

## Wild Cards! – Library and schools partner to equip every summer school student with a library card

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Saint Paul Public Schools and the Saint Paul Public Library are partnering in Wild Cards!, a new effort to ensure that all summer school students have library cards.

Every Saint Paul Public School summer school student will receive a voucher to take to any one of Saint Paul Public Library's 14 locations to quickly redeem for a free library card.

"Library cards are essential school supplies, and we are delighted to be partnering with Saint Paul Public Schools to get them into the hands of students," says Kit Hadley, Library Director.

On July 10, Wild Cards! Day, library staff will visit summer school classes of all incoming 9th graders to talk about the resources available at the library. Summer school teachers will give mini lessons on library resources to classes for all other grades.

Library services for youth include:

- Homework Centers – Students of all ages can drop in and work on homework independently or with the help of volunteer tutors. Computers, printers, and school supplies are available.
- Homework Rescue – Homework Rescue is an online tutoring service available in English or Spanish, including live online homework help, skill building services, and assistance writing papers. With a library card, students can access Homework Rescue from any computer with an internet connection.
- Computers – Internet access, databases, and word processing are available with a library card.
- Tutoring – Students in 1st through 8th grades can meet weekly with reading tutors throughout the school year.
- Activities – The library offers fun and educational activities for people of all ages – check out the online calendar to see what's happening this week.

Some incoming 9th grade students will be receiving Nook e-readers to use during the month of July. These e-readers will be pre-loaded with apps that will allow them to access library materials.

The library card vouchers will be coded so that the library and school system can track the effectiveness of this new effort.