

## Red Bank Public Library: Smart Investors in our Community

Two important reasons why we decided to not join the Monmouth County Library System (MCLS):

1. Taxes would increase.
2. Residents would have less services and materials to borrow.

How we arrived at this decision:

- Because of our proximity to the Eastern Branch of the MCLS, our library would be considered a “Member” and not a “Branch.” This means our taxes to them would only pay for materials, IT, and some programs. The estimated cost to join MCLS in 2015 would have been \$366,176 per year. RBPL would still need to pay for Staff, Building and Facilities, and the remainder of programs.
- RBPL pays \$22,000 per year to be a member in the Libraries of Middlesex Automated Consortium (LMXAC). This fee covers IT, online resources, and borrowing privileges at a larger network of libraries.

Items to Consider:	RBPL as an LMXAC member	RBPL as an MCLS member
Cost to join	\$22,000	\$366,176
Additional libraries	38	27
DVDs	54,301	21,234
Large Print Books	9,934	14,674
Spanish Language Books	23,754	1,893
Ebooks/Eaudiobooks	150,921	79,710
Reference Materials	29,000	27,878

Additionally, LMXAC members enjoy borrowing privileges at over 150 libraries. MCLS offers borrowing privileges at 21 additional libraries.

Bottom line: A Red Bank resident with a home of \$400,000 currently pays \$132.00 per year to the library. If we joined MCLS, the cost would increase to \$205.56. RBPL's 2015 budget would need to go from \$708,000 to \$916,000. We believe we've made the best decision possible for our community. We encourage you to come in and see how far your library card can stretch!