Library is committed to directing services in three primary areas: learning, enjoyment and community connection. Its services and programs spark success for Pierce County residents. More than 2 million people visit Pierce County Libraries each year. The Library provides services and programs directly to people in adult care facilities, people who are homebound, and to children in childcare centers and schools. [Pierce County Libraries are located](#) at Anderson Island, Bonney Lake, Buckley, DuPont, Eatonville, Fife, Gig Harbor, Graham, Key Center, Lakewood, Milton/Edgewood, Orting, Parkland/Spanaway, Pierce County Library Administrative

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Center, South Hill, Steilacoom, Summit, Sumner, Tillicum and University Place. Pierce County Library is an independent municipal corporation and operates as a junior taxing district.

[piercescountylibrary.org](http://piercescountylibrary.org)

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