

Goffstown School District Libraries

Purpose Statement

The Goffstown libraries foster a community of learning and literacy that leads to high academic achievement, independent reading and inquiry, and collaboration within the schools and beyond.

The library is an integral component of the school's instructional program. It accomplishes its mission by:

- Teaching information, computer literacy, and digital citizenship skills to the school community within and beyond the framework of the school curriculum
- Working with school staff to design learning strategies that meet the needs of groups and individual students
- Stimulating student and staff interest in reading through collection development, organization of materials, displays, and programming
- Encouraging creative uses of information by fostering the sciences, technology, engineering, arts, and math in a “learning lab” / makerspace setting
- Helping students develop better communication and collaboration skills by providing appropriate learning tools, thought-provoking programs, and informal learning challenges
- Providing opportunities for students to develop organizational and independent study skills
- Communicating the value of information for individuals and society

The Purpose of the GSD Libraries

The Goffstown School District libraries serve as a bridge between teachers, students, and information within our school community. It is also an educational bridge to the “outside world.”

Sense of Community

GSD libraries support Goffstown schools’ sense of community by encouraging open intellectual dialogue, diversity, and empathy for fellow students.

Sense of Self

The libraries help individuals form a sense of self by encouraging the exploration of ideas that help build self-esteem and identity while at the same time providing a greater understanding of the diversity of the world.

Sense of Place

The libraries are destinations that encourage the pursuit of knowledge by surrounding individuals with thought-provoking materials and tools for education. Libraries give knowledge some tangible structure, providing a contained place and authority to formal procedures for evaluating information. Libraries meld local support and the familiar to larger bodies of human ideas that are often different from our own.

Focus on Collaboration

The libraries serve as shared community spaces where individuals maintain collaborative ownership of resources. The library can serve as a grounding point for our shared activities, the growth of ideas, and the building of a better future.

Shared Culture

The libraries promote a shared culture that emphasizes education. A library gives us a heightened sense of place that embodies civic (school) pride. It allows us to discover, articulate and even show off who we are and who we want to be. It shows the members of the Goffstown community bound together in dreams of the future and our potential.

Seeds for Lifelong Learning

The libraries allow people to discuss big ideas in a neutral space. It encourages curiosity and provides tools to satisfy inquisitiveness. Teaching about the differing qualities of information and its wide-reach helps students learn to question ideas and seek facts. Furthermore, such teaching helps students understand the complexity of information so that they may better evaluate what they learn throughout their lives.

Love for Reading

Maintaining a diverse selection of popular reading materials gives our students a chance to discover new ideas and explore interests. Non-fiction titles support the curriculum and help students better understand a multitude of topics.