

Selection of Instructional and Library Materials

The Board delegates to the Superintendent or designee the authority to select instructional and library materials in accordance with this policy. The selection process shall allow for input from students, parents/guardians, the patrons of the District, and educators. Non-supplemental materials are subject to adoption by the Board.

Objectives:

The following principles from the School Library Bill of Rights shall serve as District objectives in the selection of instructional and library materials.

1. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum and personal needs of the users, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, learning styles, maturity levels, socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds.
2. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge and ethical standards and that will develop literary, cultural and aesthetic appreciation.
3. To provide a background of information which will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives.
4. To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so the users may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis.
5. To provide materials which realistically represent our pluralistic society and reflect the contributions made by all groups and individuals to our American and global heritage.
6. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to ensure a comprehensive collection appropriate for users.

Criteria for Selection of Materials

Persons responsible for selecting materials shall strive to:

1. provide for the needs of the individual school based on knowledge of the curriculum, the existing collection, and requests from students, parents, and school personnel.
2. provide materials of high artistic, historic and literary quality.
3. provide a balanced collection, with a fair proportion of each type of material selected to meet the needs of the curriculum, the students and professional staff at all levels.
4. provide materials for students with a wide range of skills and abilities as well as materials with diversity of appeal and different points of view.
5. provide fair and objective presentations of sensitive subjects at the maturity level for which selected.
6. consider materials on the basis of overall purpose; timeliness or permanence; importance of the subject matter; appropriateness to the subject matter and intended audience; quality of the writing and production; readability and popular appeal; authoritativeness; format and price; reputation and significance of the author, artist, composer, producer, or publisher
7. select materials on the basis of their strengths rather than to reject on the basis of their weaknesses.

Gift Materials

Gifts to the media center may be accepted if they meet the criteria established for the selection of all instructional materials. There shall be no commitment regarding their use.

Disposal of Instructional and Library Materials

In order to maintain a current and highly usable collection of materials, the Superintendent's designee shall provide for continuing renewal of the collection, not only by addition of up-to date materials, but also by the judicious elimination of materials which no longer meet needs or find use.

Definitions

Non-supplemental Materials: textbooks and other curricular materials, including instructional media such as software, audio/visual media and Internet resources, which are, in general, used by all District teachers of a particular subject or course.

Cross-Reference: 2512 Textbooks and Other Curricular Materials Selection and Adoption

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-506(1) Organization and Government of Board of Trustees
 I.C. § 33-118A Curricular Materials – Adoption Procedures

Policy History:

Adopted on: August 17, 2009

Revised on: