



An Investment for Life

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September is Library Card Sign-Up Month; Reminder to Students And Families That Libraries Are Key To Academic Success

Mechanicsburg, PA – The Cumberland County Library System and all Cumberland County libraries are joining the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide for Library Card Sign-Up Month, a time to remind parents, caregivers, and students that a library card is the first step towards academic achievement and lifelong learning.

A library card opens a world of infinite possibilities through resources and services that give students the tools they need to succeed in school and beyond. From STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) programs, family story time, to makerspaces and in-person or virtual homework help, libraries transform lives through education.

Libraries offer free and fun educational resources and activities that bring families and communities together, playing an important role in the education and development of children. Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning.

“Our library programs serve students of all ages,” said Carolyn Blatchley, Library System executive director. “For younger children, we offer early literacy resources to help them learn to read and encourage school readiness. For teens and older students, we provide access to technology and digital tools as well as GED resources. We’re especially pleased to offer Tutor.com, which provides access to live tutors from noon to midnight each day, as well as GED practice and job search support for adults.”

Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September since 1987 marking the beginning of the school year. During the month, the ALA and libraries unite in a national effort to ensure that all children sign up for their own library card. For information on getting a library card visit www.cumberlandcountylibraries.org or any library.

The Cumberland County Library System consists of seven federated local libraries, one branch facility, a system headquarters office, and an associated non-profit Foundation. Member libraries include Amelia Givin Library in Mt. Holly Springs, Bosler Memorial Library in Carlisle, Cleve J Fredricksen Library in Camp Hill, Coy Public Library of Shippensburg, East Pennsboro Branch Library in Enola, John Graham Library in Newville, Joseph T. Simpson Library in Mechanicsburg, and New Cumberland Public Library.

The Cumberland County Library System consists of seven federated local libraries, one branch facility, a system headquarters office, and an associated non-profit Foundation. The Library System provides support to its member libraries through information technology, securing library materials, older adult services, training opportunities, and administrative and financial services. More information on the Cumberland County Library System can be found at www.cumberlandcountylibraries.org.