



Frankfort Public Library District – 2025 Trustee Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate: Lori Evenhouse (2 year)

1. Describe your qualifications for the position of Frankfort Public Library District Trustee:

My professional work is in the nonprofit space (with the Illinois Music Education Association) which has given me deep experience in and knowledge of board governance and best practices. I also have past experience not only working for but serving on boards which has given me greater understanding of successful collaboration between governing boards and organizational leadership.

2. List your motivation for seeking a position as a Library Trustee:

Frankfort Public Library is not just an important organization in our community, but it is personally important to me and to my family. My children are active on the Teen Advisory Board and we are at the library as patrons at least twice a week - often more frequently than that! I am running for a position on the library board of trustees to ensure that the library is well-funded and well-supported; that the services it provides are meeting the needs of our communities; that taxpayer dollars are stewarded responsibly; and that we protect access to stories, information, books and resources.

3. What do you see as the Library's role in the community, both now and in the future?

The library is a cornerstone of our community and the free access to information, books, ideas and resources that we have at FPLD is necessary for our community and its members to thrive.

The library should always serve as an essential way to access information, but it also serves as a truly public space for people to work, gather, connect and learn. They are important resources that meet the diverse needs of our community. The next time you stop in at FPLD, take a moment to sit and observe the people who are using the library. You may see: individuals stopping by adult services for assistance setting up digital access apps like Libby and Overdrive; job seekers sitting in the lab using the computers to fill out applications; parents meeting together in the children's area while their toddlers play with the variety of toys and games available; a group of retirees playing cards in a program meeting room; a teenager walking around with a youth services librarian searching for what to read next; a group of students using one of the booths in the teen space to work on a class project together; a parent checking out a hotspot from circulation because their wifi is out and they need the internet for homework and remote work. Of course this list could go on! And this list is somewhat different now than what it may have been in years before. This is a testament to the adaptability of the library's programs and services, but it is important to ensure that the resources and financial support are there to continue supporting the library's growth and agility in the future. While leaders always have an

idea of what will be needed in the coming years, other changes are yet to be seen and understood. It is the responsibility of the board of trustees along with the library's leadership to proactively plan for the future so that the patrons in the coming decades can continue to rely on and enjoy our public library.

4. **Do you currently have a Frankfort Public Library District library card?**

Yes, and I use it regularly!