

## **Trustee Education Legislation**

Back in August, this Newsletter discussed a pending regulation that would require Library Trustees to receive two hours of training every year for the duration of their term; this regulation has stalled at the state level due to staffing issues and other priorities taking precedence. Because of this setback, the NYLA Legislative Committee and NYLA Council have decided to move forward by adding this to their 2020 Legislative Priorities. Currently, the legislation is being drafted by NYLA then they will be looking for a legislator to sponsor the bill. Once it is signed it will go into effect. It is still unknown if this legislation will coincide with the tracking of the updated Minimum Standards, however, if it is signed this year my guess would be that it would be enforced sometime in 2021. Below is part of the article from August to provide some background.

*To give you a bit of background if you haven't heard of this yet, this new regulation, §90.20 Trustee education requirements for library trustees in registered public, free association, and Indian Libraries, creates a requirement for all library trustees to receive two hours of training annually in order to stay in good standing with the state education department. This is similar to the requirements for other types of boards and would be enforced by the state education department. The training will most likely be tracked by a question on your library's Annual Report starting in 2021. If a trustee does not comply with the regulation it looks like a variance process will be in place allowing an additional year to become compliant. If the trustee is still out of compliant after year two their position as trustee will be deemed vacant by the state.*

*Luckily, library systems are specifically mentioned as approved providers of training within the proposed regulation. This means that any Pioneer Library System sponsored training you attended, whether in-person or online (live or archived) will meet the annual requirement. We're already taking steps at the system to prepare for this regulation and I will keep everyone updated as more information is released*