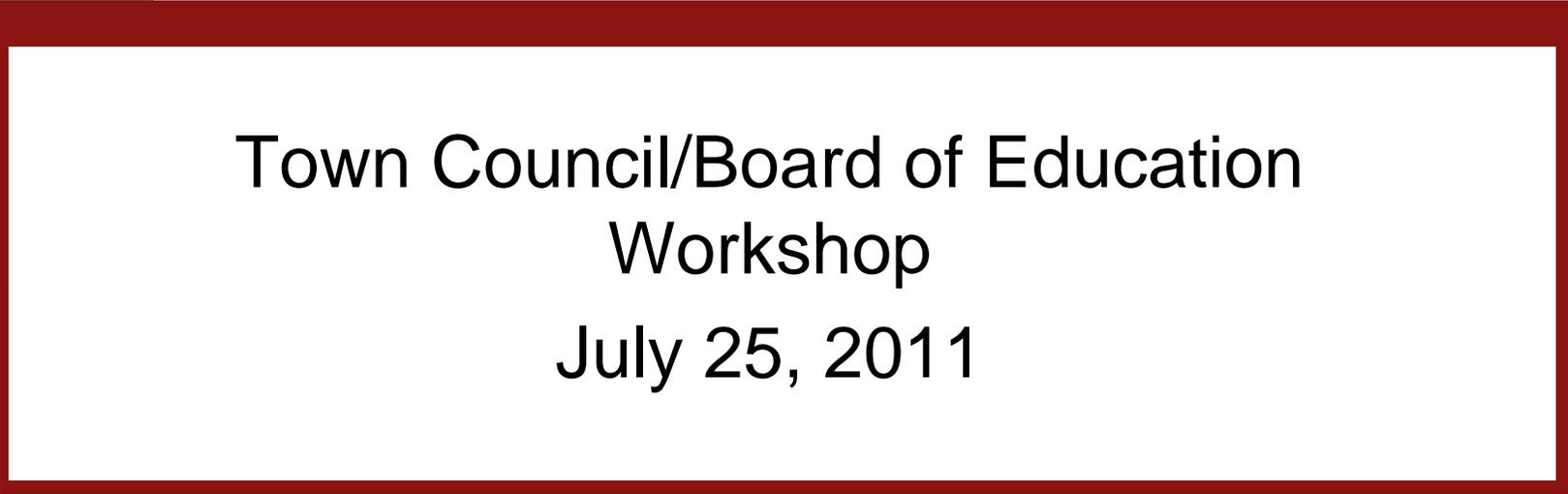




Town of Mansfield  
& Mansfield Public Schools  
**Shared Library Services**



Town Council/Board of Education  
Workshop  
July 25, 2011

# Mansfield 2020: Regionalism Vision Point

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- Mansfield is a leader in developing regional strategies for addressing common concerns such as public works and infrastructure, public health and safety, education, economic development, transportation, natural resources, housing, health and recreation. Shared resources and expertise and other cooperative efforts lead to economies of scale, preservation of resources, and improved quality of life.

# Regionalism/shared services

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- Conversations with area towns & COG
  - Economic development
  - Police services
  - Parks and recreation
- Shared services w/Mansfield Public Schools
  - Finance
  - Facilities management
  - Grounds
  - Information technology

# Library services

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- Library services – do we have an opportunity to strengthen our existing partnership and enhance both programs over time?
- Successful partnership
  - Shared librarian
  - Programs
    - Summer reading programs
    - Librarian visits to schools

# Conceptual ideas to enhance existing collaboration

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- Shared director
  - MLS
  - School certification
- Additional shared librarian(s)
- Consolidate technical processing
- Joint purchasing
- Joint programming
  - ESL programming
  - Transportation (using school buses)

# Why should we consider these ideas?

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- Turnover in key positions
- Successful collaboration to date
- Long history of shared services (finance, facilities, IT)
- Periodic assessment as good management practice
- Budget concerns – what is the best structure to maintain existing services and grow over the long-term? How do we remain a “community of choice?”

# Potential opportunities

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- Share administration to maximize program staffing
- Facilitate communications & solidify partnership
- Additional program staff for public library
- Additional library services for schools
- Promote lifelong learning – build connections to library during early years
- Flexibility to withstand economic and budget challenges
- Enhanced town/school district relations (“one community”)

# Key issues

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- Different but complimentary missions
- Staff capacity
- Onsite supervision
- Concern that model would dilute programs and services
- Other

# Next steps

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- Council and MBOE consensus that Town Manager & Superintendent should investigate
- Town & district library staff to critically evaluate
- Review findings and seek input from Library Advisory Board
- Seek input from other key stakeholders
  - Friends of the Library
  - Community at-large
- Report to Council and MBOE by late September

# Q & A

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