

# Lunch at the Library Friday, May 15th, 2020

## Networking Conversation Notes

### Your Summer Meal Plans So Far:

- Will do pop-up programs at “mini mansions” housing development, including camps and grab and go activities at those sites. For safety reasons, this year staff will just be able to drop off crafts, but will not be able to stay and do the programs. Their school district require a service agreement.
- Doing their first year with Lunch at the Library. They will be offering Grab and Go lunches from the library parking lot. Safety concerns include how to manage traffic in the library parking lot. They will have grab and go meals and enrichment giveaways (including books, crafts, and gardening). Book giveaways will be different levels. Staff will use face masks and gloves. No volunteers.
- Still unsure of summer plans. They will offer Grab and Go if they are able. Offering craft and science kits to hand out, possibly one a week. They also want to hand out books with the kits. Safety concerns are being handled by a task team, that is looking at reopening the branches first. Contra Costa is making sure that the reopening task team has lunch at the library as part of the conversation. One school district is requiring an MOU to be negotiated.
- Shifting from lunch sites at the library to all pop-up programming. They will be distributing all books and educational materials through the school districts. Our school districts are not able to commit to grab and go lunches after June 30th, and we won't be able to utilize senior volunteers, so we are going to all pop-up programming at the school sites.
- Working with one school district. Their school district said they are planning on drive through service twice a week for families. Library will hand out books with family literacy activities and craft activities, they will go to each site twice a month. Resource centers have grab and go bags that resource centers hand out with books and craft activities. Library tries to seamlessly connect with all families. All library staff will have masks and gloves, and they are currently helping packaging lunches at the school sites. Staff won't be the only ones handing out materials.
- Library has worked with non-profit housing communities as a pop up, but will also work with 5 school sites. Will be offering DIY craft kits and free books in Spanish and English, some nutrition information, and information about summer reading program. Three branches will be opening for curbside service and will provide DIY kits with library services.
- Still figuring out what is happening this summer. Most sites will do Grab and go, but they don't have things concerned. Safety for staff and patrons is the main concern. Library is thinking about reopening, with safety procedures included. Modifying as needed.
- What are your library's summer meal, grab-and-go, and/or pop-up library at community meal sites plans this summer?
  - Most of our systems were planning some sort of grab and go craft kit.
  - Book distribution with grab and go crafts
  - Challenges:

- The number of lunches that are being handed out have been a little scary compared to our normal Summer Reading Programs and meal site numbers.
  - One system's Admin has disallowed any kind of grab-n-go kits/crafts so they are still trying to figure out what that looks like.
  - Some of the existing school meal sites were unaware of how libraries would be reopening, so facilitating a discussion about capacity for grab-n-go models so they have a realistic idea of what that would mean.
    - Parking lots
    - Safety measures
    - Social distancing
- Will PLP assist in reevaluating the funding structure because of the amount of lunches being handed out?
- What ideas is your library considering for connecting with families at Grab and Go sites (at the library or at another community site)? If visiting community grab and go sites, how often do you plan to visit?
  - Most systems reported planning on visiting once a week and tying those grab-n-go crafts to the virtual Summer Reading craft that week.
  - If limited to not handing out items, having promotional materials handed out to drive participants to their virtual summer reading program.
- Still don't know about school district lunch grab and go sites; libraries that have been sites are trying to figure out how to set it up; brainstorming program ideas for library sites: wiggiebots STEM activity, Facebook Live with kits; not too many concerns with safety precautions
- Going to have 10 grab and go pop ups; worried about staffing the services though; plus 2 desert branches so 12 pop ups total; prepping stuff – giving out school supplies before giving out take and make crafts; 4 weeks Tracie might be by herself and will visit each site twice; after not hearing sent strong email to get school district participation and got a response
- Two library branches need meal site program and have worked closely with school district in the past but can't this year; so will be doing a pop up at school sites and will ask school principal to set up a canopy and be next to the meal distribution; activity box with summer reading stuff in it – active ideas of frisbee, playground balls, hopscotch chalk, nutritional information, STEM kits; scaled down to what originally wanted to do but do what we can
- For awhile hadn't heard from school district but heard recently that they are interested in partnering; Food truck grab and go lunches – Library Director will meet with them to see if it can visit the main library in the parking lot; distribute some things at school sites too; bookgive-aways and craft kits at senior center meal sites too; plan to have a booth at pop up school sites – give reading logs for summer reading, distribute craft kits and book giveaways; haven't discussed how often yet will be visiting the sites; talked a little bit about safety precautions – face coverings, shields, gloves
- Library will not be a lunch site this year but will be visiting 10 pop up sites with school district and City Resource sites; providing craft kits, family literacy kits and book giveaways; visiting each site about 6 times
- Partner with LA County Parks and Rec – 24 sites – grab and go; working with provider so staff don't have to assemble meals – fewer items to put together; exploring sidewalk holds pickup service and trying to coordinate with lunch service; need to work through safety and logistics

issues with layout; short staffed; haven't spent a lot of time on activities or kit materials since working out all the other issues; food distribution is the priority

- Partner with LA County Food Bank, in the park by the Library, site is run by Library staff and another by Parks and Rec staff; going to be breakfast and lunch five days a week and will be grab and go, staff will have to package it; kids don't have to be there to pick up meal; helpful for planning giveaways; 450 cars come in last week; canvas bags – book, coloring and activity sheets, crafts, crayons, note – hand them out; Dollar Tree online stores for art activities, coloring books and puzzle; safety – curbside pickup May 26th – did that for two weeks before closing so already have a system, only one library in the area doing curbside - no other libraries in the area doing that so hard to know what the demand is – food sites are at other locations which should make it easier; ok with staffing – 2-3 staff for one lunch site and the other is run by Parks and Rec; started Google Doc for ideas of supplies and organizing schedule and advertising
- What are your library's summer meal, grab-and-go, and/or pop-up library at community meal sites plans this summer?
  - School site is bringing lunches to library and will do grab and go from library parking lot
  - No longer planning popups at the park
  - Thinking about doing curbside, but concerned about safety
  - Partnering up with Parks and Rec and school district, not no plans on which will be the actually grab and go site
  - Grab and go at 2 sites which are currently serving as grab and go for school kids
  - Still waiting to hear from school distributor on what their plans are
  - Reached out to our City's Parks & Community Services Dept, which is distributing pickup and delivery meals to senior citizens and low-income residents, but they have not yet responded yet.
  - Beanstack – so not planning on doing anything not virtual, although this is subject to change depending on situations
  - 10 popup lunch sites – library will not be a site – couple times a month bringing kits to sites reading kit (summer reading logs, books, literacy activities) and an art kit
  - Program running mid June to August
  - Not using teens
  - Looking to use teens through an intern program, but might have to be used virtually
- What ideas are your libraries considering for connecting with families at Grab and Go sites (at the library or at another community site)? If visiting community grab and go sites, how often do you plan to visit?
  - Hoping lunch site will help with distributing activities
  - Multiple activities being approved by school district that will be put in the meal bags/boxes
  - Giving families giveaways grab bags specific to age
  - Ready to go craft projects – Dollar Tree has options like windchimes
  - Maybe giving out items per car like puzzles
  - Curbside at the library when kits will be given out with their lunch
  - Couple times a month to visit sites
  - Planning to visit as often as possible, but it depends on staff availability
  - Planning once a week

- Because of small staff (maybe only 1 person) might be only able to visit once to each site
- Grab 'n' Go Lunches- Drive up/walk up
- Passing out activity sheets/activity kits
- Staff not handling food, but set up
- A lot still up in the air, trouble connecting and needs to finalize some things
- Was starting two new locations
- Needed to look for new partners, has two different school districts
- One branch currently has curbside, might do lunch pick up during break for that, unsure of how that will look like
- Pop-up Programming
  - Providing something for patrons to take. Staff not passing out, would leave for them to pass out at site
  - Possibly 8-9 locations/uncertain how many doing a program
  - Looking at possibly 4 different locations with 2
- School district has been in contact.
- Will continue to pass meals out at schools, not at the library
- Planning to provide resources for them to pass out with the meals
- Possibly Craft Supply Bag, flashdrives?
- Needs to be very cost efficient, the school lunch sites have been serving 500 - 700 lunches,
- With those numbers may only be able to do one drop-off, maybe monthly.
- Staff will drop off resources for school site to pass
- As of right now, looking like there will not be any lunch at the library
- Administration wants to limit the passing of physical items from staff to public.
- Keeping research handy, but not able to move forward with plans at this time
- Cannot move forward with plans at this time, but wants to be ready to help and assist as she can
- Since some sites are not allowed to do curbside service, they are planning to take grab and go packets to feeding sites of the County, city or school district.
- For some the number of sites and meals presents a challenge as to where to try to go and who to serve. LA for example has 63 feeding sites and is serving more than 4000 meals. What to do?
- Hollister plans to have nutrition education since their Outreach staff has a degree in nutrition. She will deliver information and packets at the feeding site at the high school.
- They give a bag to each child who signs up for Summer Reading with a book and some fun activities. At the close of their activities they will offer a carnival-in-a-bag, complete with cotton candy and some games for children to play. This will take the place of their annual on-site carnival.
- A couple of systems can off online programming only, but are producing a bookmark which will outline all the opportunities. They will use Beanstack for registration and management.
- Oakland has received word that Jack Dorsey of Twitter fame has given a \$10 million donation to provide internet and devices for Oakland children since many don't have them. They can only do online programming, so this is a great boon to meeting the needs of children this summer.
- Oakland is partnering with the Children's Art Museum which is providing craft materials and plans for projects. They will post instruction on are projects conducted by local artists.
- Some will use drive-through service only, so safety procedures are being worked on.

- All plan to use appropriate PPE – masks and gloves mostly – for safe delivery.
- One site can have walk-up service because of a safe space available for good and safe traffic flow.
- It was noted that some COVID learning loss indicates that the greatest loss seems to be in math skills. Bedtime Math site has some fun math activities we might consider and CamMath from Cambridge in England also has some great resources. [www.camathories.com](http://www.camathories.com)
- The National Summer Reading site was mentioned as a resource for ideas.

## Safety Concerns:

- Gloves & masks
- Paper products, not touching the materials for a time period before handing them out.
- City is issuing face masks and gloves and looking to use funds to buy shields
- Gloves, masks and set up with as little contact as possible with people
- Carts set up with bags for patrons to pick up
- Hand sanitizer, gloves and face masks (that librarian is sewing)
- City not giving PPE supplies
- Concerned with getting Clorox wipes
- Discussion regarding limiting chairs, not having bathrooms open
- Feel library is being smart and thoughtful about what they want to do
- Staff nervous to interact with public
- Keeping the staff inside, public outside
- Biggest safety concern is providing resources that will not put people at risk-perhaps drop off days before to be quarantined before pass out?

## Questions for Colleagues:

- How are others using volunteers
- We're using Bookpoints for the first time here at MVPL. (I've used it at RCLS in previous years). Has anyone changed their minimum requirements for completing their summer reading with regard to limited library services?
- How are you using teen volunteers?

## Chat

- I've also reached out to our City's Parks & Community Services Dept, which is distributing pickup and delivery meals to senior citizens and low-income residents, but they have not yet responded yet.
- We're using Bookpoints for the first time here at MVPL. (I've used it at RCLS in previous years). Has anyone changed their minimum requirements for completing their summer reading with regard to limited library services?
- yes, we lowered our finishing limits
- kids read 10 hours or 10 books
- teens read and review 5 books

- Thanks for that -- we've allowed them to include non-library books in previous years, but our community relies on our collections -- only 1 used bookstore besides our Friends bookstore, and both those bookstores are closed.
- we are assuming most people will be reading ebooks
- Please email your notes to latl@plpinfo.org so that we can collate them and send them out.
- Grab & Go: Book Bags/Bundles - Pack up 3-5 books around the same reading level. These can be grouped by genre, read-alikes, themes, etc. For check out, generate duplicate barcodes from books and place on bag for scanning.
- We have two lunch sites that are for kids 2 to 18 but our senior center also provides meals for seniors. Right now they are delivering meals since seniors cannot come into center. Can funds be used to purchase materials to create craft kits or materials for them to be delivered with their meals?
- we are giving every child an secret message pen with infra-red. Each week we will give them a secret message which will give a few words each week with the total message revealed at the end of the Summer Reading time-span.
- Activity boxes - hopscotch chalk and instructions, Frisbee, playground ball, included with SRP materials and/or craft and STEM activities
- Custom bookmarks with all our virtual program information (links information to website, YouTube Channel, Facebook).
- We are giving basic craft supplies, crayons, colored pencils, eraser, glue stick in the first packet to be used throughout.
- Cardigan Newsletter <https://iflweb.org/the-cardigan-newsletter/>
- how do the kids receive the secret message for decoding?
- neighborhood bingo
- They will receive pens in the first grab and go packet.
- Thanks! How do you "release" the words that make up the message each week?
- Words will be in a weekly message we are putting in the kit which will also give other information about the theme for the week and things available online.
- Website for an easy Wigglebot - Easy STEM for K-Middle. We are considering using our funds to add supplies and instructions in a grab and go kit <https://researchparent.com/homemade-wigglebot/>
- The wigglebot sounds so cool! :-) Thanks!
- Yes the wigglebot looks interesting. I will try it for my tutorial videos on DIY
- We will have grab and go Carnival Kits for our Virtual Carnival. It will have cotton candy and carnival games for families.
- Can you explain more about on your carnival kit?
- Sure. Every year we've had a carnival for our Summer Reading finale. We have ice cream and carnival games.
- Did you already talk about the governor's cuts to the Lunch at the Library program next year?
- 2 weeks.
- Yes
- Early june would be great
- This year we will have kits with cotton candy and games for grab and go.

- Would be helpful to work with other systems of similar size/situation
- I think some structure is good - I like the group sharing, too
- Questions are good
- I like the structure- helps keep the conversation going
- More time to chat in small groups
- Yes I'm good with this
- No problem! We will also have volunteers.
- How are you using volunteers?
- What will the cut for next year mean exactly?
- Does the database of programs that was being constructed have a release date yet?
- I'm interested in how you're using your volunteers, too 😊
- I'm not totally sure. I need to talk more with the other members of my library. I would like to use them to make grab and go kits.
- That sounds good. My library was brainstorming about doing that, too.
- Programming database: <https://www.library.ca.gov/services/remote-resources>
- I've also reached out to our City's Parks & Community Services Dept, which is distributing pickup and delivery meals to senior citizens and low-income residents, but they have not yet responded yet.
- We're using Bookpoints for the first time here at MVPL. (I've used it at RCLS in previous years). Has anyone changed their minimum requirements for completing their summer reading with regard to limited library services?
- Yes, we lowered our finishing limits
- Kids read 10 hours or 10 books
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- Thanks for that -- we've allowed them to include non-library books in previous years, but our community relies on our collections -- only 1 used bookstore besides our Friends bookstore, and both those bookstores are closed.
- We are assuming most people will be reading ebooks

## Wrap Up of Breakout Conversations

- Still waiting to hear back from partners
- Orange County has been told that L@TL will not be happening
- Grab and go lunches with materials on tables
- Activities left on table to be picked up when lunch is picked up
- Active activities to be given out like frisbees
- Because of using the school sites there seems to be less concern about safety as compared to those sites that are using their library as the distribution site and their very concerned
- Grab and go craft kits and book distribution
- Regional activity book partnering with community partners for material for pages and handed out at meal sites
- Number of lunches that are currently being distribute are astronomically larger and wondering how this is going to impact the summer L@TL program

- When city/county doesn't allow grab and go activities, library is trying to figure out how to accommodate the need
- Safety issues regarding grab and go flow in library parking lot
- Reevaluating the budget regarding the number of lunches being distribute and the demand being greater
- 12,000 kits looking to be delivered in the first week instead continually handing out kits
- Looking to use paper as the virus lasts less on paper than on plastic
- Waiting on study from IMLS regarding safety measures
- MOUs are needing to be established with school districts so this is taking a little longer than usual
- Giving out playground activities
- Very few will be working with volunteers if any at all
- Volunteers helping to pack lunches at the school site
- DIY kits
- Seems the big city libraries have the biggest challenges where demand is larger at this time
- Oakland has taken two of the sites to distribute community food
- Partnering with childrens art museum that will provide art/craft kits and then virtual programming with artists on how to use materials
- Scrambling to see what kids are really going to need and studies are showing that math is where the gab is happening and looking for fun math programs
- Arcade math is an idea as fun math programming