

# **PANKHURST MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

## **Amboy, Illinois**

### Patron Behavior Policy

The Board of Trustees has prescribed this Patron Behavior Policy for the purpose of assuring that (i) all library patrons have a fair and equitable opportunity to the quiet use and enjoyment of the Library's services, materials and facilities without being subjected to unreasonable interference or disturbance by others; (ii) all Library patrons enjoy a safe and secure facility in which to use the Library's materials and services; (iii) the Library's materials are protected from theft and damage; and (iv) all Library employees enjoy a safe and secure workplace. Illinois Library Law authorizes the Board of Library Trustees "to exclude from the use of the library any person who willfully violates the rules prescribed by the board."

All conduct that may reasonably be expected to create a disturbance or otherwise interfere with the quiet and safe use and enjoyment of the Library by others (for example, but not limited to, loud or boisterous conversations, running, fighting, threatening or harassing behavior, use of video equipment including cell phone cameras, obstructing others' access to Library resources, etc.) is PROHIBITED.

Children under ten (10) years of age may not be left unattended in the Library unless they are attending a Library-sponsored program. They must be under the direct supervision of a parent, or responsible caregiver, when in the Library.

Animals, other than specially trained animals used as aids by persons with disabilities, are not permitted in the Library.

Personal distribution of leaflets, survey taking, collecting signatures on petitions, solicitations and similar activities on library property are PROHIBITED.

Library users may not leave personal belongings in the Library when they leave the building. The Library is not responsible for any loss of users' personal belongings, through theft or otherwise. Bulky items that take up excessive space are not permitted in Library facilities or on Library grounds.

All conduct is PROHIBITED that may reasonably be expected to endanger the health and safety of Library users or employees or cause or threaten to cause damage to Library materials or facilities (for example, moving furniture in a way which blocks aisles, using tables, chairs or heating units as footstools, sitting on stairways, defacing or vandalizing Library property or materials, etc.). The Library reserves the right to limit the number of persons who may sit together at a single table or computer work station.

Eating and possession of unsealed packages and containers of food are not permitted in the Library, except for items served at approved events held in public meeting rooms when arrangements for serving food have been made and approved in advance. Beverages with a covered lid are permitted in the Library. Examples include coffee cups with a lid, water or soda bottles with a screw on top, soft drink cans and soft drink containers with a lid and straw.

Weapons such as explosives, firearms, knives, look-alike weapons, or any other objects that can reasonably be considered as weapons, are not permitted on Library property or any Library-related events.

Mutilation of library materials by marking, underlining, removing pages or in any way defacing library property is not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to, furnishings, walls, machines, elevators, etc.

Tampering with or intentionally damaging library computer hardware, software, printer, operating systems or other associated equipment is not permitted.

Use of alcohol and tobacco products in the Library is prohibited.

Sleeping or the appearance of sleeping is not permitted in the Library.

Shaving, bathing and laundering clothes in the restroom is not permitted.

Patrons may not conceal library materials for the exclusive use of an individual or group or removal library materials without authorization.

The Library reserves the right to inspect the contents of all bags, purses, briefcases, backpacks, etc. for library materials.

The Library reserves the right to impose time limits upon continuous use of Library equipment.

Depending upon the offense and the particular circumstances of the case, violators of the foregoing Patron Behavior Policies may be barred from use of the Library, either temporarily or permanently. See the Suspension of Library Privileges Policy for specific guidelines.

In addition to barring persons, temporarily or permanently, from use of the Library for violations of the foregoing Rules, the Library may, in its sole discretion, bring criminal charges against any persons suspected of criminal acts toward library staff or patrons, including theft or vandalism of Library property or materials or of any violations on Library property of federal, state or local laws and ordinances.

**END OF POLICY**