

POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date Submitted: November 20, 1979 Date Reviewed: February 15, 2000 January 17, 2006 January 20, 2009 January 19, 2010 June 21, 2016 December 20, 2020	Number: 500-19
Subject: Selection of Media Center Materials	Date Approved: January 15, 1980 May 28, 2002, January 17, 2006 February 17, 2009 February 16, 2010, July 19, 2016 September 28, 2021 Date Effective: March 21, 2000, May 28, 2002, January 17, 2006 February 17, 2009 February 16, 2010, July 19, 2016 September 28, 2021

1. **PURPOSE**

To establish procedures for the selection and weeding of both print and non-print media materials in the school library media collections.

2. **POLICY**

The primary objective in the selection of media materials is to provide appropriate resources that support the academic programs and enhance student intellectual, social and emotional growth.

A. Selection of Media Center Materials

- (1) In selecting media center materials, the staff will rely on reviews from professional library-media and literacy organizations; reviews from vendors; and professional judgment. Materials selected will include, but are not limited to those which:
 - (a) Enrich and support the academic programs, taking into consideration the various needs, abilities, interests and maturity levels of the students served.
 - (b) Stimulate growth in conceptual thinking, factual knowledge, physical fitness and the development of ethical and literary standards.
 - (c) Contribute to the development of an understanding of the ethnic, cultural and occupational diversity of other cultures of American life.
 - (d) Provide sufficient variety as well as opposing views of controversial issues in order that young citizens may develop the skills of critical analysis and informed decision making.

- (e) Present objectively the concerns of racial, ethnic, religious, gender and cultural groups that are historic and current while offering different, and unbiased points of view.
 - (f) Provide models which may be used as a vehicle for the development of self-respect, ethnic pride and appreciation of cultural differences, based on respect for worth, dignity, and the personal values of every individual.
- (2) Although extreme care is taken in the selection of materials, there may be, on occasion, some objection to certain selections that have been made. If this happens the appeal process will be followed as written in the Administrative Procedures for this policy.
- (3) Media Centers are frequently offered donations of books by interested persons. There are specific procedures for accepting donations, depending on who is making the gift, the needs of the library and the donor's wishes. Donations will follow the guidelines in the Administrative procedures for this policy.