

Delaware Libraries

Statewide Master Plan for Library Services and Construction

Library: Appoquinimink Community Library

Address:

118 Silver Lake Road
Middletown, DE 19709

Contact Information:

(302) 376-4190
(302) 378-5293 FAX

Library Exterior:



Estimated Size: 12,150 SF

Hours:

Monday	7:30 AM – 9 PM
Tuesday	7:30 AM – 9 PM
Wednesday	7:30 AM – 9 PM
Thursday	7:30 AM – 9 PM
Friday	7:30 AM – 5 PM
Saturday	10 AM – 2 PM
Sunday	CLOSED

Estimated Hours Open 2003:

3,397 hours



Appoquinimink Interior

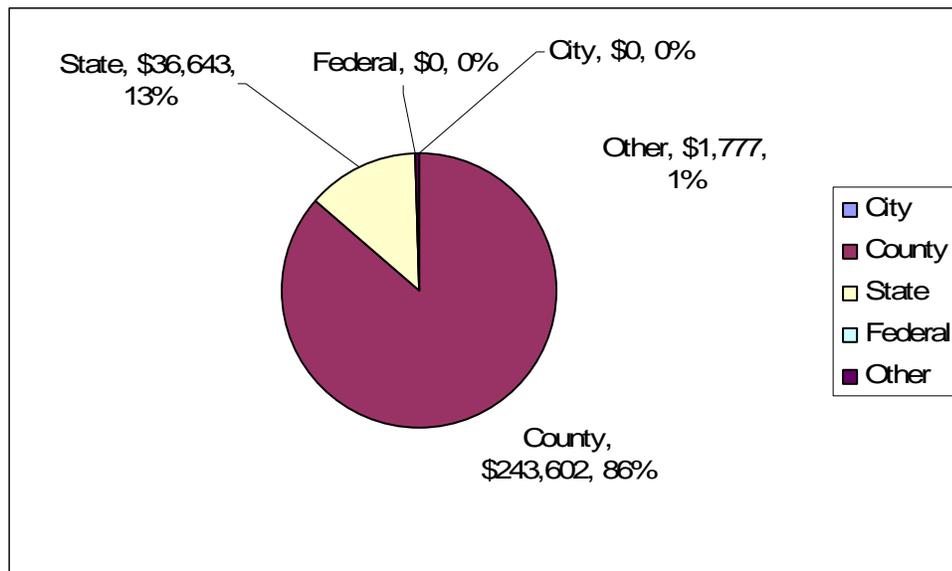


Appoquinimink Children's Area



Appoquinimink Adult Area

Financial Breakdown – Income:



History:

In 1901, the first library in Middletown was initiated through the impetus of the Middletown New Century Club. The original library was located on Main Street. When a fire destroyed the building in 1922, the Public Library Committee struggled to continue to provide service, but were forced to close in October 1926.

Service began again in 1931, with the library becoming part of the “station library system” operated by the New Castle County Free Public Library. The station library was serviced by bookmobiles that traveled around the county to bring new books and rotate the older materials.

In 1963, the library became a school district library and moved yet again into part of the historic Old Academy Building on North Broad Street. The building, which had served as a school from 1827 to 1928, officially became known as the Appoquinimink Public Library in 1971.

The Appoquinimink Public Library joined the New Castle County Department of Libraries as a contractual member in 1974 and became a full member of the County Library system in 1994.

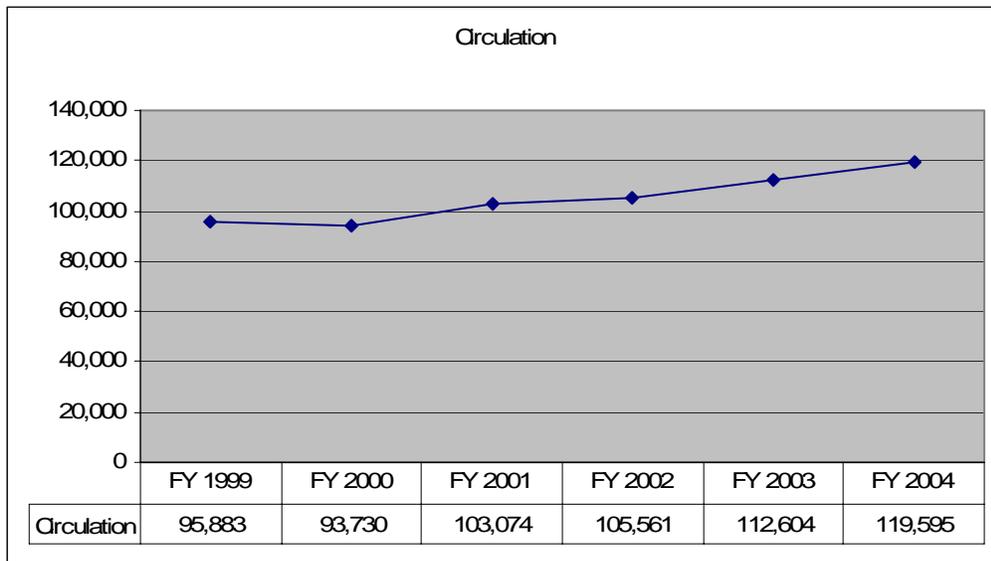
Finally in the early 1990's, discussions developed around the concept of a combined public high school and library. The idea, championed by Governor Thomas Carper and State Representative Ada Leigh Soles, became a real possibility when plans were developed for a new high school in Middletown. Seen

as a true Community Center, the new school building was designed to house not just a high school but also a State Service Center and the Appoquinimink Library.

General Description:

The Appoquinimink Library is a shared school library/public library facility. The public enters the public library through a separate entrance; however, the entrance is a fair distance from the parking lot and library users must enter a school courtyard area before approaching the Library’s front doors. The interior is bright and pleasant albeit a bit institutional. User seating availability, especially for study purposes, is reasonably good. A large conference room is available for programming purposes.

Six Year Circulation History:



Six Year Circulation History:

- FY 1999 – 95,883
- FY 2000 – 93,730
- FY 2001 – 103,074
- FY 2002 – 105,561
- FY 2003 – 112,604
- FY 2004 – 119,595

Six Year Circulation Trend:

Circulation decreased slightly in 2000, but has increased steadily since then. Overall circulation increased by twenty-five percent (24.7%) between FY 1999 and FY 2004.

2003 Library Visits: 113,668

2003 Registered Borrowers: 9,821

2003 Holdings (number of items in library collection)

Total Holdings	47,538
Audio Holdings	1,757
Video Holdings	1,195
Periodical Titles	122

Holdings per Capita:

1.8 items per person in service area
New Castle County mean is 3.2; Delaware mean is 2.8
State target is 3.09

2003 Circulation Breakdown:

Total Circulation	112,604
Juvenile Circulation	52,313
Adult Circulation	60,291

2003 Turnover Rates: (number of times average item circulates/year)

Turnover 2.37
New Castle County mean is 2.71; Delaware Mean is 2.43

Total Operating Expenditures: \$ 275,749 (2003)

Estimated Service Population:

2004/05 (Estimate)	25,758
2009/10 (Projection)	30,599
2015 (Projection)	31,708
2020 (Projection)	32,647
2025 (Projection)	33,394

Operating Cost per Person in Service Area: \$ 10.71 per capita

2003 Cost per Circulation: \$ 2.45

2003 Cost per Hour Open: \$ 81.17 per hour

Circulation per Capita in Service Area: 4.4 circulations per capita

Circulation per SF: 9.27 circulations per SF

Circulation per Hour Open: 33.15 circulations per hour

SF per Person in Service Area: 0.47 SF per person State target is 1.0

Library Visits per Capita: 4.4 visits per capita

Registrations as a Percentage of Service Area Population: 38.13%

Total Units of Service: 247,973

Total Units of Service per capita: 9.63

*Total Units of Service includes circulation, library visits, reference transactions, and number of persons attending programs.