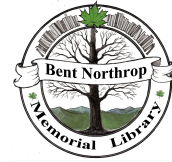


Bent Northrop Memorial Library

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year! After a busy summer, we always look forward to seeing kids in the library after school again. While BNML warmly welcomes your children each day, we want to be sure we're all on the same page regarding student expectations.

Once a child has been dismissed from school, FCS is no longer responsible for that student. If you choose to dismiss your child to the public library, please know that **we're not responsible for their safety, behavior, travel to or from the library, or their whereabouts** (many leave to walk to the store or other places). Only children ages 8 and up should use the library without an adult caregiver, and we notice that some of those younger students aren't ready for the unstructured time with a mixed age group. **The small, very busy library staff is here to provide comprehensive library services to the community. We are not here in a supervisory role.** There is only one staff member present to manage all of the services and space most of the time.

We provide unfettered access to materials - both print and digital - to patrons of all ages. The internet is not filtered. We do not censor what kids read, research, or how they connect with friends.

Please see our Patron Behavior and Child policies on our website. Those violating our policies may be asked to leave. **Please help us by reminding your kids that food and drinks are only allowed in the Meeting Room, that no cleats are allowed inside, to use inside voices, and that devices shouldn't play content out loud** (all pretty constant battles!). Kids should be picked up before we close so they aren't left alone outside.

Sports teams...you must use the *school facilities* to change into your uniforms, *not* the library. Sports fans...please park in the school parking lot during open library hours so we can stay accessible to our patrons.

The library has lots of games, Legos, puzzles, craft supplies, programs and (of course) books for kids to enjoy. We sometimes offer special structured events during after school hours. To stay updated on these, follow us on Facebook or check our website often. There's always a lot going on around here!

Thanks for your support! We look forward to a great school year and seeing a lot of happy faces at BNML.

Sarah Allerton, Library Director

P.S...Save the date for **Trunk or Treat** on Saturday, October 26th from 3-5! We hope you'll decorate a trunk!

