

IV. Instruction

B. Instructional Resources and Materials

1. Free Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials

a. Selection of Instructional Materials for Library/Media Centers

I. OBJECTIVES OF SELECTION

The basic objectives of the library/media centers in the Narragansett schools are to support the school's educational philosophy, enrich and reinforce the school's curriculum, and provide material for pleasurable and recreational reading. The library/media center will have available a wide range of materials on all levels of difficulty, with a diversity of appeal, and the presentation of different points of view.

To this end, we shall consider the objectives stated in the **Standards for School Media Programs**, by the American Association of School Librarians and the Department of Audio/Visual Instruction, and asserts that the responsibility of the library/media center is:

To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of the pupils served.

To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.

To provide a background of information which will enable pupils to make intelligent judgements in their daily life.

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.

To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.

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.

The Media Center's policy for the acceptance of gifts and weeding of the collection will be the same (as stated above).

II. RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELECTION OF MATERIALS

Suggestions and requests for materials involve many people -- administrators, teachers, media specialists, parents, and students. The responsibility for coordinating the selection of instructional materials and making the recommendation for purchase rests with the library/media specialists.

Selection of Instructional Materials (continued)

III. CHALLENGED MATERIALS

Any complaints about instructional materials in the library/media center or in other departments and/or locations in our schools should be made in writing. A committee of five -- the Principal, a teacher, the library/media specialist, and two parents -- shall review the object of the complaint and re-evaluate the material's place in the school's collection. Every opportunity will be afforded these persons or groups questioning the materials to meet with the committee and to present their opinions.

The committee's decision will be made in writing to the Superintendent. Unfavorable decisions may be appealed by complainants to the Superintendent and to the School Committee.

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Narragansett School System
Narragansett, Rhode Island