

LIBRARY MATERIALS SELECTION AND ADOPTION

Policy Number: Superintendent File: IJL

The primary objective of a school's educational media center is to enrich, and support the 21st Century curriculum and World Class Education learning targets. It is the duty of the center to provide a wide range of materials in a variety of mediums to include electronic and print. These materials should span all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, and presentation of different points of view.

To this end, the District reaffirms current state and national standards for School Library Media Programs, and asserts that it is the library media collection in its entirety, including online databases, and other online resources that must meet these objectives:

1. 21st Century skills emphasizing critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and communication.
2. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of pupils served.
3. To provide materials that will stimulate 21st Century Skills in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, ethical standards, social responsibility and critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication.
4. To provide opportunities to effectively use information and communication technologies to develop spoken, listening, written, visual skills.
5. To provide a background of information that will enable learners to reason and to make informed decisions in their daily lives.
6. To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues within the collection so that young citizens may develop under guidance the practice of critical analysis of all media.
7. To provide materials representative of many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.
8. To place principle above personal opinion, and reason above prejudice, in selection of materials of highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for users of the library media center.
9. To provide materials that encourage enjoyment of reading, viewing, and listening which are appropriate for all levels.
10. To provide materials for school staff and community that represent timely educational and community issues.

Selection of library materials involves input from: school district administrators, teachers, supervisors, and media specialists. Responsibility for coordinating selection of library materials and making recommendations for purchase rests with professionally trained media personnel.

Criteria for Selection of Instructional Materials

Needs of the individual school, determined on the basis of adherence to guaranteed and viable curriculum and of the existing collection, are given first consideration.

Materials are considered for purchase on the basis of:

1. Overall purpose;
2. Timeliness or permanence;
3. Importance of subject matter;
4. Quality of writing/production;
5. Readability and popular appeal;
6. Authoritativeness;
7. Reputation of publisher/producer;
8. Format and price;
9. Requests from faculty and students.

Procedures for Selection

In selecting materials for purchase, the certified media specialist/ or in some cases a classified librarian evaluates the existing collection and consults:

1. Reputable, unbiased, professionally prepared selection aids.
2. Teachers from all departments and/or all grade levels to provide expertise and recommendations.

In specific areas the media specialist shall follow these procedures:

1. Gift materials are judged by basic selection standards, and are accepted or rejected by these standards.
2. Multiple copies of items of outstanding and much in demand media are purchased as needed.
3. Worn or missing standard items are replaced/repared periodically.
4. Out-of-date or no longer useful materials are withdrawn from the collection.
5. Sets of materials and materials acquired by subscription are examined carefully, and are purchased only to fill a definite need.
6. Vendors must be on the approved vendors list prior to calling and making an appointment to visit any of the schools.

Adopted prior to 1974

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LEGAL REFS.:

C.R.S. 22-32-110(1)(q), (r)