

PRESS REPORT

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Library district partners with schools to automatically provide accounts in Pueblo city, county

By [Bryce Patterson](#)

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PUEBLO, Colo. (KKTV) - A new initiative is looking to seamlessly connect students and teachers to local libraries and the resources they offer.

The Pueblo City-County Library District (PCCLD) now automatically provides both student and teacher library accounts for local school districts and charter schools.

That allows anyone enrolled access to “books, DVDs, Blu-ray discs, magazines (excluding current issues), puppets and Seed Library packets. Users can also download digital media, access PCCLD databases, borrow Chromebooks and [use] Wi-Fi hotspots.”

PCCLD’s online database also provides online tutoring and test prep for students, as well as access to language learning tool Mango.

Under the agreement, teachers can borrow more than 300 items at a time, including “community passes to local museums; sports and outdoor equipment; a tele-health kit, and tools from the Rawlings and Giodone tool libraries.”

Pueblo School District 60 Superintendent Dr. Barbara Kimzey said the initiative is part of the District’s overall focus on “prioritizing literacy.”

Library leaders said the partnership expands on a natural connection.

“The public library is an essential extension of the classroom, offering access to trusted information, digital resources, books, technology, and learning opportunities for every student,” said PCCLD Executive Director Sherri Baca.

Moving forward, the school districts will also support the library’s Summer Reading and All Pueblo Reads literacy programs.

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D60 expands literacy partnership with Library District

Pueblo School District 60 – pueblod60.org

A renewed partnership with the Pueblo City-County Library District will increase opportunities for district students and teachers to remain Present, Powerful and Empowered by Reading.

Just days away from the opening of the school year, Superintendent Dr. Barbara Kimzey reaffirmed our partnership with the library district to expand the Library Connect partnership in support of literacy, student success, access to information, and lifelong learning.

All D60 students and teachers have automatic access to all library district resources through a school ID number and eight-digit birthdate. No separate library card application is required.

"As part of our Present, Powerful, and Empowered by Reading initiative, where we in D60 are prioritizing literacy, we felt it was important to strengthen our already strong partnership with the library," Pueblo School District 60 Superintendent Dr. Barbara Kimzey said.

"The public library is an essential extension of the classroom, offering access to trusted information, digital resources, books, technology, and learning opportunities for every student" added Library District Executive Director Sherri Baca

Students and teachers can check out books, DVDs, Blu-ray discs, magazines, puppets and Seed Library packets and can also download digital media, access databases, and borrow Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hotspots.

Students can borrow up to 50 books at a time, including picture books, graphic novels and board books.

Their accounts also provide access to the library district's online resources, including HelpNow for K-12 tutoring and test preparation, Mango for language learning, and Explora, a research platform with grade-specific resources.

Teachers receive the same benefits as regular library district cardholders while keeping their Library Connect account separate from their personal library card. Teachers can check out more than 300 books and other print materials, including graphic novels, board books and picture books.

This renewed agreement grew out of early conversations between Pueblo School District 60 and PCCLD officials centering on strengthening an already successful partnership and formalizing a shared commitment to literacy, student success, access to information and lifelong learning. Recognizing the impact that closer collaboration could have on educational outcomes throughout the community, District 60 and PCCLD worked together to develop a framework that would expand access to library resources and opportunities for students and families.

Dr. Kimzey continued, "The library serves as a vibrant literacy hub for our community, and D60 is honored to be part of that community. Today's agreement solidifies our commitment to partnering with our library to ensuring our entire community is empowered by reading."

As those discussions evolved, it became clear that including District 70 in this same initiative would further strengthen reach and impact.

"We are proud to work alongside our partners in education to ensure that students and teachers have the tools they need to learn, explore, and thrive," Baca said.

Pueblo Library District, school districts 60 and 70 partner to launch Library Connect

By Abby Smith

KRDO TV - Published August 13, 2026 11:57 AM

PUEBLO, Colo. (KRDO) -- Students and teachers in both Pueblo school districts now have expanded access to books, digital resources, technology, and educational tools through a new partnership with the Pueblo City-County Library District (PCCLD).

PCCLD, Pueblo School District 60 and Pueblo County School District 70 officially launched the Library Connect program Thursday at the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library.

According to officials, through Library Connect, students and teachers automatically receive a PCCLD account using their school ID number and eight-digit birthdate. No separate library card application is required, and no physical card is issued.

PCCLD says students can check out up to 50 books at a time, including graphic novels, picture books, and board books.

The program also gives students access to PCCLD's educational resources, including HelpNow, which offers online tutoring and test preparation for grades K-12, as well as Mango Languages and Explora, a research platform with grade-specific resources.

Teachers receive the same benefits as a regular PCCLD card, with expanded borrowing limits. They can check out more than 300 books and other reading materials, says PCCLD.

"Partnering with our local school districts and charter schools to provide student library accounts, and now teacher library accounts, reflects our shared commitment to student success," Executive Director Sherri Baca said. "The public library is an essential extension of the classroom, offering access to trusted information, digital resources, books, technology, and learning opportunities for every student."

Students and teachers can learn more about Library Connect and view borrowing limits and available resources at [PCCLD's website](#).

Pueblo students can check out 50 items from library with new program

Jessica Skropanic

USA TODAY NETWORK/THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Aug. 18, 2026, 3:30 a.m. MT

New program expands library access

Jessica Skropanic
USA TODAY NETWORK

Students and teachers in Pueblo have automatic access to library resources from the Pueblo City-County Library District (PCCLD) after joining the Library Connect program.

The initiative provides students and teachers in Pueblo School District 60 and Pueblo County School District 70 with a library account using their school ID number and eight-digit birth date, according to the school districts' announcement. Superintendents of both school districts and PCCLD Executive Director Sherri Baca signed a memorandum of understanding on Aug. 13 at the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library to launch the program.

Library Connect gives patrons access to books, digital resources

With the Library Connect program, there is no need to apply for a separate library card, and no physical cards will be issued, the school districts said.

Students and teachers can check out

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Access

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books, DVDs, Blu-ray discs, magazines (excluding current issues), puppets and seed library packets. They also can download digital media, access PCCLD databases, borrow Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hotspots.

Students can borrow up to 50 books at a time, including picture books, graphic novels and board books, the districts said. They also can access online tutoring and test prep through HelpNow, a language learning platform called Mango and the research site Explora.

For teachers, the accounts offer the same benefits as a regular PCCLD card but allow users to borrow more materials. Teachers can check out more than 300 items, including books, graphic novels, board books and picture books.

In addition to books and digital resources, teachers can borrow items from the Library of Things, state parks and community passes to local museums, sports and outdoor equipment, a telehealth kit and tools from the Rawlings and Giodone tool libraries.

Partnership aims to strengthen literacy efforts

The agreement is an expansion of an existing partnership between D60 and the library, with the aim of strengthening literacy and access to information.

"As part of our Present, Powerful, and Empowered by Reading initiative, where we in D60 are prioritizing literacy, we felt it was important to strengthen our already strong partnership with the library," Pueblo School District 60 Superintendent Barbara Kimzey said in the announcement.

Including D70 in the initiative was a natural fit, given its commitment to student learning and community partnership, the announcement said.



Superintendent Barbara Kimzey speaks to the crowd during the second annual Pueblo School District 60 Back-to-School Bash at Dutch Clark Stadium on Aug. 6. PHOTOS BY ZACHARY ALLEN/THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

The agreement also supports the annual Summer Reading and All Pueblo Reads literacy programs.

"Partnering with our local school districts and charter schools to provide student library accounts, and now teacher library accounts, reflects our shared commitment to student success. The public library is an essential extension of the classroom, offering access to trusted information, digital resources, books, technology, and learning opportunities for every student," Baca said in the announcement.

Kimzey echoed Baca's sentiment. "The library serves as a vibrant literacy hub for our community, and D60 is honored to be part of that community. Today's agreement solidifies our commitment to partnering with our library to ensuring our entire community is em-



The Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library is located at 100 E. Abriendo Ave. in Pueblo.

powered by reading," Kimzey said.

For more information about the program, go to pueblolibrary.org/Library-Connect.

How Dolly Parton's legacy lives on with more than 147,000 books gifted to Pueblo County kids

By [Aspen Andrews](#) KKTV

Published: Aug. 26, 2026 at 4:12 PM MDT | Updated: Aug. 26, 2026 at 4:14 PM MDT

PUEBLO COUNTY, Colo. (KKTV) - Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has provided more than 147,000 books to children across Pueblo County since May 2022, according to the Pueblo City County Library District.

Dolly Parton, the beloved country musician known for her philanthropic efforts, passed away on Tuesday at 80 years old.

Patron launched Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in 1995 to provide children in her East Tennessee county with books free of charge.

According to the philanthropy, Imagination Library was inspired by her father's inability to read and write.

Now, more than 31 years later, the Imagination Library serves kids around the world.

The philanthropy serves more than 3,197,000 kids across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia and the Republic of Ireland, with more than 332,411,200 books gifted to children.

According to the Pueblo City-County Library District, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has provided 147,099 books to Pueblo County children since May 2022.

"Parton's lifelong commitment to early literacy is reflected each time a family reads one of those stories," the library district said.

The philanthropy's website says 92,874 Colorado children are enrolled in the Imagination Library, and in Pueblo County, 3,461 children are enrolled.

Since Parton's death, the library district said it has recieved many messages from supporters asking how to donate to the Imagination Library.

[Click here](#) to donate to the Pueblo County affiliate for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

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Pueblo library district may face hard choices if ballot measure fails

James Bartolo

Pueblo Chieftain

Aug. 27, 2026Updated Aug. 28, 2026, 4:42 p.m. MT

Library district needs votes to protect approved funding

James Bartolo

Pueblo Chieftain

USA TODAY NETWORK

A measure asking voters to continue funding the Pueblo City-County Library District as they have since 2019 has been referred to the November 2026 ballot.

In 2019, nearly 60% of Pueblo County voters approved a 0.6 mill levy – a slight decrease from the 0.603 mill levy that had been in place since 1999 – for the library district. However, a 2024 state law requires voter approval for a district to receive over 5.25% in annual property tax revenue.

While the library district's November 2026 ballot measure would maintain the funding mechanism approved by voters in 2019, it would not impose any new taxes.

Library Board of Trustees President

Frederick Quintana told the *Chieftain* that the state property tax revenue cap – unless overridden by Pueblo City-County Library District voters – could jeopardize the library district's hours, programming and availability of materials, among other aspects of library operations.

"With a cap being placed on what voters have already approved, that can pretty quickly hamstring what services our district can provide," Quintana said.

Anchored by its Rawlings Library branch in Mesa Junction, the district also has library locations in Belmont, Colorado City, Pueblo West, on the east side, the St. Charles Mesa, the south side, and at the Pueblo YMCA. Other "express" library locations are housed on the Colorado State University Pueblo

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The Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library is located at 100 E. Abriendo Ave. in Pueblo. ZACHARY ALLEN/THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Library

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and Pueblo Community College campuses.

When asked if the ballot measure's failure could result in any locations closing, Quintana said that the district would try to figure out how to "maintain what it has for as long as it has." However, he said the district would be faced with difficult decisions. A branch closure is "real," but a "last resort" without maintaining funding.

"I can tell you that the library district is already running as lean as it can run in its staffing and in what we already expend," Quintana said. "If we lose funding, what comes next is truly looking at what resources we are able to provide

and what hours we can provide those resources."

The state's 5.25% annual property tax revenue cap was enacted following the passage of Colorado House Bill 24B-100L. Close to 91% of the Pueblo City-County Library District's budget is derived from property tax, Quintana said. The library mill levy that has been in place since 2019 costs \$3.40 monthly per \$100,000 in actual home value.

"I believe our community finds the importance in libraries, and this is just one of those steps that we're having to take, to ask them to continue to show that support," Quintana said.

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