



Adopted 3-1-12

**Section 1 – Purpose; Rules; and Responsibilities**

- a.** The Library is a welcoming environment that encourages families and people of all ages to explore all that the Library has to offer. The Library's goal is to provide a safe, productive, and positive experience to all patrons. To that end, these special rules apply to children using the Library:
- 1.** For their own protection, patrons under the age of 7 must be with a parent or a caregiver age 13 or older at all times. Patrons age 7 to 12 must have a parent or caregiver age 13 or older in the Library. The Library's staff cannot and shall not be responsible for children or other minors left unattended; therefore, it is the responsibility of the parent or caregiver to provide sufficient supervision at all times.
  - 2.** In the event a child or minor is left unattended, the library staff may take appropriate actions, including but not limited to, calling the parent or contacting the police. The parent/caregiver will be charged \$15 per hour or any portion of an hour from the time the staff determined that a child was left unattended until the time the parent/caregiver or police picked up the child. The fee will be charged to the parent/caregiver's library card.
  - 3.** It is the responsibility of the parent/caregiver to control the behaviors or actions of the child and to ensure that the child is complying with the Patron's Code of Conduct Policy. If the parent/caregiver is unable to control the child's behavior then library staff may take appropriate actions, including but not limited to, asking that the minor's parent/caregiver remove the child from the Library, restricting or suspending Library privileges, or contacting the police.
  - 4.** If a parent/caregiver reports a child missing in the Library, staff will immediately respond and follow established guidelines and procedures that may include contacting the police.
  - 5.** If a child age 12 and under is left unattended after the building closes then a parent/caregiver will be called. The parent/caregiver must pick up the child immediately. The child will remain in the building with a staff member until the child is picked up by the parent/caregiver or the police. A fee will be assessed as outlined in section 2 of this policy.