

MERIDIAN LIBRARY DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2017 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2018



@MeridianLibrary #myMLD



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

When I look back over the last year at MLD my heart swells with pride at the hard work, tenacity, creativity, and compassion that library staff demonstrates and expresses each day. While the Board of Trustees and Administration do the work of strategic planning and long-range facility planning to address the impacts of growth, the library staff at all levels, all locations, and all departments, consistently deliver high-quality service each and every day.

I'd like to share with you just one example:

Earlier this year I received an email from a grandmother who wrote to share how much her family appreciates the library. More specifically, she is helping to raise her grandson and the family couldn't afford preschool, but they regularly attended our preschool storytime as well as other free library programs for children. She wanted to tell me that her grandson had successfully registered for Kindergarten and passed all the measures with flying colors. He was prepared for school because they took advantage of the high-quality educational programs offered at our library.

At MLD we have over 80 enriching programs taking place each week at our locations. **Our library brings neighbors, friends, and families together in a place that makes it possible for anyone to feed their curiosity, build knowledge, and learn new skills.**

Books are Just The Beginning. The library isn't just a quiet place for learning. **Our libraries are dynamic community centers that allow Meridian residents to come together around shared goals and interests.** We look forward to connecting with you in 2019!



GRETCHEN CASEROTTI

Library Director

MLD MISSION AND VALUES

MISSION

Support our community by enriching lives, igniting curiosity, and cultivating connections.

VALUES

Empathy – We treat our members and colleagues with patience, compassion, and respect.

Pro-Knowledge – We are committed to lifelong learning. We give you access to the things you want and will help you find what you want to know.

Extraordinary – We strive for excellence in all areas and seek to exceed expectations. We do this by creating a culture of "yes" and demonstrating flexibility.

Relationships – We are a meeting place for the people of Meridian. We help make meaningful connections with our community.



2018 QUICK STATS

494,726
documented **VISITS**

➤ 9,500+ per week
1,400+ per day



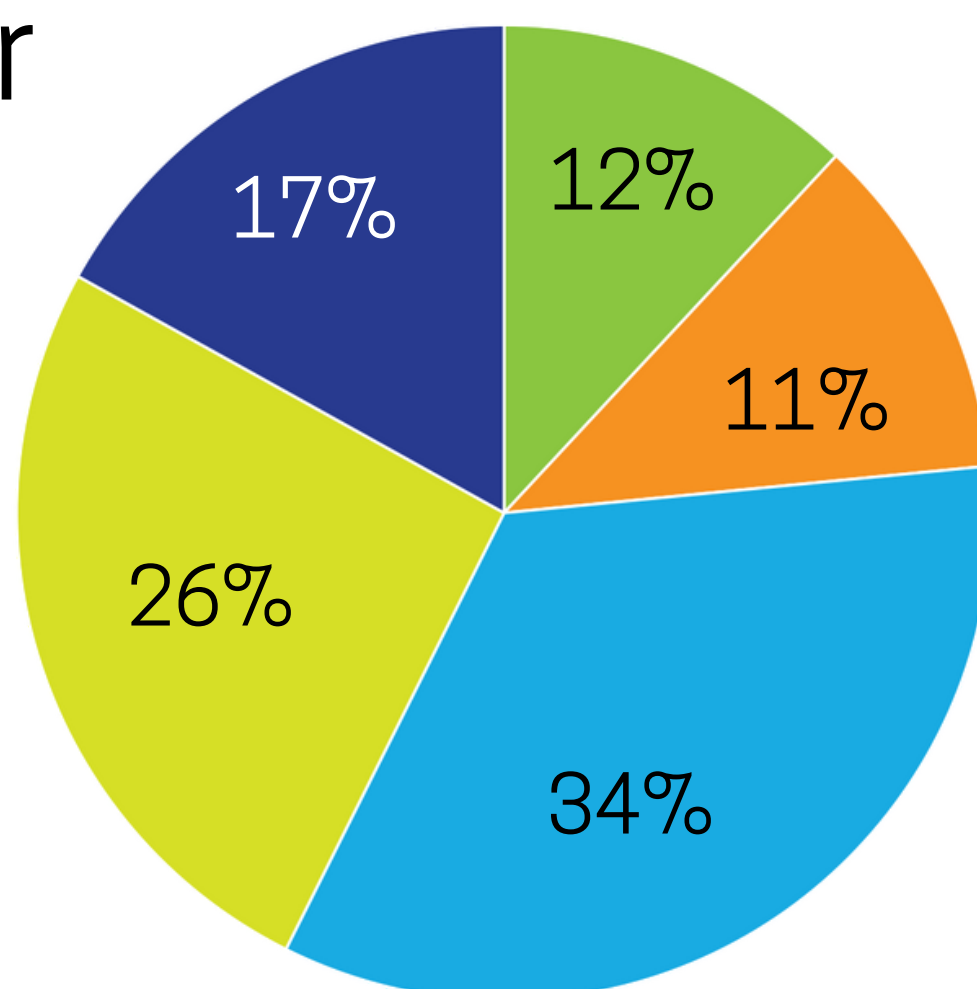
Almost **5X**
Meridian's total
population



libraries are for **EVERYONE**

Our Cardholders:

- Kids 0-12
- Teens 13-17
- Adults 18-39
- Adults 40-59
- Adults 60+



3.5 locations + 1 bookmobile

MLD employs
92 staff members

534 **volunteers**
logged 7,000+ hours

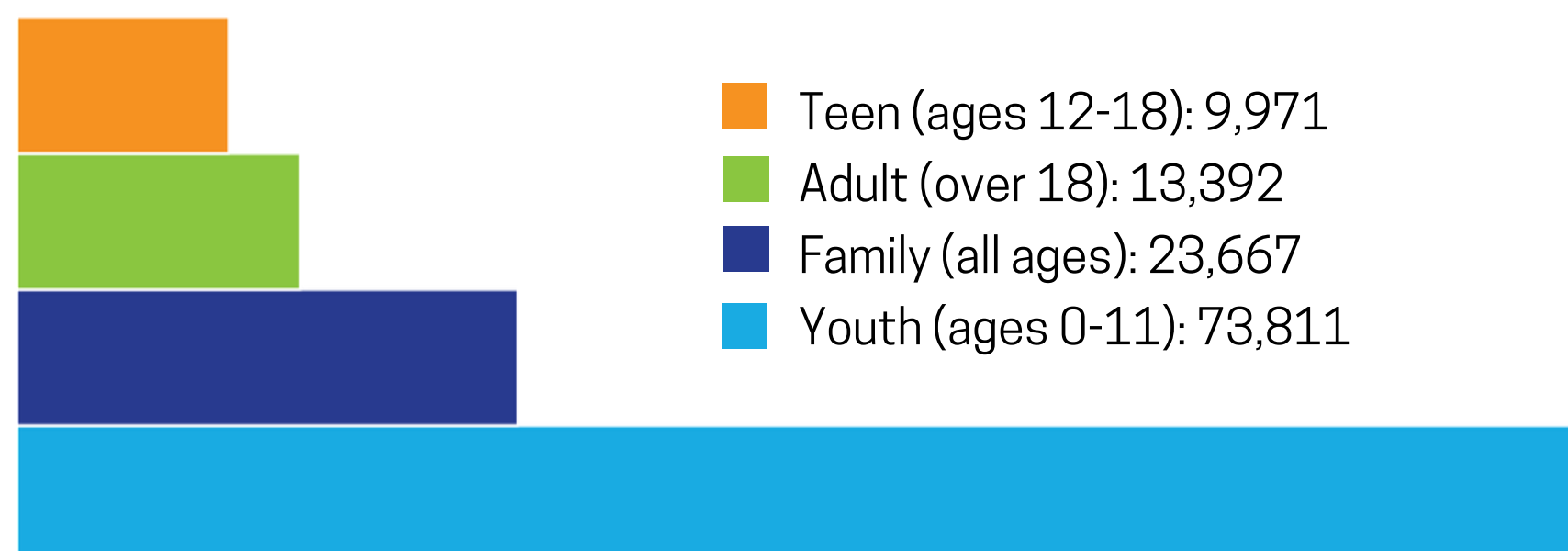


2018 QUICK STATS



Materials in our collection:

- 0.4%** Kits, Magazines, etc. 5,503
- 10%** Digital (ebooks, etc.) 158,238
- 35%** Adult Collection 538,028
- 55%** Youth Materials 854,915



- Teen (ages 12-18): 9,971
- Adult (over 18): 13,392
- Family (all ages): 23,667
- Youth (ages 0-11): 73,811

120,841 total attendees
were counted at **4,027**
PROGRAMS

1.6
million
checkouts



FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND STATISTICS

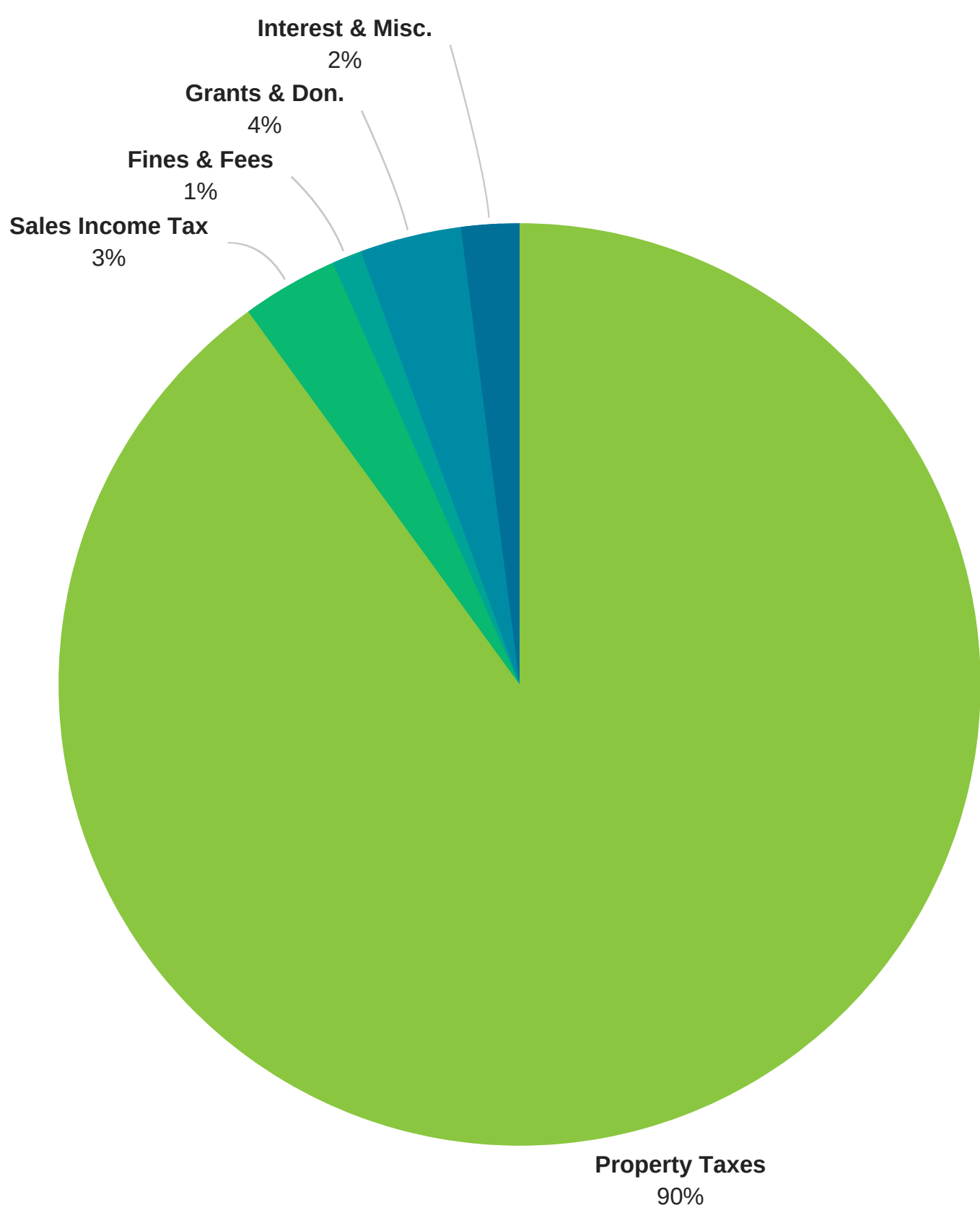
- Population of library district: 105,940 (*2017 Census*)
- Registered card holders in district: 54,197
- Non-resident cardholders: 278
- Annual budget: \$5,164,208
- Unique visits to branches: 494,726
- Youth impact programs: 2,957
- Youth program attendance: 83,782
- Adult impact programs: 833
- Adult program attendance: 13,392
- We added **19,475** items to the collection for a total of **182,036** items which were checked out **1.6 million** times.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND STATISTICS

REVENUE

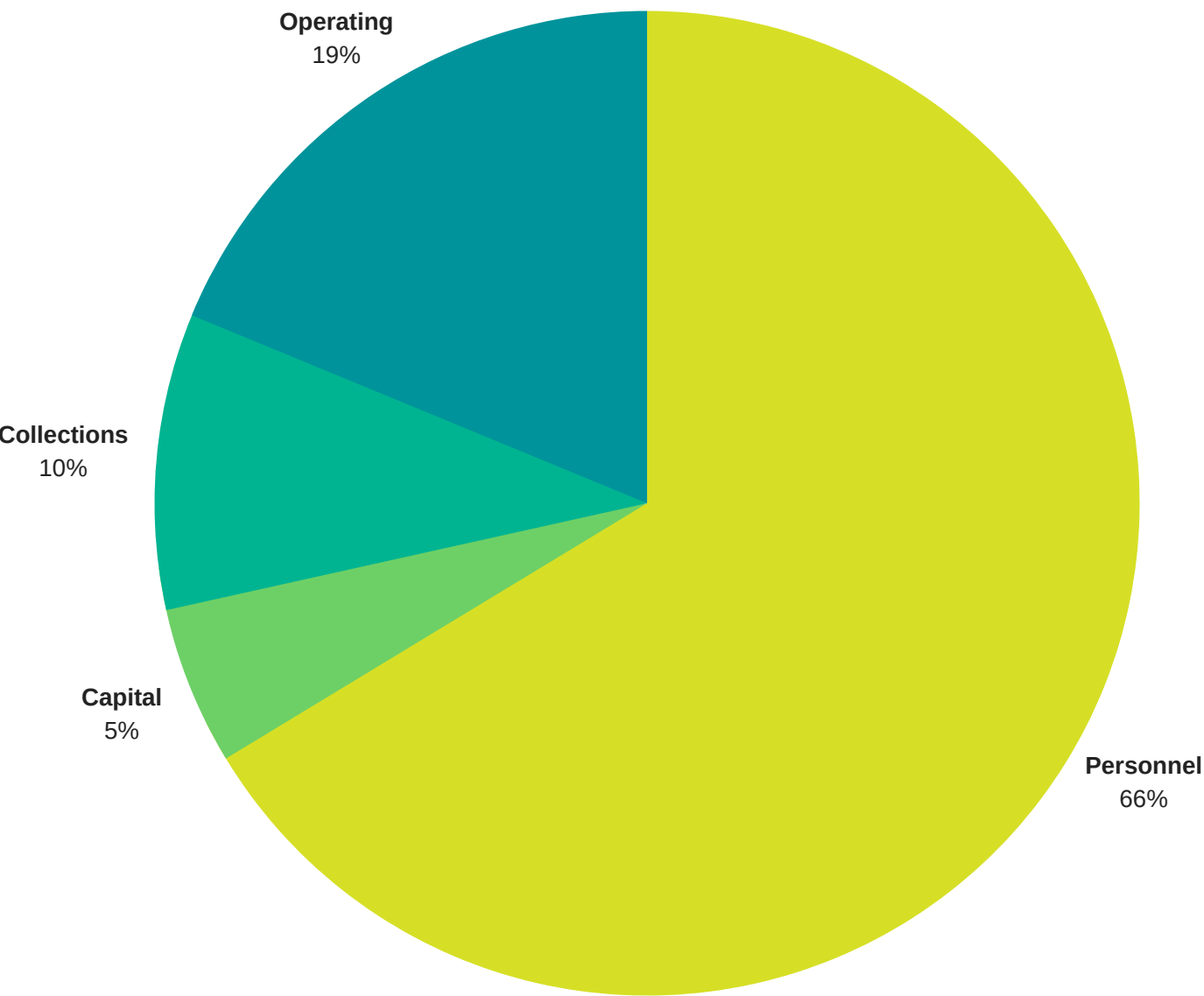
• Property Taxes	\$4,859,656
• Sales Tax Income	\$182,499
• Fines & Fees	\$56,395
• Grants & Donations	\$192,133
• Interest & Misc. Income	\$109,974
• Total Revenue	\$5,400,657



FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND STATISTICS

EXPENSES

• Personnel	\$3,256,970
• Capital	\$254,982
• Collections	\$477,193
• Operating	\$921,567
• Total Expenses	\$4,910,712



SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NEW LOCATION

The Meridian Tiny Library fully opened to the public October 1, 2018. Planning and preparation for the opening occurred in the 2018 fiscal year. The Tiny Library is a repurposed shipping container transformed into an interactive learning space for families with children, ages 0-5. The Tiny Library is open 20 hours per week, Monday-Saturday with morning and early afternoon hours of availability.

TINY LIBRARY, BIG IMPACT

In Meridian, Idaho only 67% of children enter Kindergarten ready to read. Studies show that children who enter Kindergarten unprepared are more likely to fall behind in school and are less likely to graduate from high school, go on to college, and succeed in their careers than those who have attended high-quality preschool programs. Idaho is one of only 6 states that does not currently invest in public preschool options. 62% of Meridian parents say there is a lack of affordable, high-quality early childhood programs in their area.



SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Gretchen Caserotti**, library Director, was awarded first place for Penguin Random House Library Awards for Innovation, resulting in \$10,000 for the Tiny Library. She was also appointed as the Chair of the ALSC Budget Committee and elected to the McClure Center for Public Policy Research Advisory Board.
- **Megan Egbert**, District Programs Manager, was selected for the 2019 Caldecott Committee (work is done during 2018).
- **Cheri Rendler**, Materials Services Manager, was appointed to a 2-year term on the Idaho Library Association Idaho Book Award Committee.
- **Emily Brock** and **Amanda Berardinelli** were appointed to serve on the Idaho Library Association's 2019 conference planning committee.
- **John Thill**, Public Services Manager, was elected to a two-year term as Idaho Library Association's Legislative Chair.
- **Laura Abbott**, Youth Services Manager, graduated from the Meridian Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Meridian program.
- **Laura Abbott** and **Michele Anderson** graduated from the City of Meridian Public Safety Academy.
- **Skye Corey**, Youth Services Librarian, completed her term on the American Library Association's division for service to children (ALSC) Notable Children's Books Committee. Skye was recently appointed to be a co-chair of ALSC's Public Awareness Committee.
- **Megan Egbert, John Thill, Laura Abbott, and Barbra Hendricks** served on the 2018 ILA Conference Planning Committee.
- **Krista Bolt**, Library Assistant, completed a Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of Washington in March 2018.

The staff members at Meridian Library are highly respected in the field, both in the state of Idaho and nationally, and they have a growing reputation. Their passion for their work shows in the impact they make with the individuals in the community as well as on the profession.

