



**UMATILLA COUNTY  
SPECIAL LIBRARY  
DISTRICT**

Strengthening our community libraries

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**December 18, 2020**

**The Library Board of the Hermiston Public Library  
235 E Gladys Avenue  
Hermiston, OR 97838**

**Dear Library Board:**

Last night, the Board of Directors of the Umatilla County Special Library District (UCSLD) met for their final 2020 meeting. We reflected on this past year and what all had occurred not only in our world and county, but also in the libraries with which we partner. The Board and I wanted to express our appreciation for all that the libraries have done this last year to serve the communities of Umatilla County.

The Library Directors and their staff members went above and beyond as we all dealt with an unimaginable situation. In public libraries, we had to make huge changes in how we do our work. The library partners in the UCSLD were fabulous. They were creative, compassionate, and so energetic in finding ways to make sure their communities were taken care of and had access to the information, resources and entertainment they needed to stay healthy physically, mentally and emotionally.

In September and October, the Board and I had the pleasure of hearing the Annual Library Service Plan Reports from each Library Director. It is the highlight of our year of meetings. This year, the reports showed such an amazing effort on the part of all the library staff to provide valuable, relevant and fun service to their communities in the midst of a chaotic, scary and troubling time.

Mark Rose, your Library Director, gave his report to the Board of Directors on September 29, 2020. It highlighted the many wonderful things that the Hermiston Public Library accomplished during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Mark has been diligent in increasing and enhancing services to the Spanish-speaking community, including working to build a relevant and vital collection. Updating and improving the public computers is a necessary part of effective libraries. Even through the pandemic closures and re-opening, Mark is dedicated to making the library space ever more usable.

I appreciate working with Mark. He broadens my perspective, and his background provides important information to the ongoing challenges and opportunities of public libraries.

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**Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts with you. It is an honor to partner with your library in this vital work for the residents of Umatilla County.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Erin', written in dark ink.

**Erin McCusker, District Director and the UCSLD Board of Directors**

**Cc:**

**Library Director, Mark Rose  
Hermiston City Manager & City Council**