



## Pierce County Library System Index of Service for 2007

- 1.3 million or 200 miles: Books, CDs, DVDs and other materials offered.
- 5.8 million: Books and other materials checked out.
- 1.2 million: Books and other materials, customers picked up as holds or reserves.
- 2 million: Visits to 17 library branches.
- 728,000: Visits to Web site.
- 193,000: Card holders.
- 696: Child care providers trained to get kids ready to read.
- 270: Parents participated in workshops to get kids ready to read.

## Supporters of the Library System

In 2007, Friends of the Library groups from 17 branches donated \$71,374 for library needs. These volunteer organizations are instrumental in supporting and promoting local branch libraries.

In 2008, Pierce County Library Foundation awarded \$168,355 for library programs that included the Kids' Bookmobile, the Summer Reading program, Early Learning, Pierce County READS, Live Homework Help® and the world languages collection of books and materials. The Foundation's active 20-member volunteer Board of Directors raises and allocates charitable gifts to expand library services beyond the scope of tax-based funding to reach underserved communities.

Pierce County Library System thanks the Friends and Foundation for their dedication and philanthropic support.



# Pierce County Library System...

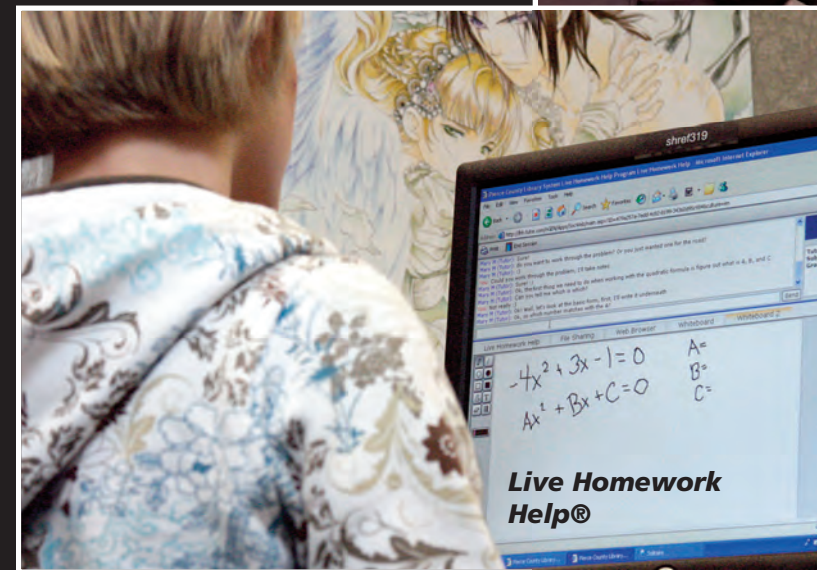
*bringing the world of information and imagination to all people of its community.*



**More Services**



**More Hours**



**Live Homework Help®**



**More Children's Services**



**More Technology**

### Board of Trustees

Allen Rose, Chair  
Paul Chasco  
Eugene Matsusaka  
J.J. McCament  
Budd Wagner

Library Executive Director  
Neel Parikh



Media Sponsor



Photos by:  
Chris Tumbusch  
COM 7/08 (3M)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Tacoma, WA  
Permit No. 356



3005 112th St. E. • Tacoma, WA 98446-2215



GET THE CARD!  
piercecountylibrary.org  
253-536-6500

2007 Annual Report  
to the Community





## Pierce County Library System delivers on pledges from re-authorized levy.

In September 2006, voters gave a 56 percent approval to re-authorize Pierce County Library System's levy. From the re-authorized levy, the Library is maintaining current and providing additional library services. Beginning in 2007, the Library delivered on the pledges from the re-authorized levy.



### Levy Pledge 1

#### New materials and faster service

The Library began offering a wider variety of books, online services and other materials. Also, the Library cut the time people wait for popular books by an average of 60 percent from 19 weeks to 8 weeks.

**In 2008, the Library will continue to build upon, enhance and sustain these services for the communities it serves.**

Some of the new services include:

- **Playaways**—small portable audio devices with full recordings of books. People checked out the 1,800 Playaways nearly 12,000 times.
- **Downloadable audio books online**—more than 1,903 book titles to download to home computers. Nearly 2,000 people downloaded 9,469 audio books.
- **School Reading Lists online**—searchable lists of books from 72 local schools' Accelerated Reader lists. Students, parents and teachers made 34,000 visits to the site.
- **Video On-Demand online**—movies and TV programs to download to home computers. People downloaded 1,300 movies and programs.



### Levy Pledge 3

#### Additional services for kids and teenagers

The Library increased services for youth.

- Launched Live Homework Help®, an interactive online homework session with professional tutors. From late August through December 2007, students had 3,707 sessions with online tutors.
- Prepared children to read through a variety of early learning opportunities.
- Increased program to assist kids with homework research.



### Levy Pledge 4

#### Upgraded services and technology for customers

- The Library added 88 computers for public use in library branches and offered free computer classes for adults.
- 218 computers are available throughout the Library's 17 branches.
- Introduced classes in basic computer skills, how to find books and materials in the Library's online catalog, and word processing.



## Fast Facts

- Established in 1946.
- 1,600 square mile service area, serving all of unincorporated Pierce County and the annexed cities and towns of Bonney Lake, Buckley, DuPont, Eatonville, Edgewood, Gig Harbor, Lakewood, Milton, Orting, South Prairie, Steilacoom, Sumner, University Place and Wilkeson.
- Serves an estimated 522,000 people.
- 17 branches.
- Two bookmobiles.
- One Explorer Kids' Bookmobile, which serves children in low-income neighborhoods.
- Brings books, movies and music to child care centers, adult care facilities and people who are homebound.

### Levy Pledge 2 More open hours

The Library increased open hours by 20 percent at library branches.

- Nine library branches are now open on Sunday.
- All 17 library branches are now open on Monday.
- Six library branches are now open on Thursday evenings.



### Financial picture in 2007

Property taxes fund approximately 96 percent of the Library's services. In 2007, the Library System's total revenues were \$26.6 million. The Library's total expenditures were \$22.9 million.

With the voter-approved re-authorized levy, the Library's Board of Trustees approved a \$27.7 million operating budget for 2008, a 4.6 percent increase to the Library's 2006 operating budget. The increase represents a 1 percent increase over the amount of taxes collected in 2007, plus additional taxes from new construction, fines, fees, interest from investments and Pierce County Library Foundation gifts.

Pierce County Library System thanks property owners for their continued support. Check out more detailed information about the Library's budget.

[www.piercecountylibrary.org/about-us/administration/finance](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/about-us/administration/finance)

### 2007 Expenditures

