

MHLS Ad Hoc OverDrive Committee Minutes
May 8, 2024

In attendance:

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich
Tobi Farley
Carol Bancroft
Stephanie Harrison
Michele Capozzella
Donna Perolli
Laurie Shedrick
Nina Acosta
Matt Pavloff
Katie Scott-Childress
Daniella Pulice
Tammy Gaskell
Carol Fortier
Courtney Tshalis
Jennifer Grounds
Catherine Benson

Absent:

Mary DeBellis
Julie Kelsall
Jeanne Buck

Meeting began 10 am.

The committee reviewed the Overdrive report spending for 6-month and 12-month spending as of March 2024.

They examined the difference between the two time period spending totals and what libraries met the goals of spending, and what libraries were deficient or exceeding in spending. There is the assumption that spending should be caught up at the end of 12 months.

It was initially thought smaller libraries were not spending what they should, but the data shows larger libraries should be spending more than what they currently are. When the data is arranged by the percentage of spending, this is visible.

The committee's goal was to spread awareness and to get people the tools they need. The committee's goal may shift to focus on libraries who need help, to rather focus on looking at the overall dollar amount goal each library needs to meet. The goal should now be to address the

libraries who are lacking in meeting the goals for resource sharing standards. Each library should seek to be net-lenders, not net-borrowers.

It was discussed that director turnover may have some impact on Overdrive spending. Looking at the patterns for new directors and new responsibilities, this is not necessarily the case.

Research into another report, Holds Borrowed vs. Holds Provided for *physical items* had relatively no bearing on *e-materials*. There doesn't seem to be a correlation between the two.

It is recommended that peers need to keep talking about it to motivate others, in addition to looking at the data.

Larger libraries need to do their share of spending on Overdrive materials. .

Demand continues to grow as well as usage, and library budgets need to be adjusted accordingly.

The libraries who were lacking in spending, in great deficit, have made strides to learn and have begun purchasing in Overdrive. All libraries now have an Advantage account and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich has reached out to individual libraries to offer help in purchasing education.

Purchasing in larger libraries vs. smaller libraries may look different, but we should look toward best practices. Pain points and staffing issues come into play, but we can learn from our peers how they manage the demand. For example, when it comes to recommended purchases, we can look in Overdrive at the "consortium holds ratio" for the number of patrons waiting per number of purchased copies. If the holds ratio is 7+, if your own library has 1-3 patrons on hold for it, you should automatically purchase the item. To be a good borrower, we should be actively monitoring this and be purchasing all along to avoid long wait times for our patrons.

Central Libraries funding is a year behind, to bridge the gap between this year and the next. Next year, the funding will be spread out over the year, so there should not be a gap. This is the time for libraries to step up their spending, as there will be no safety net for Central Library money to be spent at this time.

The libraries that MHLS has reached out to assist them to learn how to purchase through Overdrive have all appreciated the grace period the committee has granted them.

What is the accountability for libraries? We have the Approved Procedures for Resource Sharing Standards Violation. We can use education, meet on a county basis, put this discussion on the county meeting agendas. The committee will meet again before the final DA meeting to decide what are the next steps.

CPC (Cost Per Circ): 6 libraries are regularly using this format. 5 libraries are keeping their spending goals up-to-date, as per the shared Overdrive Spending Report as of March 2024.

Should a monthly report be issued? No, those libraries are already aware of their spending. Only one library is not meeting the threshold.

The Overdrive Spending report will be shared next week with all libraries with only their library's name on it, with all the other libraries' names redacted from it. In county meetings held before the next DA meeting, 6/11/2024, this should be discussed. Nina Acosta is available for tips and tricks for Overdrive learning.

Next Overdrive Ad Hoc Committee meeting will take place sometime before the DA meeting in November. We will plan for sometime in October 2024.

Meeting concluded 11:03am

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Benson