If you are an accomplished leader ready to enhance the Library’s role in a world that continues to change, the Board of Trustees of the Southwest Public Libraries (SPL) encourages you to apply for this rare opportunity. Working with a staff of 74 team members supporting two locations and a $6.4 million annual budget, the Library provides excellent customer service vital to its 145,000+ constituents. Reporting to the seven-member appointed governing Board of Trustees (appointed by the School Board), the successful candidate will effectively collaborate with the Board, the staff, the Friends of the Library, and external partners to communicate the Library’s mission and goals. Key opportunities include developing and implementing library services and programs through and after the COVID-19 pandemic, representing the Library in its many communities, through equity, diversity, and inclusion—ensuring that the Library welcomes all and provides access to information at the Library and outside the Library’s walls, developing a robust staff development plan, continuing strong stewardship of resources, and developing and implementing emerging library technologies. In addition, the Director will continue to create and model a culture of learning and innovation.

Our Communities. Southwest Public Libraries, the second largest library system in Franklin County, serves 127 square miles in Franklin County, OH plus one square mile in Pickaway County through two library locations—Grove City and Lincoln Village (the Westland Area Library). Seeing significant population growth in the last decade, SPL serves urban, suburban, and rural diverse communities including a large Latino population and new populations of Somalian and Russian immigrants. Both Grove City and Lincoln Village have much to offer in addition to excellent libraries. As suburbs of Ohio’s capital city of Columbus, residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life with all of the conveniences of metropolitan living combined with a unique, small-town feel. Voted twice as Best Hometown by Ohio Magazine, Grove City is a walkable, vibrant place to live, work, shop, and play. Lincoln Village, started as a planned community in 1955, and is home to Lincoln Village Plaza, a major shopping center, which includes the Westland Area Library. For more information, visit SPL Links.

Responsibilities. Under the direction of the governing Board of Trustees, the Library Director functions as the Chief Executive Officer of the Library System; administers the overall program of library services to the residents of the South-Western City School District; directs human resources programs for the Library System; oversees development of library collections; administers budget and reporting system and monitors fiscal operations; oversees management of Library property; directs public relations for the Library System; and fulfills the other obligations to the Board of Trustees. The Director works closely with staff to support the Library’s core values. The Director is expected to be an effective advocate, collaborative partner with all stakeholders, and bring innovative and creative solutions and ideas forward meeting the Library’s mission.

Qualifications. Minimum requirements include 3-5 years of professional library experience at the supervisory, management, and/or administrative level and a Master’s Degree in Library Science from an ALA-accredited program. Essential attributes include personal integrity, experience with fiscal oversight and budgeting, excellent interpersonal skills, and consensus-building skills. The Library Director, through care, compassion, and energy will galvanize an outstanding staff to position the Library at the forefront of library service in its communities. A thorough knowledge of current trends, technologies and “best practices” for libraries, experience reporting to a governing Board, and an advanced degree (MPA or MPA) are highly desirable.

Compensation. The starting salary range is $100,000 – 125,000 with an excellent benefits package.

For further information, contact Bradbury Miller Associates. Apply via email with a cover letter and resume as Word or PDF attachments to Karen Miller on or before the closing date of October 25, 2020.