



12



Ashlee >



Ok

This starts library people



14



Ashlee >



My pleasure!

Omg these library emails! Should we respond with the ordinance that established the board of governors?

I've been generically responding, but I am happy to get a facts sheet established.

I also asked Christal to send me backup that we would still be receiving the state grant of \$80-100k. She was proactive and received confirmation we would still receive those monies as a county. It is on stringent on her master's

100

I'm more interested in the ordinance vs their bylaws- just because they say they can doesn't mean that power was given to them.



15



Ashlee >



It's interesting how he begged men funding campaign before begging business from who he harmed

Tue, Mar 3 at 1:03 PM

See you downstairs of DC's office at 2:20?

Also, I have the resolution regarding the BOG. What would you like me to do? Happy to do whatever.

I also received the backup from Christal & I forwarded that your way



Yes, meet you there at 2:20. Call you in a few.



I sent you a draft email, I am sure you can doctor it up and make it prettier. I really just sent the points that I wanted to get across.

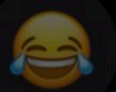
Sent with Siri

Should I get an actual recommendation from Alison? Like a quote that she will directly uphold in the BCC meeting?

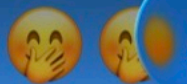
Yes! Wonderful idea!



15



Bc he ... m out & his delicate
sensible ... ouldn't take the heat



Ashlee

Sun, Mar 1 at 7:29 PM

Gentle reminder I won't be there for the mtg with Chris—remind me to give you some insight... But I will be there for the mtg with Christal at the library 😊

We also have an exhilarating meet with Pam regarding VP findings at 3PM downstairs 😲

Should be a very interesting Monday!



Indeed!



15



Michelle is planning to meet with him
over the weekend when she is home

Ashlee



Christal is going on the March 5th
agenda PS—just spoke with Wes: it's
a straight recommendation for her,
just like Thaddeus & Kaycee were.

It will be placed immediately after
proclamations



20



Ashlee >



HA
HA

I guess next time we will print it out and I will sign whatever in hot pink ink and you can stand it and send it to people.

Sent with Siri

Nikki came by and said Bradley has ZERO managerial experience

I am sending & printing a packet for you with their resumes

Thank you! This is ridiculous

Truly ridiculous!

Maybe I should share the email regarding library services on your FB page. So that at least correct information is out there.



25

WM

Wes >

Good morning,
Thank you for reaching out and for
your continued advocacy on behalf
of our library system.
I sincerely appreciate your
engagement and your commitment
to ensuring its continued success. I
am a firm believer that a strong li... >



25



Ashlee >

Just parked, I'm going to take a potty break and fill up my water bottle and then I'll be in



Good morning,
Thank you for reaching out and for your continued advocacy on behalf of our library system. I sincerely appreciate your engagement and your commitment to ensuring its continued success. I am a firm believer that a strong library system supports a smart and strong community, and I value residents who share that conviction. I want to clearly express my full support for the decision to hire Christal Bell-Rivera as Library Director. Having worked in Human Resources for over ten years, I understand that there is far more to selecting a strong leader than what appears in a job description. While qualifications and experience are essential, it is often the intangibles—character, leadership presence, vision, and the ability to build effective teams—that distinguish stellar team members from merely capable employees. Those qualities matter deeply when selecting someone to guide an institution as important as our library system. I would also like to correct some misinformation that has been circulating.

*Escambia County is not at risk of



iMessage



information at the bottom of this



25



Ashlee



system.
I would appreciate it if you could correct some
misinformation that has been
circulating.

*Escambia County is not at risk of
losing funding due to Christal's
hiring. Please see asterisked
information at the bottom of this
email for pertinent information
supporting this.

Per the Resolution that established
the Library Board of Governance, the
County Attorney Alison Roger's has
clearly stated:

"It is my opinion that the
Administrator is legally and solely
responsible for the selection and
hiring of the Library Director. The
BOG may make a recommendation.
The Escambia County Board of
County Commissioners can either
confirm the Administrator's selection
or say no, but it CANNOT vote for
any other candidate."

For your knowledge and reference, I
have attached the relevant
resolution.

Transparency and clarity are
important, especially when public
trust is involved.

I remain confident that this process
has followed the appropriate legal
framework and that our community
will soon see the positive impact of
Christal's continued leadership.

Again, thank you for your advocacy
and for your dedication to our library
system. I truly believe we are
positioned for continued growth and
success!



iMessage





25



Ashlee



Ashlee Hofberger
District 4 County Commissioner
Office 850.595.4940
Cell 448.239.1887

*Pursuant to Florida Statute 257.17, the single administrative head of a public library must have at least two years of full-time professional experience following completion of a library education program accredited by the American Library Association (ALA). Importantly, the statute does not require the individual to hold the formal title of "Library Director."

For state grant applications, the single administrative head may be a qualified library professional who meets the statutory qualifications and has been designated to serve in this capacity for state aid. This



iMessage



designation does not alter the library's internal organizational structure or the individual's official



26



Ashlee



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For state grant applications, the single administrative head may be a qualified library professional who meets the statutory qualifications and has been designated to serve in this capacity for state aid. This designation does not alter the library's internal organizational structure or the individual's official job title outside of grant-related documentation.

The single administrative head form for the grant is submitted with the application annually.

This information was previously confirmed by Amy Johnson, Director/State Librarian of the Division of Library and Information Services, and was reconfirmed today, noting that other Florida library systems follow a similar structure by designating a qualified administrative professional to serve as the statutory single administrative head for state grant purposes, even when that individual is not the Library Director.

The state aid application is subject to two statutory deadlines: October 1 and December 1. All required materials were submitted on time to maintain eligibility for funding.

Florida Public Libraries received \$91,986 in State Aid Grant funding, representing approximately



iMessage





26

**Ashlee**

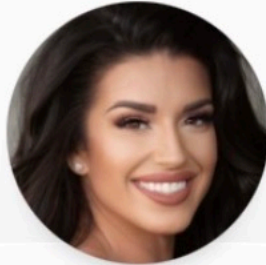
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The state aid application is subject to two statutory deadlines: October 1 and December 1. All required materials were submitted on time to maintain eligibility for funding.

For reference, in the last fiscal year, West Florida Public Libraries received \$91,986 in State Aid Grant funding, representing approximately 0.767% of the library's overall budget.

12:27

5G 18



Thank you

My pleasure!

Melanie

Omg these library emails! Should we respond with the ordinance that established the board of governors?

I've been generically responding, but I am happy to get a facts sheet established.

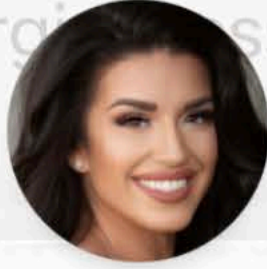
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12:28

5G 18



Melanie

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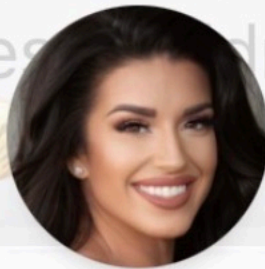
iMessage



caught talking and then behind a



1



S **Melanie** > M



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Should be a very interesting Monday!



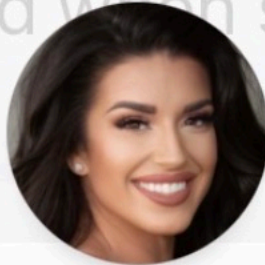
Indeed



12:30 

 5G  18

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Melanie 



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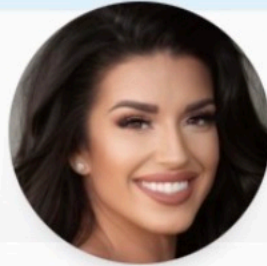
12:32

I would've been putting
through this much hell.

5G 18



1



Fri

Melanie

AM

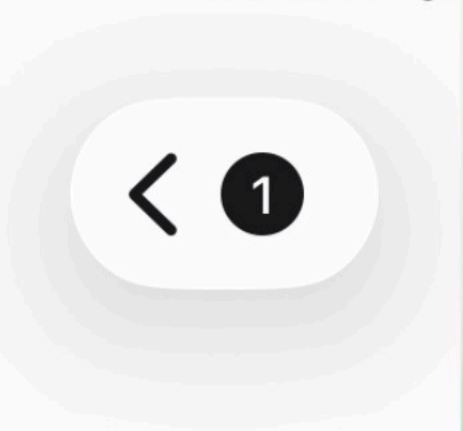


Hubble is in the interviews for
the library....

It feels icky.

Well, that's something. I wish I
had a bingo card for racist and
sexist remarks this week. I'm
sure his commentary would add
quite a few spots.





I know it's not our project, and we have absolutely no control over it, but if you have any magic to work with UA... Apparently traffic is backed up in the Gulf breeze already.



Wes

Sun, Feb 15 at 5:48 AM

I will make some calls

Thank you for the well wishes, im having contrast MRI today

Sun, Feb 15 at 8:06 AM

Thank you!

Good luck! Please let us know if you need anything.

Thu, Mar 5 at 8:27 PM

Miss you on the Dias tonight. I hope you are doing well. Crystal passed 😊

Fri, Mar 6 at 9:27 AM

Thank you, I was watching, it was a tough one, I have made it home, I thought you ran a very good mtg 😊

Thank you sir!

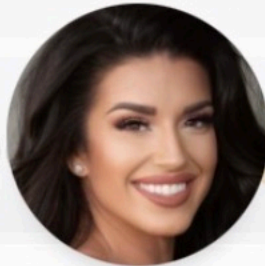


Text Message • SMS



12:34  summary agenda on your desk!

 5G  18



Fr **Melanie**  M



I talked with Wes and he is firm in his decision. He also told me Bradley took OFF her shoes during her interview 🤔 and bombed it completely. So there's that

HA
HA

Shoeless librarian... I can see the memes



I have used mine... may
you s... me? Haha



Melanie ›



I guess next time we will print it out and I will sign whatever in hot pink ink and you can stand it and send it to people.

Nikki came by and said Bradley has ZERO managerial experience

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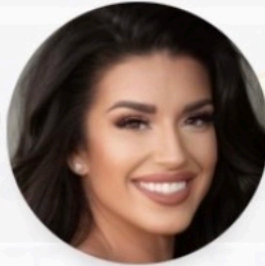
I have a summary agenda on
your desk!

12:37

5G 18



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Fr
Melanie M

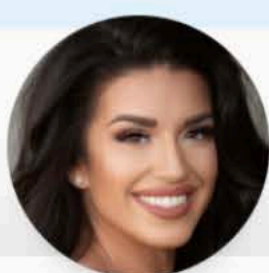


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Melanie

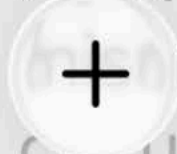


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I want to clearly express my full support for the decision to hire Christal Bell-Rivera as Library Director.

Having worked in Human Resources for over ten years, I understand that there is far more to selecting a strong leader than what appears in a job description. While qualifications and experience are essential, it is often the intangibles—character, leadership presence, vision, and the ability to build effective teams—that distinguish stellar team members from merely capable employees. Those qualities matter deeply when selecting someone to guide an institution as important as our library system.

I would also like to correct some



iMessage has been circulating.

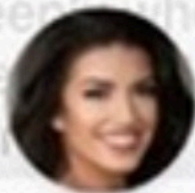
*Escambia County is not at risk

12:40

5G 18



1



Melanie



I would also like to address some misinformation that has been circulating.

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"It is my opinion that the Administrator is legally and solely responsible for the selection and hiring of the Library Director. The BOG may make a recommendation. The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners can either confirm the Administrator's selection or say no, but it CANNOT vote for any other candidate."

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Transparency and clarity are important, especially when public trust is involved.

I remain confident that this process has followed the



iMessage framework and



the positive impact of Christal's

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12:40

5G 18



Melanie



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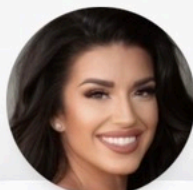
Ashlee Hofberger
District 4 County Commissioner
Office [850.595.4940](tel:850.595.4940)
Cell [448.239.1887](tel:448.239.1887)

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12:40

5G 18



Melanie

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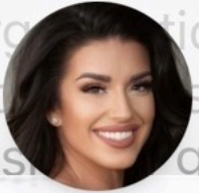


iMessage



12:40

5G 18



Melanie



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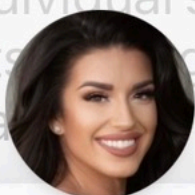


12:41

5G 18



2



Melanie

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iMessage



12:42 

It wasn't her

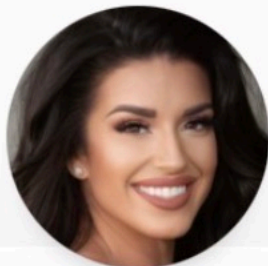


5G

17 



2



Melanie 

Ok

This starts library people

Chat after

