

## **Montezuma Public Library**

### **Policy On Unattended Children**

In order to provide for the general welfare of all persons using the Montezuma Public Library, and especially for the general safety of children, and in order to prevent undue disruption of regular library activities, the following regulations have been adopted by the Board of Trustees, Montezuma Public Library.

Children seven (7) years of age or younger must have a responsible caregiver within visual contact and in their immediate vicinity while on library premises. Exceptions may be made by library staff for children age three (3) and older who are attending select library programs. When an exception is made, the responsible caregiver is expected to either remain in the library building or be available to contact at the end of the program.

When library staff is made aware of an unattended child, library staff will make a reasonable attempt to locate the responsible caregiver. If the responsible caregiver is not located, library staff will notify the Poweshiek Sheriff's Office.

Although young persons age eight (8) and older may use the library on their own, their actions and well-being remain the responsibility of their parents and caregivers. The Library's Customer Conduct policy defines behaviors that will result in a request for the person to leave the library. A young person who is not able to leave the library without an adult should not be left alone at the library. The Montezuma Public Library assumes no responsibility for children left unattended on library premises.

**Adopted August 11, 2021, by the Montezuma Public Library Board of Trustees**