

## NEW ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER TO BE HIRED IN COON RAPIDS

by ACR Staff

Coon Rapids City Hall is taking applications until tomorrow, Oct. 14, for a newly created position that carries the title Assistant City Manager. The pay range will fall between \$81,286 and \$101,628, based on qualifications.

Leaving city employ is Joyce Hottinger, who had served as the city's Human Resources Coordinator, and will continue in a similar capacity with the League of Minnesota Cities, a private firm in St. Paul that lobbies for city governments.

The changes proposed by city manager Matt Fulton were described as a "modification" in the city council meeting packet of Sept. 20.

Fulton's description for the city council reads as follows:

"The current Human Resources position is responsible for the oversight and daily administration of the organizational human resources needs. This includes supervision and management of personnel recruitments and records management, administration and management of personnel benefits such as health life and other insurance benefits timely and effective management of daily personnel issues that arise, oversight and general management of the organizational wellness program and employee training, administration of the Minnesota Pay Equity Act and providing leadership with the Collective Bargaining process involving the City's four labor groups.

"The current staffing levels for handling these functions include the Human Resource Coordinator, the Assistant Human Resources Coordinator, and recently, a portion of a part-time position established as part of the City Clerk Reorganization effort.

"The proposed position would continue to serve in this capacity although over the past year some of the responsibilities have shifted to the Assistant Coordinator in order to allow more opportunity for the Coordinator to become more involved in general management activities such as the process improvement program and in the development and management of workload and success measures. These are activities that have been discussed with Council and are anticipated in the 2012 budget.

"... To accommodate these additional responsibilities I am proposing to adjust the pay classification from a Grade 26 (\$6,105 to \$7,634/month) to Grade 27 (\$6,774-\$8,469/month) . . . The position title would be changed to Assistant City Manager, and, while not a department director, would be part of my management team.

"This action supports the council's long term strategy of providing Excellence in Governance. Over 70% of the city's budget relates to personnel. This position plays a critical part in supporting the organizational needs of our employees. The modified position will also provide primary management leadership in helping to ensure and quantify performance excellence and accountability with the services provided by the community."

The position was posted in a document dated Sept. 23, which read, in part:

"Responsibilities generally include overseeing and managing all day-to-day Human Resources activities; maintaining the City's compensation program; researching, developing and implementing Process Improvement policies and programs; general supervision of cable television activities; coordinating efforts in utilizing social networking tools, and providing operational and administrative direction to administration department staff members.

"The ideal candidate will have extensive experience in human resources, labor



Coon Rapids City Manager Matt Fulton

## AFSCME union representative for Lino Lakes, files for Lino Lakes council seat

by ACR Staff

The Oct. 27 issue of the Anoka County Record will present a listing of all candidates and races that will be on the ballot Election Day Nov. 8.

In the city of Lino Lakes, the mayor's seat and two council seats are up for election.

Tim Henderson, an AFSCME union business agent, filed for one of the seats. He currently represents employees in the Cities of Lino Lakes, Ramsey, Champlin, Dayton, Mounds View, and Lexington, and employees with the state Department of Corrections.

Henderson supports sending out citizen surveys with city newsletters, addressing resident needs by offering a warm welcome feeling to City Hall, and focusing on long range goals. Henderson is endorsed by AFSCME Council 5, 49ers Public Works Employees Union, and Local 82 Minneapolis Fire Fighters.

Incumbent Dave Roeser, and challengers Matthew Kassner, Sam Larson, Byron Roland and Dale Stoesz make up the field for the council seats.

First-term mayor Jeff Reinert will face opposition from Ivy Cavegn, a 6-year resident of the city and a member of its Community Emergency Response Team.

Kathi Gallup, who was the sole "no" vote on the 2010 resolution that made English the city's official language, chose not to run for re-election.



PARADE

SAT.  
OCT. 29

1 PM

Downtown  
Anoka

**NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUGS  
TAKE BACK DAY  
SATURDAY, OCT. 29**

**Turn in unused or expired medication  
for safe disposal**

10 AM - 2 PM

**COON RAPIDS POLICE DEPT.**  
11155 Robinson Dr NW

10 AM - 2 PM

**ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
13301 Hanson Blvd NW, ANDOVER  
(763) 323-5000

**NEW ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER**  
*Continued on next page, A-2*





**GAS STATIONS** *continued from B-1***CHAPTER 8****PREPAYMENT FOR GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL  
AT RETAIL FUEL BUSINESSES**

8-1501 Purpose. The City Council finds that reports of theft as a result of gas/diesel fuel drive offs without paying are on the increase. Council further finds that the man hours spent by the Police Department along with administrative backup associated therewith detracts from proactive policing opportunities in regard to other community matters and more serious crimes. The City Council therefore determines that it is in the best interest of the City and its citizens to provide for the prepayment for gasoline and diesel fuel at retail fuel businesses.

8-1502 Definitions. For the purposes of this Chapter the following definitions apply:

(1) "Employee" means the person(s), other than the owner or manager/supervisor, employed to perform services on the premises of a retail fuel business and who have no supervisory responsibilities.

(2) "Manager/supervisor" means the person(s) granted authority or responsibility by the owner for the operations of the retail fuel business.

(3) "Owner" means the individual, group, corporation, partnership, joint venture or other group or entity that owns a retail fuel business.

(4) "Payment" means payment by any legal means, including cash, credit card, debit card, check, or otherwise. Presenting a form of payment to be finalized at the conclusion of the transaction shall be considered payment in full.

8-1503 Prohibited Conduct. No retail fuel business owner, manager/supervisor or employee shall:

(1) Activate any gasoline or diesel fuel pumping device prior to receiving payment in full for the gasoline or diesel fuel; or

(2) Allow or permit any person to dispense gasoline or diesel fuel from a pumping device at a retail fuel business unless the person has first made payment in full.

8-1504 Violation. Any person or business establishment who violates any provision of this Chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Introduced this 6th day of September 2011

Adopted this day of \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Howe, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine M. Sorensen, City Clerk

**PROPAGANDA MACHINE**

*continued from page B-1*

That's a relief.

Here are four questions to ask the school board. If they can't answer these three questions to your satisfaction, then a "no" vote on the levy is in order.

Question #1: Labor costs are by far the biggest driver of school district expenses. Thus, holding down labor costs is critical to managing district finances.

Name the last time that district teachers had their pay reduced. Not frozen, but reduced. Moreover, define what you mean by a wage "freeze."

This is where Watchdogs must know a little about school finances and how school districts dupe taxpayers.

Teachers receive pay raises through three, yes three, mechanisms.

First, there is the COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment). This is a raise that is applied to the whole teacher pay grid. Every square on the grid is boosted by the COLA.

Second, there are "step increases." Teachers vertically on the pay scale and receive a pay increase for every "step" they take. A step increase is usually done once a year. There is no requirement to advance other than avoiding being fired. If you survived the school year without being fired, you get a step increase.

Third, there is a "lane" increase. A lane increase moves teachers across the pay grid horizontally. Teachers move "lanes" and get pay raises for every lane, by accumulating education credits towards a master's or PhD level of education.

Now here's what's important!

School districts will often freeze the COLA but still offer step and lane increases.

They call this a pay freeze, but it isn't a pay freeze like the real world thinks of a pay freeze.

In the world of labor relations, this is called a "soft" freeze.

A "hard" freeze is one in which all three pay enhancement mechanisms are frozen.

Beware, because Anoka-Hennepin pulled a "soft" freeze in a previous contract negotiation, which was settled this past January.

And just this week, the district settled its latest contract with the teachers.

The details haven't been released, but Watchdog sources report this is another "soft" freeze.

So beware the district poohbahs who proclaim that wages have been frozen.

Odds are that teachers are still getting pay raises.

So when was the last time teacher wages were cut?

So when was the last time teacher wages were subjected to a hard freeze?

If the district has money for pay raises, they don't need a levy.

Question #2: About ten years ago, the district offered a levy campaign that talked about "excellence." The district now speaks of results that merely "exceed" the average.

On average, only 78% of district students are proficient in reading. On average, only 59% of district students are proficient in math.

When 2 out of ten don't read to grade level and 4 in 10 aren't proficient in math, it's nothing to brag about.

Moreover, the district as a whole is not making adequate yearly progress under federal law.

Some 26 schools in the district aren't making adequate yearly progress as well.

How will a successful levy guarantee better test scores?

What is the specific return on levy investment taxpayers will see?

What is the consequence if those goals aren't met? What changes will be made? Who will be held accountable?

We always hear about the need for money. Money goes up, yet the results never materialize.

More money doesn't equal better results. Just ask the private inner city schools that do so much more with so few resources.

Question #3: Contrary to all the hype, K-12 funding was increased this past legislative session, despite the massive budget deficit.

For example, the per pupil funding formula was increased by \$50 per student.

Explain how this increased funding will be used. Moreover, what reserves does the district have? How will they be used?

Question #4: While others may not want to acknowledge it, there is a major problem with a certain employee.

The Watchdog wrote recently about an employee who was relieved of his principal duties but was still on the district payroll, facing allegations for paying for sex with an underage girl and downloading pornography on a taxpayer-reimbursed cell phone.

The employee still has not cooperated with law enforcement.

The county attorney concluded there was probable cause to charge the employee but not enough to prove criminal guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, in part because the underage witness was deemed unreliable.

The school board in August voted 4-2 against a motion to terminate the employee.

The school board needs to explain exactly why it refused to terminate this employee and why he is still on the payroll.

Thus far, the school board has given taxpayers no reason to feel good about this employee remaining on the payroll.

If the school board can't manage its employees, there is no reason for us to support a levy.

Get educated and don't be afraid to ask the tough questions!



# Anoka County GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Meetings are subject to change of time or date — call ahead to verify

## Anoka County Board

Anoka County Government Center  
2100 3rd Ave  
Anoka, MN 55303-5024  
Ph.: 763-323-5700  
www.co.anoka.mn.us

**Tues. Oct. 25**  
Management Cmte. — 8:30 am  
County Board reg. mtg. — 9:30 am  
(both meetings to be held at Anoka Co. Government Center, Room 705)

**Wed. Oct. 26**  
Anoka Co. Joint Law Enforcement Council —  
2:00 pm, Blaine Police Dept., 10801  
Town Square, Blaine

**Fri. Oct. 28**  
Anoka Co. Board members may attend Corrosion  
Control meeting, 8 am, Rm 772 ACGC

**Mon. Oct. 31**  
Public Works Cmte — 9 am, Rm 772 ACGC

## Andover

Andover City Hall  
1685 Crosstown Blvd NW  
Andover, MN 55304  
Ph: 763-755-5100  
www.ci.andover.mn.us

**Tues. Oct. 18 & Nov. 1**  
City Council — 7 pm

**Thurs. Oct. 20 & Nov. 3**  
Parks Comm. — 7 pm

**Tues. Oct. 25**  
Special City Council Workshop — 7 pm

## Anoka

Anoka City Hall  
2015 1st Ave. N.  
Anoka, MN 55303-2270  
Ph: 763-576-2700  
www.ci.anoka.mn.us

**Mon. Oct. 17 & Nov. 7**  
City Council — 7 pm

**Tues. Oct. 18**  
Park Board — 7 pm

**Wed. Oct. 19**  
Parking Advisory Board — 7:15 am

**Thurs. Oct. 20**  
Lower Rum River WMO — 8:30 am

**Tues. Nov. 1**  
Planning Comm. — 7 pm

**Applications now being taken until Nov. 1 or until positions are filled, on City of Anoka commissions: Charter; EDA; Heritage Prsrv; Parking Adv. Bd; Parks Bd; Planning Comm; Utility Advisory Bd; Waste Reduct./Recycling Bd; Information from City Clerk's Office at: 763-576-2712, or email aoeblers@ci.anoka.mn.us.**

## Bethel

Bethel City Hall  
165 Main St. / PO Box 64  
Bethel, MN 55005  
Ph: 763-434-4366  
www.bethelmn.govoffice2.com

**Tues. Nov. 1**  
Planning & Zoning Comm. — 7 pm

**Thurs. Oct. 20 & Nov. 3**  
City Council — 7 pm

## Blaine

Blaine City Hall  
10801 Town Square Dr NE  
Blaine, MN 55449  
Ph: 763-784-6700  
www.ci.blaine.mn.us

**Thurs. Oct. 13, Oct. 20, Nov. 3**  
City Council — 6:30 pm (Workshop);  
7:30 pm (meeting)

**Tues. Oct. 25**  
Park Board — 7 pm

## Centerville

Centerville City Hall  
1880 Main St  
Centerville, MN 55038  
Ph: 651-429-3232  
centervillemn.com

**Wed. Oct. 26**  
City Council — 6:30 pm

**Wed. Nov. 2**  
Parks & Rec. Cmte. — 6:30 pm

## Circle Pines

Circle Pines City Hall  
200 Civic Heights Circle  
Circle Pines, MN 55014  
Ph: 763-784-5898  
www.ci.circle-pines.mn.us

**Mon. Oct. 17**  
Planning Comm. — 7 pm

**Wed. Oct. 19**  
Utilities Comm. — 4:30 pm

**Tues. Oct. 25**  
City Council — 7 pm

## Columbia Heights

Columbia Heights City Hall  
590 40th Ave NE  
Columbia Heights, MN 55421  
Ph: 763-706-3600  
www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

**City Council meetings**  
2nd and 4th Mondays — 7 pm

**Library Board**  
1st Wednesdays — 6:30 pm, Library

**Parks & Rec. Commission**  
4th Wednesdays — 5:30 pm. Murzyn Hall

**Planning Commission**  
1st Tuesday — 7 pm

**Traffic Commission**  
1st Monday — 6:00 pm

**Charter Commission**  
Thurs. Oct. 20 — 7 pm

**HRA**  
Tues. Oct. 25 — 7 pm

## Columbus

Columbus City Hall  
16319 Kettle River Blvd.  
Columbus, MN 55025  
Ph: 651-464-3120  
www.ci.columbus.mn.us

**Wed. Oct. 19**  
Planning Comm. — 7 pm

**Thurs. Oct. 20**  
Park Board — 6:30 pm

**Wed. Oct. 26**  
City Council — 7 pm

**Wed. Nov. 2**  
Planning Comm. — 7 pm

## Coon Rapids

Coon Rapids City Hall  
11155 Robinson Dr.  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433  
Ph: 763-755-2880  
www.coonrapidsmn.gov

**Tues. Oct. 18 & Nov. 1**  
City Council — 7 pm

**Thurs. Oct. 20**  
Planning Comm. — 6:30 pm

**Thurs. Nov 3**  
Board of Adjustmt. & Appeals — 6:30 pm

**NEXT IN THE ANOKA COUNTY RECORD — a look at the candidates for the Nov. 8 election. Candidates are invited to send their statements to us for publication.**

## East Bethel

East Bethel City Hall  
2241 - 221st Avenue NE  
East Bethel, MN 55011  
Ph: 763-367-7840  
eastbethel.govoffice.com

**Wed. Oct. 19**  
EDA — 7 pm; City Council — 7:30 pm

**Tues. Oct. 25**  
Planning Commission — 7 pm

**Wed. Oct. 26 Town Hall Meeting**  
City Council Chambers/Senior Center; Open  
House 6 pm followed by Q & A 7 pm in council  
chambers

## Fridley

Fridley City Hall  
6431 University Ave NE  
Fridley, MN 55432  
Ph: 763-571-3450  
www.ci.fridley.mn.us

**Mon. Oct. 17**  
Budget Work Session — 6 pm

**Wed. Oct. 19**  
Planning Comm. — 7 pm

**Thurs. Oct. 24**  
City Council — 7 pm (pre-meeting); 7:30 pm

**Tues. Nov. 1**  
Environmental Quality & Energy Comm. — 7 pm

## Ham Lake

Ham Lake City Hall  
15544 Central Ave NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
Ph: 763-434-9555  
www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Hours: M-Th 7 AM - 4:30 PM Fri: 7 AM-12 NOON

**Mon. Oct. 17 & Nov. 7**  
City Council — 6 pm

**Wed. Oct 19**  
Park & Tree Comm. — 6 pm

**Mon. Oct. 24**  
Planning Comm. — 6 pm

## Hilltop

Hilltop City Hall  
4555 Jackson St. NE  
Hilltop, MN 55421  
Ph: 763-571-2023

**City Council — 1st & 3rd Mon., 7 pm**

## Lexington

Lexington City Hall  
9180 Lexington Av  
Lexington, MN 55014  
Ph: 763-784-2792  
www.ci.lexington.mn.us

**Mon. Nov. 7**  
Park Board — 6:30 pm

**Thurs. Oct 20 & Nov. 3**  
City Council — 7 pm

## Lino Lakes

Lino Lakes City Hall  
600 Town Center Pkwy  
Lino Lakes, MN 55014  
Ph: 651-982-2400  
www.ci.lino-lakes.mn.us

**Thurs. Oct. 13**  
Charter Comm. — 6:30 pm

**Mon. Oct 24**  
City Council Work Session & Mtg — 5:30 pm

**Wed. Oct. 26**  
Environmental Board — 6:30 pm

October							November						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

**Linwood Township**

Linwood Town Hall  
22817 Typo Creek Dr. NE  
Linwood, MN 55079  
Ph: 651-462-2812  
linwoodtownship.org

**Tues. Oct. 18**  
Planning Comm. — 7 pm

**Mon. Oct. 24**  
Park & Rec. Comm. — 7 pm

**Tues. Oct. 25**  
Town Board Meeting — 6 pm

**Next Annual Meeting:** March 13, 2012

**Nowthen**

Nowthen City Hall  
8188 199th Ave. NW  
Elk River, MN 55330  
Ph: 763-441-1347  
www.nowthenmn.govoffice2.com

**Mayor's Saturday hours at city hall**  
2nd Saturdays — 9 am  
**Call City Hall for meeting dates**

**Oak Grove**

Oak Grove City Hall  
19900 Nightingale St. NW  
Oak Grove, MN 55011  
Ph: 763-404-7000  
oakgrove.govoffice.com

**Wed. Oct. 19**  
Park Comm. — 7 pm

**Thurs. Oct. 20**  
Planning Comm. — 7 pm

**Mon. Oct. 31**  
City Council — 7 pm (EDA 8 pm or follows CC)

**Ramsey**

Ramsey Municipal Center  
7550 Sunwood Dr. NW  
Ramsey, MN 55303  
Ph: 763-427-1410  
Fax: 763-427-5543  
www.ci.ramsey.mn.us

**Tues. Oct. 18**  
Public Works Cmte — 5:30 pm (followed by city council worksession)

**Thurs. Oct. 20**  
Mayor's Town Hall Mtg. — 7 pm  
Special Planning Comm. mtg. — 7 pm

**Tues. Oct. 25 & Tues. Nov. 1**  
City Council worksession — 5:30 pm  
City Council mtg. — 7 pm  
HRA (Nov. 1) — follows council meeting

**St. Francis**

St. Francis City Hall  
23340 Cree St. NW  
St. Francis, MN 55070  
Ph: 763-753-2630  
stfrancis.govoffice.com

Hours: M-Th 7AM-5:30 PM (Closed Fri)  
Meetings held at ISD #15 offices  
4115 Ambassador Blvd NW

**City Council**  
1st & 3rd Mondays — 6 pm

**Planning Comm.**  
3rd Wednesday — 7 pm

**Spring Lake Park**

Spring Lake Park City Hall  
1301 81st Ave NE  
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432  
Ph: 763-784-6491  
www.ci.spring-lake-park.mn.us

**City Council**  
1st & 3rd Mondays — 7 pm

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

**Anoka-Hennepin School District #11**

11299 Hanson Blvd NW  
Coon Rapids MN 55433  
Ph.: (763) 506-1000  
http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us  
School Board mtgs 6:30 pm **Oct. 24, Nov. 14**

**Centennial School District #12**

4707 North Rd  
Circle Pines, MN 55014  
Ph.: (763) 792-6000  
isd12.org

School Board Meetings  
**Mon. Oct. 17** — Special closed mtg 5:30 pm  
(Work session to follow)  
**Mon. Nov. 7** — 6:30 pm

**Columbia Heights School Dist. #13**

1440 49th Ave NE  
Columbia Heights, MN 55421  
Ph.: (763) 528-4436  
columbia.mn.schoolwebpages.com

School Board Meetings  
**Tues. Oct. 18** 5:30 pm (Work Session)  
**Tues. Oct. 25** 7 pm

**Elk River Area School Dist. #728**

815 Hwy 10  
Elk River, MN 55330  
Ph.: (763) 241-3400

School Board mtgs 2nd and 4th Monday,  
"generally at" Elk River City Hall, council  
chambers, 13065 Orono Pkwy. — 7 pm  
"Listening Sessions" with public, 2nd Mondays  
— 6:30 pm

**Forest Lake School Dist. #831**

6100 N 210th St  
Forest Lake, MN 55025  
Ph.: (651) 982-8100

School Board meetings: held, with a few  
exceptions, at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of  
each month in the District Office Boardroom,  
6100 N. 210th St., Forest Lake.  
Listening Sessions: Residents are invited to  
speak informally with representatives of the  
board, prior to regular meetings, at 6 p.m.

**Fridley School Dist. #14**

6000 W Moore Lake Dr  
Fridley, MN 55432  
Ph.: (763) 502-5000  
fridley.k12.mn.us

School Board Meetings held at Fridley City  
Hall, 6431 University Ave NE  
Work Sessions — 5:30 pm, Public Comment —  
7 pm; Meeting — 7:30 pm

**Tues. Oct. 18, Nov. 15**  
**Truth in Taxation hearing Dec. 20** — 7 pm

**St. Francis School Dist. #15**

4115 Ambassador Blvd  
St. Francis, MN 55070  
Ph.: (763) 753-7040  
stfrancis.k12.mn.us

School Board mtgs 2nd & 4th Mondays 6:30 pm  
Public comment; Meeting 7 pm

**Spring Lake Park School Dist. #16**

1415 81st Ave NE  
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432  
Ph.: (763) 786-5570  
School Board mtgs 2nd Tuesday 7 pm  
4th Tuesday scheduled as needed

**White Bear Lake School Dist. #624**

4855 Bloom Ave  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110-5418  
Ph.: (651) 407-7501  
whitebear.k12.mn.us

School Board mtgs  
**Mon. Oct. 24** (Work session) — 5:30 pm  
**Mon. Nov. 14** — 7 pm

**ANOKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

1318 McKay Dr NE #300  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
Ph.: (763) 434-2030  
anokaswcd.org

**Mon. Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19** — 5:00 pm

**VOTE TUESDAY NOV. 8th!  
GENERAL ELECTION FOR  
SCHOOL BOARDS:**

- Anoka-Hennepin ISD #11
- Fridley ISD #14
- St. Francis ISD #15
- Spring Lake Park ISD #16
- White Bear Lake ISD #624
- Forest Lake ISD #831

- LINO LAKES**  
City Council
- CIRCLE PINES**  
City Council



Meetings are subject to change of time  
or date — call ahead to verify

**ANOKA COUNTY RECORD**

Vol. 1 No. 2 Oct. 13, 2011

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55421-0014  
(763) 220-0411**

editor@anokacountyrecord.com

**The Anoka County Record is also available on our website:  
anokacountyrecord.com**

**NEXT ISSUES:  
OCT. 27  
(Deadline Oct. 24)  
NOV. 10  
(Deadline Nov. 7)**

**Conversation Circle**

**Crooked Lake Library**

11440 Crooked Lake Blvd, Coon Rapids  
Phone 763-576-5972

**Saturdays 11:00-11:45 am**

**October 1 - November 19**

**If English is not your first language, come and practice in casual conversation.**

**A Conversation Circle is...**

a weekly gathering of adults who practice everyday conversational English

Come when you can!

Meet once a week for 1-2 hours.

You need to speak some English to participate.

**Why Join Circle?**

- Practice speaking English in a friendly environment
- Learn new English words and reduce your accent
- Learn about American culture
- Build confidence speaking English
- Learn about the library
- Make new friends and learn from each other

