

Selection Process for Library Materials:

I. Statement of Support for Intellectual Freedom:

- The school libraries of this district are guided by the principles set forth in the Library Bill of Rights and its interpretative statements, including “Access to Resources and Services in the School Library Program.”

II. Objectives:

- To provide students with a wide range of materials at varying levels of difficulty and in a variety of formats, with diversity of appeal, allowing for the presentation of many different points of view.
- To meet the library needs of students and faculty served.
- To select materials that present various sides of controversial issues, giving students an opportunity to develop analytical skills resulting in informed decisions.
- To select materials in all formats, including up-to-date, high quality, varied literature to develop and strengthen a love of reading.

III. Responsibility for Selection:

- Responsibility for selection rests with professionally trained library personnel using the established Selection Criteria (see below).
- Educators, students, administrators, and others may participate by making recommendations or requests. However, final responsibility for the selection decisions rests with school library professionals.

IV. Selection Criteria:

Items selected will:

- Represent differing viewpoints on controversial issues.
- Provide a global perspective and promote diversity by including materials by authors and illustrators of all cultures.
- Include a variety of resources in physical and virtual formats including print and non-print such as electronic and multimedia (including subscription academic databases, eBooks, and other forms of emerging technology).
- Incorporate accurate and factual information from authoritative sources.
- Promote diversity in items offered in: subject area, age, emotional development, ability level, access, learning styles, social, emotional, and intellectual development.
- Researched for favorable reviews from diverse perspectives, favorable recommendations, award winners and nominees, and titles popular for school population.
- Reflect students' personal interests and learning.
- Evolve as the student population changes in needs and trends.

Note: Selection is an ongoing process that includes the removing of materials that are no longer used or needed, adding materials and new releases, and replacing lost and worn materials that still have library or educational value.

V. Selecting Materials on Controversial Topics:

- It is the responsibility of all libraries to serve every member of their designated communities. It is not the responsibility of a library to promote one point of view over another. Materials collected will represent majority as well as minority beliefs.
- School library professional staff will provide materials on opposing viewpoints on controversial issues to enable students to develop necessary critical thinking skills to be discriminate users of information and productive members of society.
- District libraries subscribe to the principles expressed in the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights.