Electronic Resources Committee
Regular Meeting
Agenda Packet

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
LIBRARY SYSTEM
2420 Mariposa Street
Fresno, CA 93721
559-600-6282

November 12, 2026 | 11:00 a.m. | Teleconference

Enclosed are the agenda and prepared attachments for this meeting.

Copies of these materials may be made at the public's expense.

The public may participate by using the following URL:

https://go.sjvls.org/erc261112

To participate in the meeting by telephone, call:

1-559-785-0133

Enter Phone Conference ID: 542 413 491#

The public may also participate at any of these teleconference locations:

- Coalinga-Huron Library District
  Coalinga Library: 305 N 4th STREET, COALINGA, CA 93210
- Fresno County Library
  Woodward Park Regional Library: 944 E PERRIN AVENUE, FRESNO, CA 93720
- Kings County Library
  Hanford Branch Library: 110 S 11th AVENUE, HANFORD, CA 93230
- Madera County Library
  Oakhurst Branch Library: 49044 CIVIC CIRCLE DRIVE, OAKHURST, CA 93644
- Mariposa County Library
  Mariposa Branch Library: 4978 10th STREET, MARIPOSA, CA 95338
- Merced County Library
  Merced Branch Library: 2100 O STREET, MERCED, CA 95340
- Tulare County Library
  Visalia Branch Library: 200 WEST OAK AVE, VISALIA, CA 93291
- Tulare Public Library: 475 N M STREET, TULARE, CA 93274

Accessibility and Accommodations: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the San Joaquin Valley Library System at (559) 600-6282 no later than 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2026.

Public records: Disclosable public records related to this agenda are available for public review upon request.

AGENDA

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. The public may comment on any action items on the agenda.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from Meeting on August 20, 2026 (Attachment 1)

F. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. ACTION: Recommendation on COMPASS program resources (Attachments 2 & 3)
2. ACTION: CloudLibrary Title Recommendations (Attachments 4 & 5)
3. DISCUSSION: CloudLibrary Streaming Video
4. DISCUSSION: Freegal Music+ & Blinkist

G. STATUS UPDATE ON SYSTEM RESOURCES

H. CALENDAR ITEMS

1. Set date and agenda for next meeting

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

J. ADJOURNMENT

Electronic Resources Committee
Regular Meeting

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
LIBRARY SYSTEM
2420 Mariposa Street
Fresno, CA 93721
559-600-6282

August 20, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. | Teleconference

DRAFT MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

B. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present: Nathan Vosburg (Coalinga-Huron), Mike Drake (Fresno), Gentky Vang (Kings), Sarah McIntyre (Madera), Matt Johnson (Mariposa), Smruti Deshpande (Merced), Alisha Rodriguez (Tulare County), Heidi Clark (Tulare Public)

Others Present: Kristie Pratt (Kern), Rachel Nelson (SJVLS)

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as written.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the May 21, 2026, meeting were approved.

F. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. DISCUSSION: Tutor.com

   Boyer announced that the California State Library and Pacific Library Partnership will offer Tutor.com to public libraries across the state beginning this fiscal year. The State Library will focus on K-12 tutoring and resources. It will not be the same Tutor.com product that SJVLS offers. The SJVLS subscription does include K-12 tutoring and resources but also includes college and career resources that will not be part of what is presented through the State Library. Tutor.com was willing to offer a refund/credit for the K-12 part of the SJVLS subscription, but the System would have continued to offer the additional college and career resources.

   At the August 7 meeting, Admin Council decided not to participate in the State Library's Tutor.com offer. SJVLS libraries will remain on our separate subscription. Admin Council expressed concerns over how long Tutor.com would be available from the State Library, potential patron confusion over two different Tutor.com links (one from the State Library for K-12 resources and another from SJVLS for college and career resources), and potential usage reporting problems for the two different products.

No changes are needed for Tutor.com. All libraries will continue to use the same URLs for access and will still receive usage statistics from Tutor.com.

2. DISCUSSION: Zip Books

   As part of the Zip Books program, the State Library has helped to fund library purchases of titles suggested by patrons. Beginning this year, the State Library is providing the funds directly to library systems instead of continuing to fund the Zip Books program.

   Admin Council plans to use the money to fund a modified Zip Books program.

   Patrons will be able to request a physical copy from their local library or an ebook or eaudiobook that will be added to the shared CloudLibrary collection.

   Some work will be required on the System side to create necessary forms and to track requests and purchases.

   The State Library is expected to approve the funding change this fall. SJVLS purchases may start around the end of the 2026 calendar year.

3. DISCUSSION: Electronic Resources Annual Usage Review

   Boyer shared a collection of usage stats as a system level review of our shared resources for the 2025-26 fiscal year and over a three year period. The statistics provide a quick look at how those resources are being used and how the member libraries' patrons are using the resources. The statistics are not intended to replace detailed statistics by resource and member library, which are still available on OneDrive.

   The statistics do not include Tutor and Udemy in the trends because we only have a year to 18 months of data. Usage of The New York Times was also not included because their reporting has been inconsistent and inaccurate for Fresno, Merced, and Porterville.

   Pratt (Kern) suggested adding cost-per-use totals to the annual totals to help identify whether resources are still valuable and needed. Boyer will start adding cost-per-use information to usage reports for FY2026-27. As time permits, that information will be added to FY 2025-26 reports as well to help identify trends.

   Members discussed Pronunciator usage, as cost-per-use details have previously been made available for that resource. McIntyre (Madera) questioned whether the lack of a dedicated app for Pronunciator could be a factor in the low usage totals.

   Vosburg (Coalinga) suggested patrons want different resources than what the System currently offers and we could eliminate some resources in order to offer what patrons want, especially in situations where resources are already available to patrons from other agencies and organizations.

4. DISCUSSION: Streaming Video Update

   SJVLS has tentative budgetary support for adding a systemwide streaming video resource for FY2026-27. The System needs to approve a new tech plan to include funding, but Chris Wymer is generally supportive of adding that cost.

Boyer has tried to contact Kevin Coon about Kanopy, but received no response. Boyer will meet with CloudLibrary next week to discuss their streaming video options. More information will be presented to the committee at a future meeting. Boyer has not yet contacted hoopla because of concerns about their pricing model. Kanopy & hoopla use pay-per-use pricing. CloudLibrary uses a flat annual subscription.

5. DISCUSSION: Migration to Spydus

   SJVLS will probably move to paperless notices when we migrate from Horizon to Spydus. Admin Council has approved the change. The System office will confirm there are no legal requirements for paper notices.

G. STATUS UPDATE ON SYSTEM RESOURCES

1. Intranet

   The System office has started planning for the next iteration of an SJVLS intranet (currently The Source). Migration is expected to start this fall.

2. OverDrive Magazines

   At the last meeting, committee members requested a title list of OverDrive magazines. Boyer has not been able to obtain a list from our representative; however, the full title list is available in the OverDrive Marketplace under Subscriptions.

H. CALENDAR ITEMS

The next meeting will be on November 19, 2026, on Teams.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tulare County Library will soon be able to offer digital newspapers (Visalia Times-Delta) through Proquest.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

DATE:	November 12, 2026
TO:	SJVLS Electronic Resources Committee
SUBMITTED BY:	Nathan Boyer
SUBJECT:	Recommend Continuing COMPASS Resources as SJVLS Subscription

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Approve a recommendation to the SJVLS Administrative Council (Admin Council) that the System start a subscription with Gale to add expiring COMPASS resources to the suite of Gale resources available to all SJVLS libraries. The recommendation may include any combination of Gale resources currently included in the COMPASS program: In Context: Environmental Studies, Interactive: Science, and/or National Geographic Kids.
2. If recommending a System subscription to National Geographic Kids, ERC could also recommend adding subscriptions to PAWS and/or National Geographic Magazine Archive (1888-Current) to provide a more complete National Geographic suite.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

Alternatively, ERC could recommend investigating costs for subscriptions to any combination of other expiring COMPASS, to meet patron demand and/or interest.

ERC could also choose not to recommend subscriptions to any expiring COMPASS products.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Recommendation of a subscription to Gale resources could result in annual costs ranging from $2,756.25 to $22,576.80, depending on the products recommended.

Costs of recommending subscriptions to other COMPASS resources are currently unknown.

DISCUSSION:

The California State Library has provided online educational resources to public libraries through the California Online Media Program for Access and Student Success (COMPASS) program, originally the California K-12 Online Resources Program, since 2018. The first resources to be available were Teaching Books, Encyclopaedia Britannica, and Proquest Central, CultureGrams, eLibrary, Research Companion, SIRS Discoverer and SIRS Issues Researcher. In 2021, three resources from Gale were added to the program: In Context: Environmental Studies, Interactive: Science, and National Geographic Kids. More resources have since been added to the COMPASS program: Proquest's PBS Video Collection (2022), Proquest's Alexander Street platform (2023), and Capstone's PebbleGo Science (2024).

Funding for the COMPASS program was eliminated for the fiscal year 2026-27 state budget. The various COMPASS resources will not be available to public libraries after June 30, 2027.

At the time they were added to the COMPASS program, Gale's In Context: Environmental Studies and Interactive: Science were part of a separate SJVLS subscription. Those were

removed from the System subscription when they became available through the State Library. At the expiration of the COMPASS program, those two resources will not be added back to the suite of Gale resources included in the SJVLS contract.

When SJVLS added Udemy through Gale, in January 2025, we received a discounted rate for the suite of other Gale resources we subscribed to at that time. Because In Context: Environmental Studies and Interactive: Science were not included in our resources or the discounted rate, they will not automatically become part of our subscription at the conclusion of the COMPASS program. If SJVLS wants to continue to offer these resources beyond June 30, 2027, they can be included again for an additional cost.

Similarly, if SJVLS wants to provide other COMPASS resources beginning in FY2027-28, the System could contract with other vendors for the appropriate products.

To help the Electronic Resources Committee (ERC) in reviewing the value of different COMPASS resources, usage statistics and comparisons to similar products, where available, are provided. The System Office does not have access to detailed usage figures for all COMPASS resources, though, so some usage totals are not available. Annual costs for Gale products are also included. At the time of writing, costs and quotes for products from Capstone, ProQuest, and TeachingBooks are not available.

PRIOR AGENDA REFERENCE:

No prior reference.

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

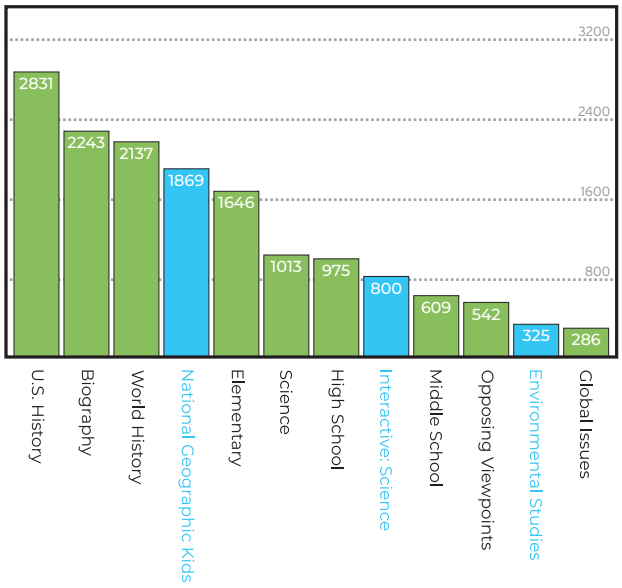
Electronic Resources Committee Meeting Agenda, November 12, 2026 – Attachment 3

Motion: Second:

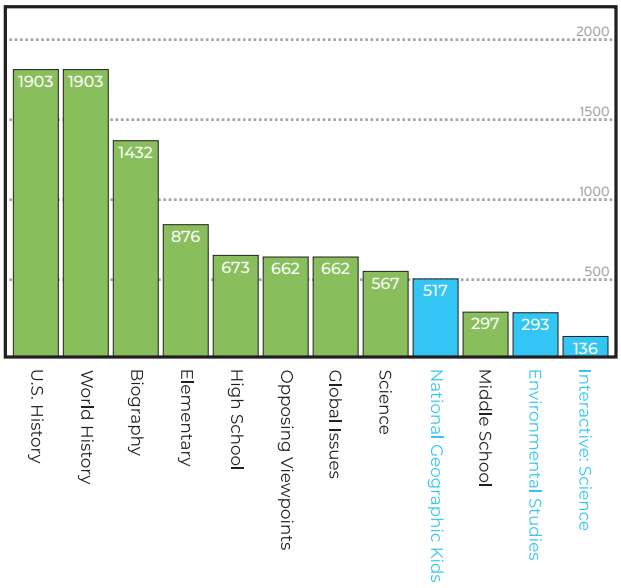
_____ PASSED _____ REJECTED

COMPASS: Gale Resources

In Context Retrievals 2023-2026



In Context Sessions 2023-2026



SJVLS Subscription Costs FY2026-27

[Interactive: Science](#)

$2,756.25 / year

[Environmental Studies](#)

$4,120.55 / year

[National Geographic Kids](#)

$3,900.00 / year

Optional Additions

PAWS: $1,900 / year

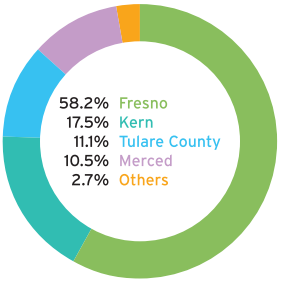
A companion to National Geographic Kids that provides additional opportunities for younger learners to explore animals, science, and the natural world. Together, these resources can help support early literacy, curiosity, and engaging educational experiences for children and families.

National Geographic Magazine Archive 1888-Current: $9,900 / year

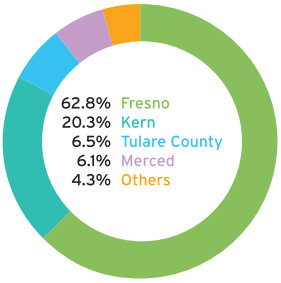
This extensive collection provides access to more than a century of National Geographic content, offering a wealth of information on history, geography, science, culture, and the natural world. It would be a valuable complement to National Geographic Kids, expanding the audience to include teens, adults, educators, and lifelong learners.

Member Library Retrievals 2023-2026

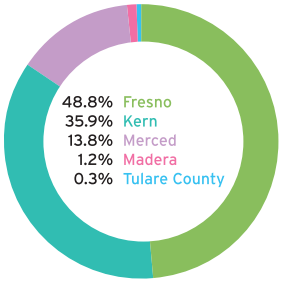
Environmental Studies



Interactive: Science



National Geographic Kids



DATE:	November 12, 2026
TO:	SJVLS Electronic Resources Committee
SUBMITTED BY:	Nathan Boyer
SUBJECT:	Approve CloudLibrary Recommendations

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Approve enabling the CloudLibrary Recommendations feature in the CloudLibrary app to provide patrons with title recommendations.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

Alternatively, ERC could choose not to enable the Recommendations feature in the CloudLibrary app.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

The Recommendations feature is included in our CloudLibrary contract.

DISCUSSION:

CloudLibrary offers a recommendations feature to deliver reader's advisory suggestions. Title recommendations appear when a patron views book details, places a hold, or returns a title. Recommendations are based on the specific title being reviewed, reserved, or returned and each recommended title includes a short explanation of why it was selected.

The feature works by sending title, author, and ISBN information to a private AI model. The AI model matches that title information to librarian-curated algorithms to identify a list of title recommendations. The model will match the list to our CloudLibrary collection and returns only titles that are available for checkout back to the patron in the app.

No patron information is sent to the AI model and patron circulation history is not used in developing recommendations. The prompts and processes involved in the AI recommendations are not shared with or used in training other AI models.

Libraries must opt-in to enable the feature. By default, CloudLibrary Recommendations is disabled. Because CloudLibrary is a systemwide collection, enabling Recommendations would make it available to all member libraries.*

If enabled for our collection, patrons must also opt-in to use the feature. By default, patrons are opted-out of the Recommendations feature. Patrons may opt-in or opt-out at any time by changing the setting in the Account tab.

*This is being confirmed by our sales rep.

PRIOR AGENDA REFERENCE:

No prior reference.

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

Electronic Resources Committee Meeting Agenda, November 12, 2026 – Attachment 5

Motion: Second:

_____ PASSED _____ REJECTED

Apps - Recommendations Feature FAQ

The CloudLibrary recommendations feature provides a well-designed reader's advisory service that keeps readers engaged while utilizing your existing collection to its full potential. This article contains Frequently Asked Questions.

1. **What is CloudLibrary Recommendations?**
   - CloudLibrary recommendations is a feature that provides librarian-curated book suggestions directly in the CloudLibrary mobile app. It helps readers discover titles they can borrow immediately and make the most of your library's collection.

2. **How does it work?**
   - When viewing a book's details, placing a hold, or returning a title, patrons will see three recommendations based on the current title.
   - Each recommendation includes a short explanation of why it was suggested.
   - Recommendations include only titles that are available to borrow right away.

3. **Where can patrons find recommendations?**
   - When placing a hold
   - When returning a book
   - Anytime in book details

4. **What do patrons need to enable this feature?**
   - Patrons will need to have the CloudLibrary mobile app version 5.14 or higher.

5. **Is the feature customizable?**
   - Libraries can opt in or out at the library level.
   - Individual patrons may opt in or out.
   - A pop-up "opt-out" option is available within the app.

6. **How many recommendations are provided each day?**
   - The daily allotment per user is 5 requests per day.

7. **How can I enable recommendations for my library?**
   - If you would like to have recommendations configured for your library, please open a ticket in CloudLibrary ServiceDesk and indicate the date you would like recommendations turned on.

8. **Is there a cost?**
    - There's no cost to this great new feature as it is another way CloudLibrary is collaborating with our customers to increase usage of the collection they already have.

9. **Do patrons start out at an opt in or an opt out scenario?**
    - Patrons are opted out by default, but each user is presented with the option to opt in at first. If the user initially opts out, there is also an ability to opt in at anytime thereafter by updating their setting in the Account tab.

10. **Where is the information for the recommendations pulled from?**
    - The CloudLibrary Recommendation Service is an internal service that generates recommendations and presents them to the mobile apps.

      How it Works:

      a. A request for title recommendations comes from the mobile app to the service. The service sends the title, author, and ISBN of that title to our OpenAI model, which returns a list of potential recommendations.
      b. The service then processes these titles and selects multiple strategies (these are the librarian-curated algorithms we've created) to generate a list of recommendations for presentation to a library's CloudLibrary collection.
      c. The service then matches those titles to the library's CloudLibrary collection using the collection's content and availability before returning a list of recommendations back to the app.

      Privacy & Data Security:

      - Only the title, author, and ISBN are sent to the AI model
      - Our Azure OpenAI model is private and isolated
      - Prompts sent and received are not shared with others or used for model training

11. **How are we capturing the environmental impact of using AI?**
    - We have designed and developed this feature with efficiency in mind, to reduce the environmental impact, which improves as technology advances. Requests are efficiently cached.