

SELECTION OF LIBRARY MEDIA MATERIALS

All types of materials for the District's libraries shall be recommended for purchase by the professional personnel of the libraries and the Administration. At the discretion of the Superintendent, such recommendation may include students and other staff.

Gifts to the library may be accepted only with the understanding that the disposition of such gifts becomes the prerogative of the Board of Education.

Media Selection Policy

The Board subscribes to the tenets of the School Library Bill of Rights as adopted by the American Association of School Librarians in 1969. The library should be an integral part of the educational program of the school, relating the disciplines to one another, as well as encouraging students to develop positive, responsible attitudes towards their peers and the total school environment.

School Library Bill of Rights

All materials selected shall support state objectives of school library service and be consistent with the media selection policy and Library Bill of Rights as printed below:

- A. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of the pupils served.
- B. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.
- C. To provide a background of information which will enable pupils to make intelligent judgments in their daily life.
- D. To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop under guidance the practice of critical reading and thinking.
- E. To provide materials representative of the many religions, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.
- F. To 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.

Media Evaluation Committee

In order to facilitate the questioning of an item of media selected by the District's libraries, English departments, or other faculty group or individual, for use by students of the schools, it is proposed that a Media Evaluation Committee be formed.

If a publication is thought potentially objectionable, it may be placed before being shelved. If a citizen objects to a book or periodical shelved in the library, offered for sale on a school bookstand, or used as assigned reading by faculty members, he/she should notify the Superintendent in writing and supply reasons.

Challenged Material

A procedure for processing and responding to criticism of approved materials shall be established and followed. This procedure shall include a formal, signed complaint of standard format and an appointed committee to re-evaluate the material in question. Virtually all material that is challenged belongs to one of three basic categories: religion, ideology, or profanity/obscenity. Board policy regarding these areas is as follows:

- A. Religion -- factual, unbiased material which represents all major religions shall be included in the library collections.
- B. Ideologies -- the libraries shall, with no thought toward swaying reader judgment, make available basic primary and factual material information on the level of their reading public, on any ideology or philosophy of government which exerts or has exerted a strong force, either favorable or unfavorable, in government, current events, politics, education, or any phase of life.
- C. Profanity/Obscenity -- materials shall be subjected to a test of literary merit and reality by the media specialist and teachers who will take into consideration their reading public and community standards of morality.

In all cases, the decision shall be made on the basis of whether the material presents life in its true proportions, whether circumstances are realistically dealt with, and whether the book has literary or social value. Factual material shall be included in the library collections.

Final decisions regarding challenged materials shall rest with the Board.

LEGAL REFS.: O.A.C. 3301-35-06

Adopted: August 20, 2012