

SUBJECT: LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTERS

The Board of Education recognizes that each individual has a right to equality of educational opportunity, that learning is a continuous process which takes place in different ways and degrees, and that a comprehensive library-media center is an integral part of the total educational program.

The legal responsibility for the school library/media center rests with the Board, but the administration and the Board entrust the responsibility of selection, organization and maintenance of library materials to the school librarians.

In the organization of such services, the teaching program and the resources of the school library/media center, as well as in the selection of library personnel, the Board will use the standards suggested by the New York Libraries Association.

The Board of Education agrees that the responsibility of the school library is:

- a) To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities and maturity levels of the students 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 that will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives.
- 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.
- e) To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contribution 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.

Selection of Library and Audiovisual Materials

In interpreting these principles, the following will apply in the selection of library and audiovisual materials.:

- a) Broad and varied collections will be developed systematically by the librarian and the audiovisual specialist, based on recommendations of the professional staff and suggestions of students and parents. Final approval will be made by the Building Principal.

(Continued)

Instruction

SUBJECT: LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTERS (Cont'd.)

- b) Qualitative standards of selection involving factual accuracy, authoritativeness, artistic quality and appeal will be applied by librarians and audiovisual specialists before purchases are made.
- c) Materials will not be excluded because of the race, nationality, political opinions or religious views of the author.
- d) Materials will be continuously re-evaluated in relation to changing curriculum and instructional needs. Worn out, out-dated materials will be discarded.

8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR)
Section 21.4