

BARNSTEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT Library Materials Selection & Adoption

The legal responsibility for the selection and purchase of materials for the Barnstead Elementary School Library/Media Center rests with the Barnstead School Board. That responsibility shall, however, be delegated to the trained Library/Media Specialist who is hired for this purpose. The purpose of the creation of the selection policy is to insure that materials will be selected carefully to enrich the learning experience of our students. Thoughtful selection rather than censorship of materials will be encouraged.

Basis for Selection of Materials

Materials will be selected upon the following principles:

1. Literary merit.
2. Technical or production quality.
3. Nature of subject matter of the material. An attempt should be made to have a carefully balanced collection.
4. Balance of diverse opinions represented in the collection.
5. Interest of students.
6. Reasonableness of cost.
7. Meeting of curriculum needs.

Procedure for the Selection of Materials

The trained judgement of the Library/Media Specialist in the selection of materials should be recognized and respected, so long as she/he considers the above criteria in making those selections. The media professional should, whenever possible, and always when selecting materials in controversial subject areas, use sources which are respected by the Library/Media community to assist him/her in the wisest selection of materials. Some of these sources are listed below:

1. School Library Journal.
2. Elementary School Library Catalog.
3. Junior High School Library Catalog.
4. Senior High School Library Catalog.
5. Kliatt (A Source for Paperback Books for Young Adults).
6. Wilson Library Bulletin.
7. Booklist.
8. Reading Lists published by the New Hampshire State Library.

Procedure for the Reconsideration of Library/Media Center Materials

1. Individuals who seek a review of a library/media material shall fill out a "request" for reconsideration of library/media materials, which may be obtained by the building principal.

2. Within five days of the "request" form, the principal will appoint a review committee composed of the Media Specialist, two members of the School Board and the Principal.
3. Within ten days of the receipt of the "request" form, the review committee will meet to discuss the material in question. The complainant may be involved in this meeting, if she/he desires.
4. Within five days of the initial meeting stipulated in #3, the review committee will formulate a decision concerning the material in question.
5. Within five days of the decision, the Principal will inform the complainant of the committee's decision.
6. The material in question will not be removed from the shelves of the library/media center while that material is undergoing reconsideration.

Donations

Materials which are donated to the library facilities will be evaluated in the same manner as materials which are selected for purchase.

(Adopted: 08/13/85)

(Reviewed: 03/02/93)