

# JOHN C. HART MEMORIAL LIBRARY

## UNATTENDED OR DISRUPTIVE CHILDREN POLICY

The John C. Hart Memorial Library welcomes children to use its facilities for customary library activities. However, responsibility for children using the library rests with the parent, guardian, or assigned chaperone, not with library personnel.

Parents need to be aware that the public library as an institution does not have legal “provision of care” responsibilities.

For the protection and well-being of children enjoying the library, the following policy has been established:

- Children 10 years of age or younger must be accompanied and supervised by an adult or a teenager (16 years or older).
- Responsible parties must remain in the building while a child 10 years of age or younger is attending a program.
- Disruptive young people will be asked to leave the library.
- Library staff cannot provide food, transportation or money to children.
- Library staff cannot take legal responsibility for a child in the case of a medical emergency.
- If an unaccompanied child is in the library at closing time, the police will be contacted if deemed necessary.

Approved 9/17/03