

East Islip Public Library Patron Behavior Policy

I. Purpose

To allow all persons visiting the East Islip Public Library to use its facilities to the fullest extent during regularly scheduled hours, the Board of Trustees has adopted the following rules, regulations and procedures for the purpose of maintaining public order in the Library facilities in accordance with Section 262 of the Education Law of the State of New York.

II. Conditional Permission for Use of Library Facilities

As a condition for the use of Library premises, persons who enter upon or remain at the Library facilities, agree that they shall be subject to these rules and regulations. Failure to comply with the same shall constitute grounds for the immediate ejection as a trespasser, suspension of Library borrowing privileges or revocation of rights to enter upon library premises.

III. Rules of Conduct

All Library visitors shall respect the rights of other users and Library employees.

PATRONS SHALL NOT:

- **Interfere with the use of the Library by other patrons.** Patrons shall not harass, annoy or alarm others by making unreasonable noise or creating a disturbance; by staring at another person with the intent to harass, annoy or alarm that person; by following another person about the building with the intent to harass, annoy or alarm that person; by possessing unreasonably offensive bodily hygiene so as to constitute a disturbance to others; or by engaging in any other activity that can reasonably be expected to constitute an annoyance, disruption, or distraction to other patrons.
- **Interfere with Library employees' performance of their duties.** Patrons shall not use offensive or obscene language, threaten Library employees or engage in any conduct with the intent to harass or interfere with any Library employee in the performance of their duties.
- **Conduct any non-library sponsored activity for which a fee is charged or compensation is received.** Paid tutors and tutoring services fall within this category and therefore can not be permitted to use the building.
- **Consume food or beverages** (except in designated locations during approved times).
- **Smoke or use tobacco products.**
- **Be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.**
- **Engage in any illegal activity while on Library premises.**
- **Bring pets or other animals into the Library** (unless necessary for assisting the disabled).
- **Enter the building without proper attire.** Patrons must wear shoes or other footwear. Patrons may not enter the Library wearing skates or roller blades.
- **Leave children under the age of nine unaccompanied in the Library.** Parents/caretakers, not Library staff, are responsible for the behavior and supervision of their children while using the Library
- **Deface or mar Library materials.** Patrons shall not deface, mar or remove items from books, audiovisual materials, magazines, newspapers, or other items in the Library's collections, nor shall they deface, mar or in any way destroy or damage library furnishings, walls, machines, or other Library property.
- **No solicitation of any nature shall be permitted in the Library building.**

Each patron shall be responsible for any fines, fees or other charges due in accordance with the Library's standard schedules.

IV. Procedures

The Library Director or his/her designee shall be empowered to suspend or revoke the privilege of access to the Library of any person whom the Director/designee finds is engaged in conduct in clear violation of the Library's Patron Behavior Policy. Library personnel are also authorized to call the police, if necessary, to insure compliance. This person shall have the right to appear before the Library Board of Trustees at any regularly scheduled meeting to have such suspension or revocation reviewed by the Board, at which time the Board may affirm, modify, or rescind the suspension or revocation.

East Islip Public Library
April 1999
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