



WHY HPL HAS A TUTORING POLICY

HPL has a total of four study tables. One table is a designated “quiet table” for people doing research. Two tables in the periodicals area are for people who want to read quietly or to use our wireless hub. One table is the only available worktable for young children. Last September, these tables were appropriated by tutors, often for 4-5 hours each weekday. Other library users complained repeatedly that there was no place for them to sit quietly or use their laptops.

Library users complained that conversations between students and tutors were distracting. People using libraries expect others to keep conversations to a minimum. It’s standard library behavior, and is also our policy.

School districts can control who enters their buildings; public libraries cannot. Students tutored at HPL have no privacy; they may share tables with total strangers. Anyone can hear and observe their personal interactions – their successes and failures – with tutors. This concern was also conveyed to library staff.

HPL welcomes the opportunity to serve tutors who want to borrow library materials, take advantage of our many free services, or benefit from the expertise of our librarians. Unfortunately, we are not set up to serve as an independent tutoring center.

The Beacon City School District is aware of our policy.