



NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

Board of Education Policy 6-230

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INSTRUCTION

LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER

The Library Resource Center shall serve as a multimedia center which shall provide resources to students and professional staff.

Since by law only the Board of Education can adopt textbooks and approve library purchases, the final responsibility for approval of selections rests with the Board. In delegating responsibility to the professional staff, the Board recognizes and approves the following procedures and principles:

1. With respect to the selection of library materials, the Board accepts the definition of the school library's responsibility (as described in the "Library Bill of Rights" of the American Association of School Librarians):
 - a. "To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities and maturity levels of the pupils served.
 - b. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values and ethical standards.
 - c. To provide a background of information which will enable pupils to make intelligent judgments in their daily life.
 - d. To provide materials on opposing sides* of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop under guidance the practice of critical reading and thinking.

* *The presentation of a "side" of a controversial issue should be in the spirit and by the rules of responsible advocacy. (We charge the faculty with the obligation to help our students identify arguments or preachments which are demonstrably unbalanced by bias, hate, calumny, distortion of facts, or ignorance of or indifference to the laws of evidence and the requirements of proof.)*

- e. To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.
 - f. 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.”
2. With respect to the procedures of selection, the Board approves the following practices;
- a. Continuing consultation between and among librarians, department heads, the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction as curriculum chair, and key specialists of the teaching faculty.
 - b. Attendance by designated library staff members at all academic department meetings, to keep continuously informed of teaching aims and content.
 - c. Evaluation of textbook bibliographies by both teachers and librarian to select supplementary reading.
 - d. Thorough examination and evaluation of every book or other instructional materials by a librarian, teacher, (or both) before it is added to the library.

Adopted: 10/17/94

Amended: 8/23/04

Affirmed: 4/17/2006