

LIBRARY MISSION	<p>The school libraries of this district follow the mission stated in the School Library Programs: Standards and Guidelines for Texas, which states:</p> <p>Certified librarians and trained staff nurture a culture of literacy and inquiry throughout the school community. An integral part of instructional teams, librarians are teachers who collaborate with teachers on curriculum design and delivery. They maintain a professionally developed collection of print and digital materials and assist learners in locating resources that match their academic and personal interests. Librarians model and teach information literacy and digital citizenship, empowering learners to make ethical, informed choices in an increasingly complex and evolving global environment.</p>
SUPPORT FOR INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM	<p>The school libraries of this district are guided by the principles set forth in the School Library Programs: Standards and Guidelines for Texas, Learners and educators practice the ethical and legal use of information; including transformative fair use, intellectual freedom, information access, privacy, proprietary rights, and validation of information as approval in local policy EFA, federal law (1st Amendment), and best library practice (Library Bill of Rights).</p>
COMMON BELIEFS	<p>The school libraries of this district are guided by the principles set forth in the School Library Programs: Standards and Guidelines for Texas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School libraries promote information literacy requiring targeted instruction to efficiently locate, accurately evaluate, ethically use, and clearly communicate information in various formats.</li><li>• School libraries provide access to information for inquiry including the pursuit, creation, and sharing of knowledge, and support for both student and professional learning.</li><li>• School libraries support reading for learning and pleasure which are essential skills for college and career readiness and for life.</li><li>• School libraries are vital technology centers, providing access to devices and online resources, supporting personalized learning, and teaching digital literacy including privacy, safety, etiquette, creative credit, cyber bullying, and creating a positive digital footprint.</li><li>• School libraries are essential, safe, and inviting centers for teaching and learning.</li><li>• School libraries are effective when staffed by full-time, certified school librarians at every school, supported by trained</li></ul>

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**PARENTAL  
INVOLVEMENT**

The District shall focus on maximizing transparency with parents and community members while meeting student needs and providing enrichment opportunities with library materials.

To support transparency and access for the school community, the District shall establish means for parents and the public to review holdings, including information about how titles and materials are accessed.

**PROTECTION FROM  
INAPPROPRIATE  
MATERIAL**

Library materials shall not include “harmful material” as defined by Penal Code 43.24(a)(2) or “obscene” material as defined by Penal Code 43.21(a)(1).

**RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR SELECTION**

The elected school board shall delegate to the superintendent of schools or district administrator the authority and responsibility for selection of library materials in all formats. Responsibility for actual selection rests with professionally trained library personnel using the board’s adopted policy in EF-B (LOCAL).

**SELECTION  
CRITERIA**

Materials shall be selected from all forms of media in accordance with EF-B (LOCAL), taking into consideration the interests, vocabulary, maturity, and ability levels of all students within the school served. The most important criteria for selecting materials for the library shall be that materials are developmentally and age appropriate.

**General Criteria:**

- Developmentally and age appropriate
- Integral to the instructional program
- Appropriate for the reading levels and understanding of students
- Reflect the interests and needs of the students and faculty,
- Are included because of their literary or artistic value and merit, and present information with the greatest degree of accuracy and clarity

**ACQUISITION  
PROCEDURES**

- A minimum of one review or rating from a professional library resource
- Recommendations for purchase involve administrators, teachers, students, district personnel, and community members, as appropriate.
- Gift and stakeholder recommended materials shall be judged by the selection criteria and shall be accepted or rejected by those criteria and in accordance with CDC (LOCAL).

- Selection is an ongoing process that should include removing materials that are no longer used or needed, adding materials, and replacing lost and worn materials that still have educational value.

## CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS

District professional staff shall endeavor to maintain a balanced collection representing various views when selecting instructional resources on controversial issues. Resources shall be chosen to clarify historical and contemporary forces by presenting and analyzing intergroup tension and conflict objectively, placing emphasis on recognizing and understanding social and economic problems. [See also EMB regarding instruction about controversial issues and EHAA regarding human sexuality instruction.]

## CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

Since classroom libraries are viewed as places for voluntary inquiry, classroom library books are treated like other library materials.

## GIFTS AND DONATIONS

Administrators, teachers, library media specialists, other District personnel, parents, and community members, as appropriate, may recommend instructional resources for selection. Gifts of instructional resources shall be evaluated according to these criteria and accepted or rejected in accordance with CDC(LOCAL).

## MAINTENANCE AND WEEDING

Annually, the school librarian will conduct an inventory of the school library collection and equipment. The inventory can be used to determine losses and remove damaged or worn materials which can then be considered for replacement. The inventory can also be used to deselect and remove materials that are no longer relevant to the curriculum or of interest to students. Additionally, school librarians should develop a collection maintenance plan that includes systematic inspection of materials that would result in weeding outdated, damaged, or irrelevant materials from the collection.

## RECONSIDERATION

A parent of a District student, any employee, or any District resident may formally challenge library material on the basis of appropriateness in accordance with EF-B (LOCAL).