

Book Selection – Good Practice

Adopted October 5, 2001 – Updated 2008

GOAL

To provide materials which will implement, enrich and support the educational program of the school. The library media teacher should provide a wide range of material on all levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal, and the presentation of different points of view.

OBJECTIVES

We seek to reaffirm the objectives of the Standards for School Media Programs prepared by the American Association of School Librarians which assert that the responsibility of the media center is:

1. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of the pupils served.
2. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.
3. To provide a background of information which will enables pupils to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives.
4. To provide materials on opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis of all media.
5. To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.
6. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for the users of the library media center.

CRITERIA

1. Needs of the school based on knowledge of the curriculum and of existing collection.
2. Overall purpose.
3. Timeliness or permanence.
4. Importance of subject matter.
5. Quality of the writing / production.
6. Readability and popular appeal.
7. Authoritativeness.
8. Reputation of the publisher/producer.
9. Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer, etc.
10. Format and price.
11. Requests from faculty and students.