

School is back and so is Homework!

Timberland Regional Library is here to help students of all ages with reliable resources to ace those assignments.

You'll find books, audiobooks, and DVDs for all topics in the [library catalog](#). You can also visit [Homework Help for Kids](#) and [Homework Help for Teens](#) for a full list of databases and other online resources.

Teachers ▢ **authoritative sources!**

Highlighted resources for homework help:

A to Z Maps Online: Political, physical, thematic, historical, and outline maps from the US and around the world. As a bonus, maps are formatted to print easily on 8"x11" paper. Also check out "A to Z World Food" for the history and culture of food from different countries and "CultureGrams" for detailed information on the people, lands, customs, and lifestyles across the globe!

Gale in Context for **High School:** Magazine and newspaper articles, biographies, critical analyses, and primary sources for high school level assignments; and for **Science:** Experiments, articles, news, biographies, images, and videos on science topics.

We encourage you to visit your local library (TRL.org/locations) for in-person help with our database resources, access to computers and free WiFi, and ask about free printing too!

Questions? Call [Ask a Librarian](#) at 360.704.4636 (Olympia area) or 1.800.562.6022 (toll-free outside of the Olympia area).



I'd like to take a moment to address the efforts that are underway to continue providing excellent library resources and services to residents of our five counties.

While we make every effort to live within our means and be good stewards of public funds, our expenditures have been outpacing our revenues since 2001 with the Initiative 747 placing limitations on property tax increases. The gap increases annually as costs go up, with the largest impacts coming from increased salaries and benefits. We implemented a soft hiring freeze in January 2019 and take a close look at each position as it opens through attrition. In the first six months of 2019 we have been able to save \$406,000 in thanks to this tough decision making process.

I encourage you to take a look at our website:

- On our [Open Data Portal](#) – specifically the “20 Years of Budget History at Timberland Regional Library”, which charts nine data set comparisons and their impact on the library district.
- Under [About TRL](#) – specifically the [2019 Budget](#) and [2020-2022 Strategic Direction](#) pages.



Cheryl Heywood
TRL Library Director

You are invited to follow along with our 2020 Budget preliminary process discussions that will be taking place at our Board of Trustee meetings on September 25 & October 23, a potential “Special Board Meeting” that is being planned for October 9 (details will be online once confirmed).

We are working with a concentration on current needs as well as looking 20 years down the line; our focus is on fiscal sustainability, an increase on accessibility, with efforts to establish a functional staffing model.

Yours in Service,
Cheryl

**CENSORSHIP
LEAVES US
IN THE DARK**

**KEEP THE
LIGHT ON**

BANNED BOOKS WEEK**SEPTEMBER 22-28**

Next week is BANNED BOOKS Week! **Celebrate the Freedom to Read at your local library!**

ALA Announces #eBooksForAll Campaign

Library leaders rally opposition to Macmillan ebook embargo

By [Steve Zalusky](#) | September 12, 2019



In response to the wishes of its members, the American Library Association has developed a campaign to involve patrons in the fight for ebook access. The new initiative, **#eBooksForAll**, was introduced by Ramiro S. Salazar, president of the Public Library Association and director of San Antonio Public Library.

Read the entire article at

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/ala-announces-ebooksforall-campaign/>

Join the movement and sign the petition at eBooksForAll.org or text EBOOKS to 40649

2020-2022 Strategic Planning Update



Vision:

Our Communities Connected

Mission:

Connecting People, Places, and Things

Values:

Welcoming, Accessible, Sustainable, Diverse, and Collaborative

Directions:

Cultivating Diversity and Inclusion, Investing in Local Communities, and Supporting Youth Engagement

We are coming into the home stretch for our strategic planning process! The second round of Community Check-ins are complete with meetings held in Hoquiam, Shelton, Ilwaco, Chehalis, and Lacey. The results of two surveys are also in with almost 1,500 responses from folks across the district.

We hope you have noticed that what was being called our 2020-2022 Strategic Plan is now being called our 2020-2022 Strategic Direction.

Feedback that we received from the public and from staff indicated that folks would prefer a more simplistic and understandable document indicating what TRL would be focusing on in the future. As work continues at each level of tactical planning we will be including the public in the process.

Having a yearly tactical plan to achieve our aspirational strategic direction will allow for more involvement of our communities and provides us the ability to shift quickly from year to year if one of our tactics isn't proving successful.

Overall the response to the draft strategic direction has been positive and we are looking forward to refining the document at the next Strategic Planning Committee on October 3rd. The committee will be reading over all of the feedback from the online survey, the staff survey, and the notes from the second round of Community Check-ins to make sure that we are meeting the needs that the community is expressing. The final draft direction will be made available to the public in advance of presentation to the Board of Trustees.

Following the finalization of the 2020-2022 Strategic Direction by our Board of Trustees there will be the creation and adoption of a tactical plan that will allow us to implement our new direction. We have already completed some exploratory work on a tactical plan by engaging in a series of brainstorming exercises with staff at our All Staff Training Retreat on September 10th. This work was important to get our collective creative juices flowing and start thinking about what our new direction might look like on a district, county, and branch level.

Thank you to those that have participated in the planning process by providing feedback in person, via our online surveys, through email, or by talking to library staff. We could not do this work without you! You can keep track of our progress at TRL.org/2020-2022-strategic-direction



Sarah Ogden
TRL District Manager
Innovation and User Experience

Join in the conversation and Like, Follow, Share along with us.
Just click on the icons below:

TRL.org

Timberland Regional Library district provides for the entertainment, information, and lifelong learning needs of Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston county residents at 27 community public libraries and seven library service partner locations. The library system is funded mainly by local property taxes, timber tax, fundraising efforts of TRL Friends of the Library, and generous donations by individual supporters. Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in a library's programs may contact the library one week in advance. All Timberland programs are free and open to the public. For more information visit TRL.org