

OBJECTIVE FOR MATERIALS SELECTION

The objective of the library collection is to provide faculty and students a variety of materials that enriches and supports the curriculum and meet the needs of the students and faculty served. The main objective of the selection procedure is to provide students with a wide range of reading materials in a variety of formats and difficulty levels and that also represent diverse points of view.

The Oak Bluffs School Library subscribes to the American Library Association's [Library Bill of Rights](#).

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELECTING MATERIALS

The Oak Bluffs School Committee is legally responsible for the purchase of library materials; however, the School Committee delegates responsibility for selection of materials to the school library teacher. The school library teacher makes purchasing decisions based on school curriculum, teacher needs, and student needs and interests. The school library teacher is also responsible for evaluation, coordination, and selection of library resources and for prioritizing resource needs within the available budget.

Student, faculty, staff, parent, and community recommendations are welcome at all times. Faculty recommendations are actively solicited when materials purchases are being planned.

CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

The ongoing cycle of improvement for the collection and curation of resources is to ensure student success.

The school library teacher conducts needs assessments to identify gaps between the collection and the resource needs of students, staff, and curriculum. Formal and informal needs assessments provide valuable information about current library inventory.

When making purchase decisions, the school library teacher consults reputable, professional, review sources, including but not limited to: *School Library Journal*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *The Horn Book Magazine*, *Booklist*, and *The Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books*.

Collection criteria includes accuracy and authority, literary and artistic quality, clarity and readability, relevant to the curriculum, relevancy to patron interests and needs, potential use of the material, timeliness or permanence, contribution to the overall library collection, format, physical durability, and price.

When possible, the librarian examines materials at professional exhibits, bookstores, other libraries, and through preview opportunities with participating vendors.

The school library teacher consults with other school and public librarians to facilitate resource sharing.

DONATIONS

The library welcomes gifts of books and money for the purchase of books which will enhance the collection. Gift items are accepted with the understanding that they will be assessed according to the same criteria as purchased acquisitions. The library reserves the right to dispose of any unsolicited gifts which are not appropriate or necessary for the collection.

DESELECTION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

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 or deselection. The inventory can also be used to deselect and remove materials that are no longer relevant to the curriculum or of interest to students. The school library teacher subscribes to the [CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries](#) by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

PROCEDURE FOR RECONSIDERATION OF MATERIALS

The Oak Bluffs School has established a procedure to address challenges to library materials. To learn more about this procedure, please see the [Reconsideration of Library Materials Policy](#).