§17 FOR SEVENTEEN CAMPAIGN
This year’s Boise Public Library Foundation’s annual giving campaign exceeded last year’s gross amount and is on track to exceed $60,000 in total giving from the community. The Foundation Directors are to be congratulated for the hard work and efforts they demonstrated to achieve this amazing success. Directors and Trustees participated in greeting library customers at library locations on December 9 and the social media campaign resulted in a very successful “grass roots” get-out-the-word effort. Included in this year’s total is another donation from the Tesoro (Andeavor) Foundation for $10,000! I want to thank the Directors, Trustees, and library staff who assisted with the campaign, and of course the many hundreds of donors who helped the Foundation achieve its goal. Well done! The Library’s estimated donations for 2017 is $322,000. These funds were received from the Friends of the Library, Boise Public Library Foundation, and the general public. This year was a very good year for monetary gifts.

LIBRARY CAMPUS VISION PROJECT
The Library Campus Architectural Services selection team reviewed requests for qualification proposals from architectural firms and interviewed five firms the week of December 14. The team is currently in the process of reviewing references and vetting the firms in a little more detail before making a recommendation to the Board of Trustees and City Council.

The Idaho Statesman covered the vision of the project last week in a story that helps convey the need, the project goals, and the challenges. I have received positive feedback from the story and about the project in general.

The architectural firm should be under contract in January, and we will proceed with concept development.

LIBRARY STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER
Activity through the system increased during the month of November. Year-over-year shows circulation increasing by almost 12%, customer visits increasing almost 7%, and program attendance increasing 34%. Circulation gains were seen in both print and digital resources.

STEP AHEAD IDAHO AND HILLCREST PARTNERSHIP
The construction bids for the tenant improvements were opened and came in under the cost estimate. Contract and permit activities are continuing and work should begin before the month ends. We will display the “boards” depicting the tenant improvements at the Library! At Hillcrest as soon as permits and contract negotiations are completed.

The project cost of $750,000, rebudget request, was approved by the City Council during the December 23 Council meeting. Step Ahead Idaho raised over $250,000 for the project, which is included in the rebudget request amount.
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

WINTER EVENTS IN YOUTH SERVICES
The Idaho Steelheads hockey organization once again sponsored the Winter Reading program in conjunction with libraries throughout the Treasure Valley. Students ages 5-13 are eligible to win free hockey tickets by checking out books and reading. Youth Services had a kick-off party on December 6 with games, crafts, and a visit from Blue, the mascot, and one of the hockey players.

The annual Harry Potter Yule Ball was held and close to 50 teens participated. They enjoyed crafts, food and games as part of the extravaganza. Staff from Youth Services, the branches, and other divisions were involved in organizing this popular event.