

## LIBRARY MATERIALS SELECTION AND ADOPTION

The Board endorses the School Library Bill of Rights, as adopted by the American Library Association, which asserts that the responsibility of the school library is to:

1. Provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of the students served.
2. Provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.
3. Provide a background of information that will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives.
4. Provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop under guidance the practice of critical reading and thinking.
5. Provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.
6. Place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for the users of the library.

Initial purchase suggestions for library selections may come from all personnel - teachers, coordinators, administrators. Students will also be encouraged to make suggestions. The librarian will be responsible for evaluation and recommendation of all library materials recommended to be included in the school library. Final approval and authority for distribution of funds will rest with the building principal, subject to the approval of the Superintendent and in keeping with the Board-approved budget.

### **Criteria for Materials Selection**

Selection of library materials will be based on:

- Relevancy or permanent value
- Accuracy
- Authoritativeness
- Readability
- Clear presentation and format

- Educational significance
- Need and value to the collection
- Age appropriateness
  - Elementary (grades PK-5, ages 0-10)
  - Middle School (grades 6-8, ages 10-13)
  - High School (grades 9-12, ages 13-17)

Gifts of library books will be accepted in keeping with the above policy on selection. Complaints about library books will be handled in line with Board policy on complaints about instructional materials. The challenged material will continue to be used during the reconsideration process unless the Superintendent suspends its use. Decisions on reconsidered materials will be binding for three (3) years before new requests for reconsideration of those items will be entertained.

Three (3) years must pass before material that has been censored or banned can be reinstated or considered for reinstatement. After that time, the board may entertain a request by a parent/guardian, student, citizen, librarian, or other district employee to consider reinstatement of the materials previously banned or censored.

[March 2014] [February 2024]