



Davis School District Library Review Committees GENERAL INFORMATION

The school library media centers of the Davis School District (District) exist to provide informational resources for teachers and students, to assist students in developing literacy and research skills, and to provide recreational reading opportunities.

❖ School Library Review Committee ❖

1. HOW DOES A SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER DEVELOP ITS COLLECTION: School library development is the ongoing process of identifying strengths and weaknesses of the school library's collection of print, non-print, electronic resources, and equipment in relation to student and staff needs. School library media centers shall provide a broad range of educational, informational, and recreational reading resources. The school's library professional is responsible to maintain a regular inventory of library materials and equipment. A formal inventory shall be conducted annually to assess the library collection and help with selection and acquisition of materials and equipment. Under the direction of the District Library Media Supervisor (District Supervisor), procedures shall be established for inventorying each school's library collection.

2. WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER ACQUISITIONS: Under the direction of the District Library Media Supervisor (District Supervisor) and the Assistant Superintendent over Teaching and Learning the criteria includes at a minimum: **1)** relationship to and support of curriculum; **2)** developmental/maturity level of students; **3)** format; **4)** accuracy; **5)** timeliness; **6)** reliability; **7)** provision of balanced views; **8)** recreation needs of students; **9)** linguistic pluralism for both English language learners and foreign language programs; **10)** literary quality; and **11)** quality of illustrations. Requests and suggestions of students, parents, and faculty which fit these criteria may also be considered.

3. HOW/WHEN ARE MATERIALS DISCARDED FROM THE LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER: Libraries have an annual process called "weeding" during which they examine **1)** the poor physical condition of the materials; **2)** superseded by more current information or contain subject matter no longer needed to support curriculum; **3)** receiving little use (rarely checked out); providing wrong, inaccurate, or dated information; or **4)** encouraging stereotypes or biases.

4. CAN A PARENT REQUEST THAT A BOOK BE REMOVED THE LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER: If a parent/guardian wants to use the formal challenge process, they can fill out the "[School Level Challenge of Library Media Materials](#)" form. Remember that the process for review takes time, there is no immediate action except to begin the process for a school level review. This procedure takes time (acquire books, distribute to committee, reading time, meeting/discussion, etc.). District policy is that the resource under reconsideration will not be removed from use or have access restricted pending completion of the process.

5. WHAT IS THE CASE LAW SURROUNDING SCHOOL LIBRARIES: Case law for school libraries begins with students having First Amendment rights under the *Tinker V Des Moines* (1969). It has been widely interpreted to protect individuals and society from government attempts to suppress ideas and information, and to forbid government censorship of books, magazines, and newspapers as well as art, film, music and other materials. Specifically, library case law in *Pico V Island Trees School District* upholds students' rights in libraries by limiting the ability of school boards to remove library items, against the committee's recommendation, given that students' First Amendment rights are guaranteed by *Tinker*.

Committee Quick Tips

- 1. Be impartial, try to remove your personal preferences from the discussion.**
- 2. Remember you represent the WHOLE community, not just one point of view.**
- 3. Specifically address the challenge made, you do not have to address other content items.**
- 4. Is the challenged content necessary to plot/storyline or gratuitous?**
- 5. Does this book/media provide an experience that is needed in the collection for students?**