

Youth and Family Services

May 2017

Mary Fellows, Manager, Youth and Family Services

Highlights for the month include:

- Presenting two sessions of “Everyone Serves Families with Young Children” training for Westchester Library System
- 21 Minutes for 21st Century Libraries presentation for the Berne PL Board
- With Tim, facilitation of two focus groups for Castleton PL
- System youth services consultants meeting at Mid-York Library System. Main topics were recommending changes to the statistics the State collects to assess libraries’ summer reading programs and a new more modern name for the statewide program (currently Summer Reading at New York Libraries).
- As part of the ProPEL project (Prototype Project on Early Literacy), Tim and I visited RCS Library to assess their space and offer ideas. RCS is gaining new space for early literacy – very exciting!
- Youth Services Advisory Council’s meeting this month highlighted merchandising principles and techniques to make our materials move this summer, including hands-on practice. We also shared ideas for solar eclipse events and capitalizing on what’s popular with tweens right now (fidget spinners!).
- In the Small Library Concerns discussion group that took place before the YSAC meeting, our topics included strategies for good decision making and supporting leaders at any level in your organization, as well as concerns and questions brought by the group. Discussion groups for small libraries and large libraries are offered roughly every other YSAC meeting, often surfacing interesting, common problems.