

**Staffing Updates:** Beth Meyer began her tenure as our new Assistant Director on Monday, September 9. Beth hit the ground running, taking over statistical reporting, meeting staff and managers, beginning strategic planning, and becoming immersed in our pending renovation project.



Beth Meyer on her first day.



Mandy Lotarski

Elizabeth Essink's last day in the capacity of the Children's and Youth Services Manager was Friday, September 15. We wish Elizabeth all the best as she pursues new opportunities. Mandy Lotarski began her tenure as the new Children's and Youth Services Manager on Monday, September 16.

Our current IT Librarian, Katherine Huddle, will begin a new role as Branch Manager beginning Tuesday, October 1. Katherine is very enthusiastic about the new space and is bursting with ideas of how to support it. We remain on track to tentatively open the space before the end of the year.



Katherine Huddle

**Security:** Dr. Richard Hogue from the Indiana State Police spoke to the staff about preparedness for active shooter scenarios on September 19. While it is a shame that we must focus on this, it is important to remain as prepared and vigilant as possible. Dr. Hogue gave an excellent presentation and Christy Walker was able to capture it on video for staff who were unable to attend.

We will face new security challenges in future years, including a new significantly sized parking structure. We will take care to view all plans from a security perspective as we move forward.

**Rebranding and Strategic Planning:** We have partnered with the Wilkinson Bros to guide us through a rebranding process. This process will involve community engagement, staff & stakeholder engagement, and will lead to a new logo and style guide, which in turn will inform the style of our new pending web site. Our new web site will be powered by Communico. In addition to a new CMS, we will begin utilizing room reservation software, digital signage software, and a new calendar system. Our new online catalog will integrate with the new web site and is powered by BiblioCore. Our new online features will all be 100% mobile device friendly.

Our Strategic Planning Coordinator Phil Anderson will be working closely with our Assistant Director to implement a planning process that will culminate with a completed plan for approval by December 16. The process will involve a community group, a teen group, a staff group, staff managers, and the library board.