

Butler Area Public Library  
Behavior Policy - Patrons  
April 2008- Revised February 2021

The Butler Area Public Library's Behavior Policy is intended to protect the rights and safety of library patrons, to protect the rights and safety of library staff, and to preserve and protect the library's materials, facilities, and property. It is our goal to create a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere for all individuals. Therefore, the public is expected to behave in a manner which is respectful of all other patrons, staff, materials and property.

Please observe the following:

- Keep all valuables and personal property with you at all times. The Library is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen personal property.
- Supervise children at all times. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Follow library computer policies.
- Use of cell phones in designated locations, which include the front lobby and stairwell. In all other areas, please turn the ringer to vibrate.
- Food is only allowed on the first floor of the library.
- Beverages in spill proof containers are permitted throughout the library.
- Patrons must throw away their personal garbage.

In order to provide a safe environment, the following are NOT PERMITTED on library property:

- Any behavior that endangers the safety or health of others.
- Violation of any local, state, or federal law.
- Destruction or theft of library materials or property.
- Destruction or theft of personal property of patrons or staff members.
- Use, exchanging, selling of alcohol, cigarettes, e cigarettes, or illegal drugs on library property.
- Disorderly, disruptive or boisterous conduct.
- Use of threatening, harassing, abusive, or intimidating language, gestures or behavior.
- Use of profane, obscene, or offensive language. Engaging in rude or invasive questioning or discussions.
- Possession of a weapon.
- Sleeping.
- Poor hygiene that constitutes a nuisance.
- Loitering including adults loitering in the children's and teen areas without a child.
- Loud talking, laughing, or using audio equipment or cell phones that disturbs or could disturb other patrons.
- Inappropriate displays of affection.

- Inappropriate dress, such as bathing suits and wet clothing or not wearing a shirt, pants, shirt, shorts or shoes in the library.
- Soliciting of any kind and or asking for signatures on petitions.
- Smoking of cigarettes or e cigarettes.
- Use of skateboards, roller blades, skate shoes, or scooters inside of the library or on library property.
- Interfering with Library Staff's performance of their duties.
- Failure to abide additional regulations that may arise in special situations.

Dangerous, destructive or illegal conduct, including but not limited to the following, will not be tolerated:

- Physical abuse or assault including fighting or challenging others to fight
- Engaging in intimidating or harassing behaviors
- Making violent or threatening statements to others
- Damaging, destroying, stealing, or otherwise vandalizing Library property.

Any patron who engages in one or more of the behaviors listed above will be instructed to leave the Library property immediately and may have their library privileges revoked for a period of up to a year or longer depending on the severity of the violation. Law enforcement may be called.

(I am combining the patron behavior policy and the public version of the disruptive patron behavior policies)

Engaging in any of the above behaviors may result in one or more of the following actions:

Initial Warning - The patron will be given two warnings and at the time of the second warning will be given a copy of the Behavior Policy - Patrons.

1st Offense - The patron will be asked to leave the property for the remainder of the day.

2nd Offense - The patron will be banned from the property for one month.

3rd Offense - The patron will be banned from the property for one year. At the end of one year, the incident will be reviewed by the Executive Director.

Patrons who are suspended from the Library for a period exceeding one day may petition to have their suspension reviewed by the Executive Director.

Please enjoy the library and allow others the same opportunity!

Adopted 5/2008 Revised 10/2018 Revised and Adopted 2/24/2021