

**Engage Gwinnett
Community Services
Gwinnett County Public Library (GCPL)
November 19, 2009**

Public Libraries are unique institutions in Georgia and across the United States. Each state has different boards, authorities, and laws that govern their public libraries.

GCPL is unique as compared to other tax dollar funded services in Gwinnett County because:

- It is subject to certain provisions of the Georgia Code including the duties of the director and the board of trustees, reporting requirements, property ownership rights, contractual rights, financial requirements, and penalties for abuse of the law.
- It is subject to the provisions stated in the Georgia Code for patron confidentiality.
- It is subject to federal legislation such as the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA), Patriot Act, and the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).
- It must be responsive and representative of the entire community without interfering with the principles of Intellectual Freedom.
- It does not duplicate any other services provided by Gwinnett County Government
- Library personnel are not county or state employees although they are eligible for TRS.
- GCPL is required by the state to operate on a fiscal year rather than a calendar year.

Relevant authorities and funding agencies for GCPL include:

- Library Board
- Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners
- Georgia Public Library Services (GPLS)
- Institute of Museum and Library Services

GCPL receives no financial support from any municipal agency in Gwinnett County nor does it receive funding from Gwinnett County Public Schools.

GCPL is guided by the following documents:

- Library Law as stated in the Georgia Code and in Federal Regulations
- GPLS Service Standard Recommendations
- Local Library Policies
- Mission and Vision
- Strategic Plan FY10-12
- Long Range Facilities Plan FY08 – 17

The Library Board who is appointed by the Board of Commissioners has the responsibility to hire a Library Director licensed by the State of Georgia. The Library Board sets policy and the Director/staff are responsible for library operations. The result is a team that serves the library needs of our community.