

KIRKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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SARAH SORRELLS ERWIN NAMED NEW DIRECTOR OF KIRKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Following a unanimous vote of the trustees of the Kirkwood Public Library, Sarah Sorrells Erwin will become Library Director just in time for the move back into the newly designed library at 140 E. Jefferson.

Erwin has served a vital role as Acting Director for 11 months, helping navigate the library through the many challenges that come with moving into temporary space in downtown Kirkwood.

Trustee president Randy Miltenberger called Erwin's tenure as acting director critical to the progress of the library. "The best thing Sarah has been able to do for us is keep everything together in the midst of all this activity. With the construction and the temporary space and constantly changing technology, this has been the most challenging time in the history of our library. And she's kept it all running smoothly."

A personnel committee from the board of trustees announced the open position through the Missouri Library Association and received interest from all over the country, a fact that bodes well for both Kirkwood and the library's reputation. After careful review, a shortlist of three candidates were invited for further examination. The entire board took part in the interview process before the committee made a recommendation and the board voted unanimously to award Erwin the position of Library Director.

Erwin, a 1997 Kirkwood High School graduate, calls her new position a dream come true. "I feel really lucky. Not only have I found something that I love to do, but I'm lucky enough to do it in the community where I grew up. I'm truly living a dream."

As for her immediate goals in the newly renovated library, Erwin is brimming with anticipation while trying to temper some enthusiasm. "We're so excited about the move even though it's during one of our busiest times. We'll have a grand opening party and have lots of community involvement in the new library, but first we want to make sure we have a smooth transition, get the right books on the right shelves and enjoy Summer Reading."

Erwin has served at Kirkwood Public Library since 2005, beginning as Director of Program and Youth Services. The renovated library at 140 E. Jefferson is scheduled to open in mid-July.

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