

Patron Loss of Access

To maintain an atmosphere appropriate for work, study and enjoyment for all library users and staff, the following policy on behavior in the Lowell Public Library and on library property has been established.

Appropriate library activities include browsing for materials, reading, and thinking, quiet conversation, homework, writing reports and researching. Library computers or audiovisual equipment are to be used quietly, so as not to disturb others.

Disruptive behavior is defined as noisy, boisterous or acting out behavior. Patrons who are consistently disruptive or violate rules may be restricted from use of specific resources, the library building and grounds for up to ninety (90) days by the Director or designee. A minor (anyone under 18 years of age) who creates chronic problems may be required, for up to ninety (90) days, to bring a responsible adult who will remain with him/her in the library building and grounds.

Individuals restricted from access to the library building, specific resources, and the library grounds may appeal the restricting action to the Board of Trustees. The appeal must be in writing. At its next regularly scheduled meeting, the Board will consider the appeal request.

The Director of the library or an appointed supervisor is responsible for training all library staff to consistently enforce library rules of conduct. Continuous and positive communication with the library board as well as with local police is important to maintaining a positive and welcoming atmosphere in the library.

Staff may call appropriate officials for assistance if patrons do not leave the building and grounds when requested to do so or if the individuals return before they are permitted.