

**SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS**

The primary function of a school’s library media center is to implement, enrich and support the educational program of the school. Library media center collections are maintained with a wide range of materials so every student can find books, digital resources, and other materials that are relevant to them. The Alexandria City School Board believes that high-quality library staff are essential to students learning to access resources and perform research.

Each school maintains an organized library media center as the resource center of the school and provides a unified program of media services and activities for students and teachers before, during and after school. The library media center contains hard copy, electronic technological resources, materials, and equipment that are sufficient to meet research, inquiry, and reading requirements of the instructional program and general student interest. Each school provides a variety of materials, resources, and equipment to support the instructional program.

To this end, the School Board declares that the primary responsibilities of the library media center are:

1. To provide materials that will stimulate the acquisition of factual knowledge and the development of literary appreciation, aesthetic values and ethical standards;
2. To provide a source of information which when consulted may enable students to make informed judgments;
3. To provide materials containing a wide range of views and culturally inclusive content and perspectives on issues so that students may develop the practice of critical reading and thinking;
4. To provide materials representative of religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contribution to American heritage and global society; and,
5. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for the users of the library media center.

Each school provides a variety of materials and resources in its library media center to support the instructional program.

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