MEETING THE UNIQUE NEEDS TO TEENS

REVIEW POLICIES

- Review Library Policies
  - Conduct Policy
  - Unattended Child Policy
  - Define library Space
  - Raise Community Awareness
  - Create/Conduct
  - Provide Staff Support Avoid Somethings or issues

ACTION

Define your library Space

- Sidewalk area for some libraries with the entrance and lawn if you have it.

- Raise community awareness

  ➢ Communication to parents and patrons and neighbors of the library

  ➢ You have to make everyone understand that you are trying to work all that are involved

STAFF SUPPORT

- Teen Brain (Understand and keep that in mind)

- Continuing Education Opportunities for staff to talk

- Difference between 6th and 8th grade

  - There brain is still growing, and we must remember that

  - All hands-on deck during those after school hours 3PM- 6:30PM (Depends on the library)

  - Offer patrons options

TROUBLE SHOOT

Troubleshooting

- Introduce yourself and ask the patron's name
- Get in the mix – straighten chairs/newspapers/pick up in house use books
- Ask if they need help (offer program, books, games)
- Have them find a chair
- Split them up
- **One verbal warning**
  - Ask if they need help.
  - State the behavior that must be corrected.
  - State that this is the only warning.
  - State consequence if behavior continues.
  - Do not use words to address continued misbehavior. Carry out consequence.

COMMENTS

- Do patrons need help. At will help keep the voices co down

What to do when...

Patrons are loud
- Computer lab
- Tables
- Outside on library grounds
- On sidewalk around library

What to say when someone says...

"Can't you do something about these kids? They take up all the computers after school!"

"I don't use the library after school anymore."

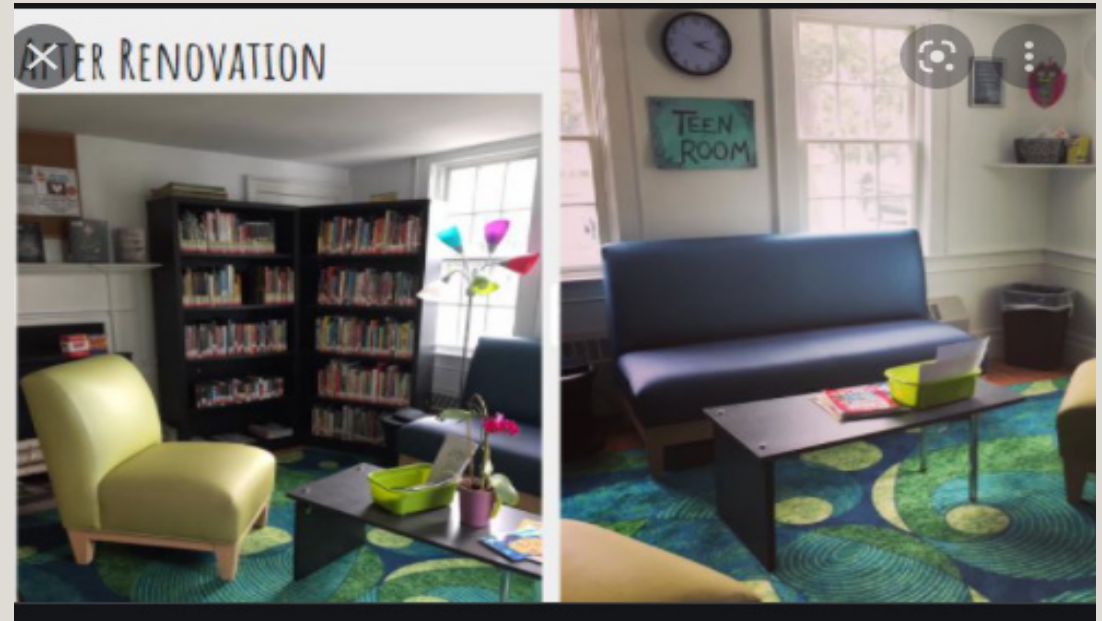"Do you feel like you're babysitting every day after school?"

TEEN SPACE

- Take pictures of the before and after space

IDEAS FOR TEEN SPACE

RESOURCES

- The Public Library of Brookline https://www.brooklinelibrary.org/teens/about-the-teen-room/

- Teen Space Policy

- ALA: Teen policy information   https://www.ala.org/search-results?as_q=Teen%20policies

- American Libraries (A place of their own) https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2016/09/01/library-teen-spaces-place-of-their-own/

- Transforming Teen Space (The 5 min Librarian Blog)