

AGENDA
Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN)
Governing Board Meeting
June 20, 2026
9:30 a.m. Breakfast
10 a.m. Meeting

Room 216
Comstock Memorial Union
Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM)
615 14th Street South
Moorhead, Minnesota. 56563
and Zoom

<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/95947298840>

1. Call to Order.
2. Oath of Office. A warm welcome to Linda Schell.
3. Election of Officers. Joe Gould, President; Chizuko Shastri, Vice President; Karen Qualey, Treasurer; Christine Ayala Zierke, Secretary.
4. Approve Agenda, Minutes, Financial Reports.
5. Executive Director Annual Review. Candice Wachter Presentation.
6. Review and approve the following for Fiscal Year 2027:
 - a. Minnesota State Operating Grant MCMT Aid Application.
 - b. FY2027 NLLN Governing Board meetings.
 - c. Note: Meeting Dates FY2027: September, December, March, June.
 - d. NLLN/MSUM Lease.
7. Review and approve FY2027 NLLN Budget and MCMT MDE FY2026 Budget.
8. Approve Strategic Plan Draft.
9. Old Business.
 - a. Policy Updates.
 - b. MCMT Tuition Support
10. New Business.
 - a. NLLN Life Achievement Awards. Lina Belar and Charlie Lindberg.
 - b. Metro Surge Discussion. Bethany Hait.
 - c. Reports from the Region.

Refer to *The Director's Report* for NLLN updates.

Kathy Enger is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: NLLN Governing Board Meeting

Time: Jun 20, 2026 09:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/95947298840>

Meeting ID: 959 4729 8840

One tap mobile

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+13092053325,,95947298840# US

Join by SIP

• 95947298840@zoomcrc.com

Join instructions

<https://minnstate.zoom.us/join/95947298840?signature=WqG1MAntcdJs4DLDF5nKPB0gA6df9UO71RD2fX2m-o>

Northern Lights Library Network

Funded by the Minnesota Legislature through the Minnesota Department of Education, Northern Lights Library Network (NLLN) is one of seven Minnesota multicounty, multitype library cooperative systems. NLLN is comprised of two hundred eighty academic, public, school, and special libraries in twenty-three counties in North-Central, Northwest, and West-Central Minnesota. NLLN works at the grassroots level to bring together all types of libraries and collections in the region to discover, enhance, and share resources through administrative, technological, and educational support.

Northern Lights Library Network covers a geographic region of 26,950 square miles (Minnesota is comprised of 86,939 square miles), and includes the following twenty-three counties: Becker, Beltrami, Cass, Clay, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Douglas, Grant, Hubbard, Kittson, Mahanomen, Marshall, Norman, Otter Tail, Pennington, Polk, Pope, Red Lake, Roseau, Stevens, Traverse, Wadena, and Wilkin.

The Northern Lights Library Network system consists of four regional public library systems; academic libraries on two campuses of the University of Minnesota at Crookston and Morris; Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System institutions on four campuses, including Minnesota State University Moorhead, Bemidji State University, Northland Community College, Minnesota State Community and Technical College, all located across the region in Moorhead, Bemidji, Thief River Falls, Wadena, and Fergus Falls; numerous private colleges; three tribal colleges, including Leech Lake, Red Lake, and White Earth; the Maamigin Achigaazo Community Library at White Earth; one hundred eighty-five school libraries in seventy-nine school districts, including public and charter schools, Bureau of Indian Affairs schools, and private schools; and a rich variety of special libraries in museums, county law libraries, hospitals, churches,

and early childhood programs.

Northern Lights Library Network reduces duplication of services by enhancing coordination among libraries. As resources are shared among libraries, services are expanded, and efficiency is improved. As a result, libraries offer services or programs they may not otherwise be able to afford.

The work performed by Northern Lights Library Network affects the direct service of its members and has an exponential effect on its client base. Northern Lights Library Network exists to recognize the kinds of library services people need at the local level and to determine the supporting structures required for local library systems to function successfully, taking into account the unique needs of people at the local level and the different types of libraries served.

A primary goal of Northern Lights Library Network is to bring resources from the state and national level to the local level. Another goal is to discover resources within the region and to share them universally.

Northern Lights Library Network is one of seven multi-county, multi-type library systems in Minnesota mandated by Minnesota Statute 134.351 to develop and maintain services including, but not limited to, “referral of users, intra-system reciprocal borrowing, cooperative collection development, cooperative reference services, staff development, research and development, cooperative storage facilities, and publicity and community relations.”

The five goals outlined in Minnesota Statute 134.351 for multi-county, multi-type systems include:

- Sharing Resources Among all Participating Libraries*
- Providing Long-range Planning for Cooperative Programs*
- Developing a Delivery System for Services and Programs*
- Developing a Bibliographic Database*
- Maintaining a Communications System Among all Cooperating Libraries*

The seven multi-county, multi-type systems perform the following functions: Develop library staffs professionally; improve local library collections; sponsor and support funding for libraries; champion libraries; create, develop, and maintain library programs that enrich the lives of Minnesotans; move the discipline of Library and Information Science forward; and lead and administer their own nonprofit agencies. The seven systems are governed by regional boards.

There are twelve regional public library systems in Minnesota that serve public libraries, while the seven multi-type systems serve all types of libraries.