District #7, Local Libraries Partner to Provide Access to Each Student

by Mary Ann Mitchell
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EDWARDSVILLE – For the past several months, District #7 has been working closely with the Edwardsville Public Library and other libraries in the District #7 footprint to provide each student enrolled in District #7 access to a public library card. That program is now active.

"This partnership between District #7 and the public libraries serving the school district allows us to provide access to all students," said Superintendent Dr. Patrick Shelton. "This is possible due to the cooperation of the local public libraries and an Intergovernmental Agreement between District #7 and the Edwardsville Public Library to provide access to students living outside of a library taxing area."

Student's cards will be registered at one of the following libraries based on their home address: Edwardsville Public Library, Glen Carbon Centennial Library, Worden Public Library, Wood River Public Library, Bethalto Public Library District, Maryville Community Library and Roxana Public Library. These libraries are all part of the Illinois Heartland Library System (IHLS) and share resources. As a result, students will be able to check out physical books from any of the libraries listed above. Electronic resources, including e-books/audiobooks are not shared, so access to databases and e-reading apps will vary based on the library the student is registered at.

"We are excited to be able to provide District #7 students with access to additional resources which will enhance their education."

There will be no physical cards issued by the library, instead each student's school ID will be their library card. Information on how to use the school ID as a library card was sent to families in a district communication.