

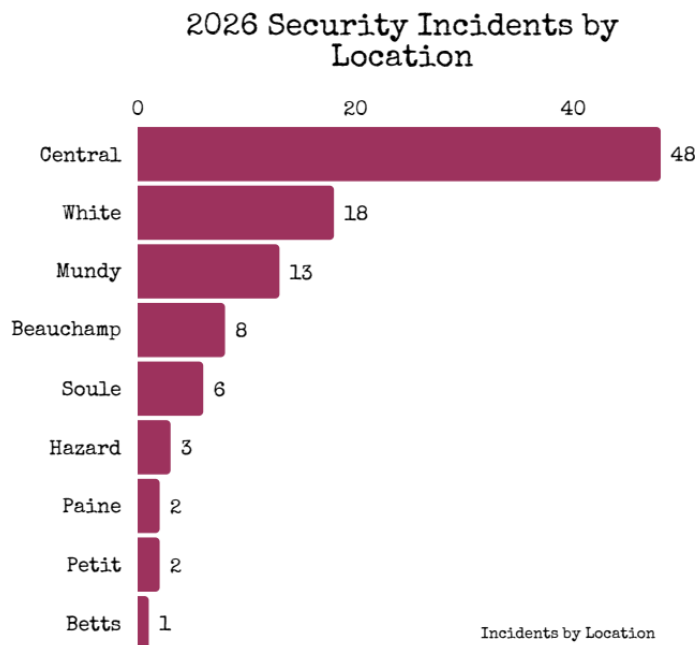
Report to Board

June, 2026

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Major Updates

- Petit
 - Still on a holding pattern
- Security
 - Central is still in the 90-day trial of extra guards
 - We have a second CET at White currently. This is always needed in the summer, but we would like to see it year-round beginning in 2027.



Strategic Pathways Updates

Q2 Metrics will be given at the July Board Meeting.

- Share and Sustain Success
 - Social Media and Collections by Katie Hayduke, Acquisitions Manager
 - One of the major goals with our social media presence has been to highlight the collection. Since the pandemic, our print circulation has gone down (but is back on the incline). With the use of new library trends in social media, it gives us an opportunity to promote what the library has to offer.
 - A video highlighting favorite books staff had read in August 2025 led to an increase in requests. For example, the title “Slewfoot” was published in April

of 2023. We had only 2 print copies in the system. We had it available in Hoopla but not available in Overdrive. After the video came out, I saw that 3 people requested the title through Overdrive. I then noticed about 5 holds on print. I ordered five copies for the city branches which has led to a total circulation of 36 times in 8 months. Our Overdrive E-book title has been checked out 19 times in 10 months.

- This is just one example of what the power a video can do for the library and the books it has available to its readers. We recently had a video hit over 2 million views that highlighted some romance titles. Although those titles weren't the center of attention, it was enough to create conversation and see some new activity here in OCPL Central library. Not only has it gained local attention, but national attention with authors sharing and commenting.
- I have had a driving passion to highlight the amazing work that the collection development team has done. I know that social media library presence has grown over the past few years. I have been patiently waiting for this chance. And with our current administration being open-minded and willing, we are now getting the opportunity to push our library into the future.
- Grow Services and Programs
 - FOCL lecture series completed its 2025-2026 season. The OnCenter was buzzing with anticipation for FOCL's TJ Klune lecture, with the most energized and interactive crowd of the season. Many of the attendees were carrying a personal copy of their favorite TJ Klune book with them, and so many conversations were struck up around favorite titles and characters in the line to make Pride-themed buttons. One older woman remarked to an even older woman with her that she was making a "Read Gay Books" button for her son because he, too, was a writer. The lecture itself, particularly TJ's discussion of the power of libraries on young readers, was so impactful that the message spread beyond the walls of the auditorium, with former OCPL employee Allie Comes sharing that she changed her remarks to a group of regional superintendents and school librarians at OCM BOCES annual Admin/Advocate and Support Person of the Year Awards after attending the lecture. Allie shared that while she had other remarks prepared, she instead shared that "I went to see TJ Klune last night at the Friends of Central Library (FOCL) Lecture Series. TJ talked about being a gay kid in rural Oregon. He talked about how the library was his safe space. He told us that the first person he came out to was his librarian. Who gave him a book with gay characters, which was the first time he saw gay individuals as main characters or any real gay representation in books. He attributes that book

and that librarian to launching his journey to become a NY times bestselling author. School libraries have never just been about the stuff. That is tertiary, libraries are where students feel seen, supported, and inspired."

- Expand Outreach and Partnerships
 - COSAC members met with the Member Services Team, and full funding was awarded for all 12 mini grants for a total of \$12,154. As part of this new Grant Writing experience, letters will be going out to all recipients outlining strengths and weaknesses to improve their grant writing skills.
 - Outreach & Partnership Anecdotes
 - At Big Rig Day, two young friends ran into each other at the OCPL table. One parent relayed that they were excited to find the young friend, because they had been talking about Big Rig Day at swimming lessons that morning, and their friend shared that they were most excited to visit the OCPL table and make a button.
 - With Seniors being a target population for the library system, we attended three Senior Fairs in the county – Zoo, Regional Market, OCC – and heard all of the phrases as mentioned in our Staff Day presentation. From loving libraries to not stepping foot in one for 20 years!
 - While highlighting Spanish Language Early Literacy Kits at the SCSD Family Literacy Day, families and community partners from Syracuse University Literacy Corps shared that they were so excited to learn that Mundy Library offers exciting, fun resources in their language and tailored to their community, resulting in the placement of three holds on the kits.
- Bolster Leadership
 - Staff Day – Please see attached report. Thank you for your support!
 - NYLA Spring on the Hill Summary - 5.19.2026
 - Submitted by: Jaclyn Bleich – Branch Manager at White Branch Library and Chair of the Advocacy Advisory Committee
 - I attended a one-day conference hosted by NYLA. The purpose of this conference is for librarians, leaders, trustees, and affiliates to learn about more in-depth library advocacy both on a state and national level. This was my second year attending.
 - I attended sessions of varying topics throughout that day that were beneficial to my role as both a Branch Manager and as a library advocate. One session I found particularly interesting was “Navigating the Seas of the Public Conversation” by Joe Bonilla,

Managing Partner/Senior Media Director of Relentless Awareness LLC. This session focused on learning about the constant changes in the media as well as provided tools to promote and defend library funding, such as social media tactics, appropriate use of AI and MBL (Model Based Learning) outlets, and navigating public relationships. Another session I found helpful to learn more about was “Library Training Presentation Fundamentals” by Stephanie “Cole” Adams, which focused on core presentation tactics for library advocates. Some tactics learned were knowing your audience, SOCO (Single Overriding Communications Objectives), and tactics to refocus when off track.

- As the Chair for the Advocacy Advisory Committee, I’m always looking for new tools to build confidence and raise advocacy awareness for the OCPL system. I find attending conferences like this help improve my ability to discuss advocacy tactics that are more than just awareness on NYS budgets. I will be encouraging more OCPL Staff, Trustees, and Leaders to attend conferences or similar trainings like this in the future.
- Emergent LeadFORWARD Retreat
 - The opportunity to attend a weeklong retreat focused on work/life integration was tremendous. This is by far the most impactful professional development opportunity I have taken part in. Discussions on values, creative competencies, VITAL goals, polarity management, storytelling, weekly success planning, both/and thinking, and transformation models. There were 8 other attendees and 2 main coaches, and those connections have continued through a WhatsApp group where we can chat and ask questions. I wish I could send my entire leadership team and am looking for ways to bring that experience to OCPL in a cost-effective way.

Extras

- More at the next Board meeting
 - Viral social media post
 - Pride
 - FOCL Donation
- Discussion: Website with Dane
- Advocacy: Summer Reading and Summer Reading Dragons Cards