

### **3. b. Patron Conduct Policy**

The River Valley District Library is dedicated to providing access to knowledge and information through reading, writing and quiet contemplation and providing for patrons the right to use materials and services without being disturbed or impeded and providing patrons and employees with a secure and comfortable environment. The Public Library Act (75 ILCS 16/30-55.55) provides the Board of Library Trustees with the general power to carry out the spirit and intent of the Act in establishing and maintaining the Library and providing library services, and the specific power to “exclude from the use of the library any person who willfully violates an ordinance or regulation prescribed.”

The Board of Library Trustees of the River Valley District Library establishes its conduct ordinance as follows:

#### Section 1.

A patron who engages in any activity which materially disrupts the use of the library facilities, collections or services by patron or materially disrupts the ability of the staff to perform its duties shall cease such activity immediately upon request by library personnel. There will be no running in the building, playing on main stairway, jumping from furniture or any other disruptive behavior while children are in the library.

#### Section 1A.

There will be no loud talking on a cell phone, smoking, no destruction or mutilation of library property, no parking bicycles or other vehicles in a manner that block or hinders entry to the library, and no conduct which is disruptive to the operation of the library, or threatening to patrons, staff or library property. Cell phones must be in silent/vibrate mode and calls must be taken outside.

#### Section 2.

In such instances involving minors, identification will be requested and the incident may be reported to the parent or guardian.

#### Section 3.

If, following a request, the patron fails or refuses to comply, or responds to the request in an abusive fashion, he or she will be required to leave the library premises immediately for the balance of that calendar day. If he or she fails to leave, the police will be summoned.

#### Section 4.

Library personnel will record instances in which patrons are required to leave the library in a ledger maintained by the Library for that purpose. Upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> recorded instance in which a patron is required to leave the library premises within a thirty-day period, the Director shall bar

the patron from use of library premises for a period of thirty days. Parents or guardians of minors will be notified in writing after the 2<sup>nd</sup> recorded instance in which a minor is required to leave the Library and advised of the consequences of any further recorded instances.

Section 5.

Parents wishing to appeal such action may do so upon written request to the Board of Library Trustees.

Section 6.

In the event of patron barred from the use of the Library attempts entry to the Library during any such period of exclusion, the police will be summoned and informed of the prior action.

Section 7.

In the event the patron persists in abusive conduct or disruptive behavior following such a period of exclusion, the Director shall report to the Board of Library Trustees such conduct following prior exclusion and the Board will consider a long-term of that patron.

Section 8.

Children under the age of 10 must always be attended by a responsible person. They should never be "left" at the library for any length of time unattended. Children over the age of 10 may visit the library unattended.

Section 9.

The Library assumes NO responsibility for children of any age left unattended at the library after closing.

Section 10.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon enactment and approval according to law and be in full force and effect thereafter, a copy shall be posted within three days of enactment at the Library and the secretary shall maintain a certified copy in the official records of the Library available for public inspection.

Revised 9/18/17