



Ann Arbor District Library

May 6, 2013

Josie Barnes Parker
Director, Ann Arbor District Library

Dear Josie,

The Ann Arbor District Library Board of Trustees has completed its evaluation of your work over the past year. In each of the ten areas of your responsibility you have continued to excel. Since your salary is equitable with those in comparable positions, and at your request, we have agreed that, for the fourth year in a row, your salary will remain the same.

The fact that you continue to attract and empower talented people to the staff is evidenced by the fact that they are invited to travel nationally and internationally to speak on important issues about the changing nature of public library functions and are quoted in the national press.

The Board encourages you to continue the appropriate delegation of library functions to your excellent staff so that more of your time and effort can be addressed to public issues that require your expertise. Your contributions and leadership have been recognized in Governor Rick Snyder's appointment of you to serve as a commissioner on the Michigan Commission for the Blind. In addition, you continue to be seen as a national leader and are invited to participate in national initiatives.

The Board is pleased that the Library continues to operate with a balanced budget year after year while developing and providing new services and seeing increased use of the Library's services. It is particularly proud of the fact that this can be accomplished while meeting the need of additional maintenance to the aging Downtown facility.

It is with considerable pride that the Board recognizes how you have positioned the Library in the forefront of the direction that public libraries are moving today. There are unavoidable changes taking place in the publishing industry that are being addressed by public libraries all over the world. Other major public libraries look to the innovations of AADL as they adjust to the changing realities and expectations of their communities. We are in agreement with you and the desires of many of our patrons, that our community expects and deserves the benefit



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of a 21st century library that fulfills its mission of disseminating information in all the forms in which it is available. It's clear that the recognition from the Library Journal in awarding AADL a Five Star Rating for the fifth consecutive year indicates your achievement in directing the library toward that goal. This award is given on the basis of how libraries are utilized in the community in circulation, visits, program attendance and public internet use. In its category of libraries with budgets between \$10 million and \$29.99 million, not only was our library the only one in the state to receive this distinction, it ranked 4th in the nation in this category! That is quite an accomplishment!

Each year presents new choices and new demands. Ann Arbor is a special community, founded and built on learning and information. The Ann Arbor District Library has increasingly been central to our community and its growth and prosperity. It is therefore incumbent upon us to pay special attention to the strategic goal of maximizing the efficiency and utilization of the meeting rooms in all facilities to provide what the community deserves.

With appreciation for all you have done, the strong, thoughtful and caring attention to your staff, and in anticipation of working with you to meet the challenges ahead, the Board applauds you for another successful year as Director.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Prue Rosenthal".

Prue Rosenthal, Board President

Ann Arbor District Library Board of Trustees