

CROSSPOINTE ELEMENTARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022 - 2023

Crosspointe Elementary School Mission Statement

Crosspointe's mission is to provide leadership, support, and resources to students that will allow for the design and implementation of an effective strategy rich environment across all academic areas to ensure college and career readiness. Our focus will be to provide a challenging learning environment in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, which maximizes individual a potential and ensures students are well-equipped to meet the challenges in the world around them. We will also have students that are able to make well-reasoned, thoughtful, and healthy lifelong decisions in an ever-changing world. We further believe that all students can learn and be successful, and we will provide proper instruction in a supportive environment to meet this goal.

Crosspointe Elementary will increase parental participation in school-related activities. Technology will be infused into the curriculum and available to all teachers and students. Crosspointe Elementary will have a technology proficient staff and student body with relevance to instructional strategies whole serving the students in the least restrictive environment.

Crosspointe Elementary School Library Media Center / Innovation Center Mission Statement

Crosspointe Elementary will provide and promote instruction to prepare students to become independent users of our library. The library media program provides users with diverse information, resources and skills to access, process and apply information to problems and decisions, thereby helping them to make meaning of a changing world.

Our mission also is to maintain education services, books, technology, and resources that enable all members of the school community to become critical thinkers and effective users of information. The library media staff of Crosspointe Elementary is committed to providing resources, instructions, and technology for the development of intellectual, social, and physical growth of our student formation literacy skills of the 21st century.

The Library Media staff will provide a rich environment that will:

- provide STEM Activities to encourage students to uses their thinking skills to creatively find solutions to problems;
- provide curriculum/pleasure reading resources in multiple formats to meet the need of all students;
- stimulate intellectual curiosity;
- encourage pleasure reading;
- Provide resources to meet the diverse population
- Provide technology instruction
- Promote the need for all users to become a self-sufficient library user and to instill the joy of reading.

Purpose of Collection Development Policy

SDPBC Policy 8.12 (6.a) stipulates: "Each school shall, in conjunction with the "Library Bill of Rights" of the American Library Association (ALA) and District policy, establish procedures for the evaluation, selection, management, and disposal of library media materials in conformance with this policy and Policy 8.1205 and shall record such in the school's collection development policy."

The school board's collection development policy drives AMES selection, evaluation, and maintenance of the resources available to our students and faculty. With that being said, we encourage our faculty and students to provide input into the selection of our materials.

School Community

Crosspointe STEM Elementary School is a title one school with a population of approximately 656 students. 93 percent of our students are economically disadvantaged and a 92 percent minority rate. Crosspointe STEM is proud to be a Green School of Quality. Students, staff, administrators, and community members work together to continue our school promise of being Green and to facilitate learning opportunities that continue to build environmentally active students. Students continue their recycling efforts throughout the school, help educate everyone involved, and look for more ways to conserve energy.

Our STEM focused school incorporates project-based learning, where students ask questions, create solutions to real world problems, and use innovative strategies to create new ideas by building, researching, and using trial and error to master the skills traditionally taught in elementary school. Our goal is to open the eyes of young boys and girls to the sciences and help them to use their imagination to learn about all the various career opportunities that can materialize from a continued focus in STEM.

Library Program

At Crosspointe Elementary, the Library Media Specialist will compose library media lessons based on the American Library Association. The lessons are designed to be collaborative lessons with emphasis on supporting the Information and Media Literacy and the Florida State Standards. Students rotate through the Media Center on a daily basis as part of the Fine Arts wheel. Each class has thirty minutes to either check out books, participate in a Media lesson, Coding exercises via the computer lab located in the media center, or work in our Makerspace area which consists of various materials to build, use the 3D computers to practice our current Science Standards, tinker with our 3D printers or participate in STEM challenges

Budget and Funding

At the beginning of every school year Crosspointe Elementary Library Media Center is provided with a school-based operating budget from Administration. The expected budget for the 2022-2023 school year will be similar to that of the current year.

School-based Operating Budget	BUDGET
Account 551100-Supplies	\$794.00
Account 553420-Periodicals	\$250.00
Account 562230-AV Materials	\$297.00
Account 564220-Equip non-cap	\$371.00
Account 561100-Books	\$668.00
Program 3070	\$1597.00
Program 8430	\$ 0
Media Internal	\$ 260.00
Total	\$ 4237.00

Scope of the Collection

The collection development is guided by the curriculum and the guidelines of the School District of Palm Beach County, which in turn are governed by the State of Florida Department of Education.

The Dewey Decimal Classification System, according to best practices for school libraries in the United States, is used to arrange the print and non-print collections at Crosspointe Elementary. District – wide electronic information and database subscriptions are provided by the SDPBC.

Through affiliation with the public library system, the Crosspointe Library Media Center can provide to the patron's resources beyond the walls of its building and throughout the state of Florida. This is made possible through the access of interlibrary loan.

The SDPBC Library Media Services provides support to school library media center personnel and establishes uniform policies and procedures for school library media centers throughout the district. These services include, but are not limited to:

- maintaining a professional library collection to assist with re-certification and knowledge acquisition on education-related topics.
- managing the online catalog including the library inventory and circulation software.
- selecting and making accessible online information databases for reference and research.
- providing guidance and training to school library media staff in program planning, curriculum development, budget, technology, collection maintenance, facility use and media production.
- participating in inter-departmental curriculum development, facility planning, personnel staffing, and task forces at the administrative level.
- manage technical services for acquiring and processing resources for schools; and
- distribute to schools and monitor categorical and capital budgets allocated for library programs.

Library Media Services works in collaboration with the Department of Educational Technology to provide selected electronic information, technology to access it, and the training needed to search and find specific facts efficiently and effectively.

Collection Development

SDPBC Policy 8.12 (6.a) stipulates: "Each school shall, in conjunction with the "Library Bill of Rights"(<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/index.cfm>) of the American Library Association (ALA) and District policy, establish procedures for the evaluation, selection, management, and disposal of library media materials in conformance with this policy and Policy 2.1205 and shall record such in the school's collection development policy."

Crosspointe Library Media Center Staff will use this Collection Development Policy as a guideline in the selection, acquisition, evaluation, and maintenance of library media center materials. This document will be updated as changes occur in the curriculum, informational needs, programming, and policies.

Library Media Center staff responsibility continues with meeting the reading, reference and research needs of the student body and faculty in an age of information abundance. The Department of K-12 Instructional Material and Library Media Services maintain the electronic catalog of resources which is available 24 hours each day to students, faculty, and parents. Research and reference materials are available at all times through the district-wide electronic subscription databases.

Selection and Evaluation Criteria

Materials considered for purchase are selected based on the criteria established in SDPBC 8.21 (6.d)

- " In conjunction with the selection criteria above, library media specialists, teachers and administrators at each school location shall evaluate and select print and non- print materials for the library media center using several of the criteria outlined below, as appropriate for the media type. However, in accordance with Fla. Stat. § 847.012, criteria "xvi" and "xvii" below (relating to obscenity and copyright) must meet two of the criteria used in the evaluation of all materials.
- PROFESSIONAL REVIEWS. -- Print or non-print media including video footage that have been favorably reviewed by two or more professional sources such as a School Library Journal, Horn Book, Booklist, and/or Children's Catalog.
- EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE. -- Material is valuable to an individual course of study or to the library media collection.

- **APPROPRIATENESS.** -- Material is geared to the age, maturity, diverse interests, and learning levels of students for whom it is intended. Reading levels and Lexile's are considered to provide a range of material that challenges the student and guides their selection process.
- **ACCURACY.** -- Nonfiction information is correct, recent, and objective.
- **LITERARY MERIT.** -- Fiction that has a noteworthy plot, setting, characterization, style, and theme.
- **SCOPE.** -- Content is covered adequately to achieve its intended purpose.
- **AUTHORITY.** -- The author, editor, or producer has a superior reputation for producing materials of this nature.
- **SPECIAL FEATURES.** -- The item has maps, charts, graphs, glossaries, and/or other learning aids that support the content, are unique or are valuable.
- **TRANSLATION INTEGRITY.** -- Material translated from one language to another maintains the stylistic characteristics of the original.
- **ARRANGEMENT.** -- Concepts are presented in a logical sequence and in a way that assures learning.
- **TREATMENT.** -- Typeset, visuals, style, and/or medium captures and holds the student's attention.
- **TECHNICAL QUALITY.** -- Sound is clear and audible; visuals project clearly.
- **AESTHETIC QUALITY.** -- Material is superior to similar items in attractiveness and presentation of content.
- **POTENTIAL DEMAND.** -- Item has timeliness or popular appeal.
- **DURABILITY.** -- Material has the potential for frequent use or is of a nature that it will be considered consumable.
- **OBSCENITY.** -- No books or other material containing hard-core pornography or otherwise prohibited by Fla. Stat. § 847.012 shall be used.

- COPYRIGHT. --Supplemental instructional materials and library media materials used in a school shall be procured and used in accordance with federal, state and District copyright laws, rules, and policies as referenced in School Board Policy 8.121.]**

Media Center materials are selected based upon many factors. The materials are evaluated as to their aesthetic, literary and social value, appropriateness to student age and emotional maturity and relevance to the curriculum.

Media Center materials reflect sensitivity to the achievements, needs, and rights of men and women, various ethnic groups, and other cultures.

The selection of media center materials about political theories and ideologies, religion, public issues, and controversial topics is directed toward maintaining a balanced representation with various opinions.

Gifts and Donations

Gifts to the Library Media Center are encouraged. However, the Library Media Specialist reserves the right to add such items to the school's library or classroom collections only if it is determined that they met the SDPBC 8.12 selection policy. Such materials will meet the same criteria as resources, which are purchased. Gifts that are not deemed appropriate for the school collection may be disposed of at the discretion of the Library Media Specialist who can consult if needed with the Literacy Committee assigned to provide oversight to the library media program. No price will be given as to the worth of any donations. The quantity of books, hardcover, or paperback will be stated on the receipt.

Collection Maintenance

SDPBC Policy 8.12 (6.a) stipulates: "Each school shall, in conjunction with the "Library Bill of Rights" (<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/index.cfm>) of the American Library Association (ALA) and District policy, establish procedures for the evaluation, selection, management, and disposal of library media materials in conformance with this policy and Policy 2.1205 and shall record such in the school's collection development policy."

Crosspointe Library Media Center Staff will use this Collection Development Policy as a guideline in the selection, acquisition, evaluation, and maintenance of library media center materials. This document will be updated as changes occur in the curriculum, informational needs, programming, and policies.

The Library Media Staff primary function is the acquisition and maintenance of the Library Media materials. To enrich and to support the students' educational experiences, the Library Media Staff responsibilities under the Collection Development and Management Policy must be followed. This policy refers to the process of building and maintaining the library's entire materials collection, in print, non-print, audio visual and electronic formats. The process includes the formulation of policy and procedures, budget allocations, needs assessment, selection, collection maintenance and evaluation, de-selection, and resource sharing. We must support the needs of our school community and follow the recommended boundaries set by the mission and goals of the School District of Palm Beach County, ALA/AASL Standards for the 21st Century Learner and Technology Standards (NETS).

Reconsideration of Materials

SDPBC Policy 8.1225 outlines the responsibilities of students, parents and teachers for lost or damaged Instructional Materials. Students, parents and teachers are held accountable for lost or damaged material. Crosspointe Library Media Center does not set fines for overdue materials.

Per Florida Statute governing Instructional Materials, instructional material stored in the library media center must be inventoried annually. To facilitate the circulation and inventory process, Destiny Library Manager Software has been made available to all schools. Each year, Crosspointe Library Media Center will perform a full inventory— except for the equipment.

Appendix:

Goals and Objectives for FY21-22

Goal 1: To continue increasing the overall average collection publication date of the Crosspointe Elementary Library Media Collection.

Objective 1: To continue weeding and replacing outdated materials, focusing on the science, history, and technology collection.

Objective 2: To weed materials based upon the significance to the reader, focusing on items which have never or not circulated for long periods of time.

Goal 2: To support the Crosspointe Elementary School Improvement Reading Goals by:

Objective 1: To survey the students to see if reading interests have changed and if so what titles, subject matters are of interest to increase reading behaviors.

Goal 3: To support the students 21st Century literacy skills through the updating and purchasing of new technology and software.

Objective 1: To instruct students on the use of Destiny, eBooks, and digital research tools.

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

Adopted June 19, 1939. Amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; and January 1980. inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996, by the ALA Council.

Intellectual Freedom

The Crosspointe Library media supports Intellectual Freedom as stated in documents published by the American Library Association at:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/index.cfm>

School Board Policies 8.12 and 8.125

SDPBC Policy 8.12 (6.a) stipulates: "Each school shall, in conjunction with the "Library Bill of Rights"(<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/index.cfm>) of the American Library Association (ALA) and District policy, establish procedures for the evaluation, selection, management, and disposal of library media materials in conformance with this policy and Policy 2.1205 and shall record such in the school's collection development policy."

Principal's Signature *Dr. Annmarie Deibert*

Date: 5/4/22

Appendix A

LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS

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Appendix B

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION THE FREEDOM TO READ STATEMENT

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*
2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*
3. *It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*
4. *There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*
5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*
6. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*
7. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.*

This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book

Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953; revised January 28, 1972, January 16, 1991, July 12, 2000, June 30, 2004, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee.

First Amendment of the Bill of Rights to the United States Constitution
CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT
OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF; OR
ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS; OR THE
RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION
THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES.

The Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution was ratified on December 15, 1791
Endorsed by the Board of Library Trustees: August 24, 2009, October 22, 2012, August 22, 2016

Appendix C

PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

RULES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA Title 6Gx50

Chapter 8. Curriculum and Instruction

Section 8.12

Policy 8.12 Selection of Library Media Center Instructional Materials and Supplemental Classroom Instructional Materials

1. **Adequate Instructional Materials.**-- Instructional materials for the Library Media Center including print, non-print, serials [periodicals], electronic resources, computer software, video images, films, and instructional television programs represent fundamental resources selected for schools to support instruction, promote reading, further the pursuit of knowledge through research and exploration, and provide information literacy experiences of educational significance for class groups, individual students, teachers and administrators. This policy does not apply to internet access. It is the shared responsibility of the State, District and school, *within budgetary constraints*, to provide an adequate number and range of library media materials and resources in a variety of formats that are appropriate, timely, and essential to the attainment of specified educational objectives subject to District policy. It is also the responsibility of the State and District *and school* to provide library media materials that represent the diverse cultures, ethnic groups, languages and religious beliefs of the community and that are free of bias, stereotypes, distortions, and prejudices.

2. **Purpose.**-- The Board believes that the selection, challenge, and removal of instructional materials are within its jurisdiction pursuant to relevant statutory and constitutional laws. The library media center, within budgetary constraints, shall contain a comprehensive collection of materials and equipment, in a variety of media formats that are accessible to students during the school day, to:
- a. Promote the development of life-long reading habits *and information literacy skills* in students;
 - b. Provide a broad background of information resources in areas of knowledge;
 - c. Support the general educational goals of the District and the objectives of specific courses, including materials that represent diverse points of view in order that young citizens may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical analysis of media and intellectual integrity in forming judgments;
 - d. Meet the personal needs and interests of students, including materials that: nurture the development of recreational

reading/listening/ viewing, cultural appreciation, and aesthetic values; represent the many religious, racial, ethnic, linguistic, and cultural groups in our society and reflect their contributions to the heritage and culture of our civilization; foster respect for the diverse roles available to women and men in today's society; and provide access to materials in heritage language as stipulated by the META agreement.

e. Support the professional needs of teachers and administrators; and

f. Introduce new instructional technologies into the learning environment.

3. **Choice.**-- Library media materials and supplemental classroom instructional materials are available to students and staff as optional resources and are *usually* not mandatory reading as is the case with textbook instructional materials.

a. Library media that is sensitive or mature may not be appropriate for all readers in a school but remains a part of the collection to address the needs of some of the Educators and library media specialists should be sensitive to the reading level, belief system, interest level and maturity level of students when helping make selections for individuals, reading aloud to groups, or when having whole class participation in a reading project. *If a parent or adult student states a reasonable objection to library or classroom reading material assigned to an entire class, provision will be made for the student to have comparable instruction through an alternate reading assignment without penalty.* b. For the purposes of this Policy and Policy 8.1205, *supplemental classroom materials* are defined as print and non-print materials in different formats (e. g. books, DVDs, electronic storage) that are usually optional but are used as adjuncts to enrich and augment the required reading materials in a class or subject area.

4. **Use of Library Media Materials Allocation.**-- School principals are responsible for ensuring that operating budget and state categorical funds are used to purchase library media materials that reinforce instruction and stimulate leisure reading for the students enrolled at the grade level(s) for which the materials are designed and to effectively communicate to parents the manner in which materials are used to implement the curriculum of the school under Fla. Stat. § 1006.28(3)(a).

5. **Management of Library Media Instructional Materials.**-- Following practice and precedent, the school library media centers in Palm Beach County will arrange media and materials according to the Dewey Decimal Classification System. *Library media materials acquired with funds from the General Appropriation Act of the State of Florida are to be cataloged*

and inventoried as part of the library media collection. Library media materials may be inventoried in one to three year cycles.

6. Selection Criteria

a. Instructional materials for use in school media centers or classroom library collections shall be carefully selected. A choice of materials that support the instructional program and promote reading shall be available to students and professional staff to allow for varying achievement levels, interests, and teaching/learning styles. Each school shall, in conjunction with the "Library Bill of Rights" (www.ala.org/ala/oif/statementspols/statementsif/librarybillrights.htm) of the American Library Association ("ALA") and District policy, establish procedures for the evaluation, selection, management, and disposal of library media materials in conformance with this policy and Policy 8.1205 and shall record such in the school's collection development policy.

b. The "Library Bill of Rights" referenced herein is to be used as a suggested guideline. To the extent that there are inconsistencies between the guidelines in the "Library Bill of Rights" and District policy, District policy shall take precedence and shall govern the selection, retention and disposition criteria of instructional materials for library media centers and classrooms.

c. Selection of materials shall also be consistent with the provisions in the School Board's collective bargaining agreement with CTA relating to academic freedom and responsibilities--Article II, Section K--to the extent those provisions are applicable.

d. In conjunction with the selection criteria above, library media specialists, teachers and administrators at each school location shall evaluate and select print and non-print materials for the library media center and classroom using several of the criteria outlined below, as appropriate for the media type. However, in accordance with Fla. Stat. § 847.012, criteria "xvi" and "xvii" below (relating to obscenity and copyright) must be two of the criteria used in the evaluation of all materials.

i. PROFESSIONAL REVIEWS.-- Print or non-print media including video footage that have been favorably reviewed by two or more professional sources such as a *School Library Journal*, *Horn Book*, *Booklist*, and/or *Children's Catalog*.

ii. EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.-- Material is valuable to an individual course of study or to the library media collection; the degree to which the material would be supplemented and explained by mature classroom instruction.

- iii. APPROPRIATENESS.-- Material is geared to the age, maturity, diverse interests, and learning levels of students for whom it is intended. Reading levels and lexiles are considered to provide a range of material that challenges the student and guides their selection process.
- iv. ACCURACY.-- Nonfiction information is correct, recent, and objective.
- v. LITERARY MERIT.-- Fiction that has a noteworthy plot, setting, characterization, style and theme.
- vi. SCOPE.-- Content is covered adequately to achieve its intended purpose.
- vii. AUTHORITY.-- The author, editor, or producer has a superior reputation for producing materials of this nature.
- viii. SPECIAL FEATURES.-- The item has maps, charts, graphs, glossaries, and/or other learning aids that support the content, are unique or are valuable.
- ix. TRANSLATION INTEGRITY.-- Material translated from one language to another maintains the stylistic characteristics of the original.
- x. ARRANGEMENT.-- Concepts are presented in a logical sequence and in a way that assures learning.
- xi. TREATMENT.-- Typeset, visuals, style, and/or medium captures and holds the student's attention.
- xii. TECHNICAL QUALITY.-- Sound is clear and audible; visuals project clearly.
- xiii. AESTHETIC QUALITY.-- Material is superior to similar items in attractiveness and presentation of content.
- xiv. POTENTIAL DEMAND.-- Item has particular timeliness or popular appeal.
- xv. DURABILITY.-- Material has the potential for frequent use or is of a nature that it will be considered consumable.
- xvi. OBSCENITY.-- No books or other material containing hard-core

Pornography or otherwise prohibited by Fla. Stat. § 847.012 shall be used.

xvii. [COPYRIGHT.--Supplemental instructional materials and Library media materials used in a school shall be procured and used in accordance with federal, state and District copyright laws, rules, and policies as referenced in School Board Policy 8.121.]*

(*Editorial note: Criteria xvii is referenced in subsection (6)(d) and was intended to be included in the adopted Policy, though inadvertently omitted.)

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.41(1)(2) & (5); 1001.42 (2)(11)(13) & (23). LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.32(2); 1001.42(7) & (17)(a); 1001.43(2)(3); 1006.28; 1006.34; 1006.40; 1006.41; 847.012.

HISTORY: 2/18/72; 4/6/83; 2/20/85; 6/16/99; 5/7/2008

Appendix D

RULES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Title 6Gx50

Chapter 8. Curriculum and Instruction

Section 8.1205

Policy 8.1205 Challenge Procedures for Instructional Materials

1. Grievance Procedures Concerning Instructional Materials Including Textbooks, Library Media Materials, and Supplemental Classroom Instructional Materials

- a. The Superintendent or his/her designee is authorized to administer the following procedures in accordance with federal and state law to ensure timely and objective review of instructional materials, including textbooks.
- b. Any resident of Palm Beach County, or adult student or parent of a child attending public school in Palm Beach County may file a complaint with a school concerning the use of a particular library book, or non-print media. Challenged materials may be removed from use in the school where the complaint was initiated only after the complaint and decision procedures of this Policy have been completed.
- c. Complaints filed by a parent or adult student shall be heard in the school in which that student is registered. If the parent has children at different schools in Palm Beach County, then the complaint must specify which school(s) the complaint pertains to and it will be heard in that/those school(s). If the complainant is not the parent of a child in the school district, the complaint will be assigned to the appropriate school within the boundary corresponding to the residence of the complainant for review if the material is located

at that school or to the school in close proximity where the material is located.

2. School Level: Informal Complaint

a. Any complaint arising out of the use of a material in a school shall be registered in writing with the principal of the school. Within five school days of the receipt of the complaint, the principal and/or his/her designee and the appropriate staff member(s) shall meet with the complainant to explain:

- i. the school's selection procedures for these materials;
- ii. the criteria used for the selection of these materials;
- iii. the role that the material in question has in the school's curriculum or library media center or classroom collection;
- and
- iv. whatever additional information is deemed needed regarding the item's use.

b. If the complainant is not satisfied with the explanation and desires to file a formal complaint, the formal procedures below shall be followed.

3. School Level: Formal Complaint

a. The complainant shall obtain a copy of form PBSB 1113 ("Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials") from the principal or a designee. A copy of the form is also available on the District's Web site at www.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/Records/PDF/1113.pdf and is incorporated herein by reference as part of this Policy. The complainant shall sign and complete the form in its entirety for each instructional material to be considered, including stating the basis of the objection, retain one copy, and send one copy of the completed form to the principal of the school. *Failure to completely fill out the form along with complainant's signature will result in the rejection of the form and no formal review process under this subsection will be initiated.*

b. A challenge to the same material(s) by multiple challengers within one school can be consolidated into one challenge for consideration by the School Materials Review Committee, principal, Superintendent, District Material Review Committee, and School Board (the reviewing persons and entities) as set forth in the below proceedings.

c. A challenge to multiple materials will require additional preparation time for the reviewing persons and entities set forth below. A challenge of more than five instructional materials will add an additional two (2) days per item to the time deadlines for the

school or District actions that are specified within this Policy. d. For materials used *in that school*, the completed form and the material in question shall be studied by a School Materials Review Committee appointed on an ad hoc basis by the school principal. Representation on the School Materials Review Committee should reflect the diversity of the District and school, and the following provisions apply:

i. The committee shall consist of the principal or his/her designee of the school where the complaint was made; two teachers in the appropriate subject area/grade; one teacher from another subject area/grade; a library media specialist; a guidance counselor; one student from the appropriate grade level or a student who is accomplished in the specific subject area (middle and senior high school only); one lay person from the school's Parent-Teacher Association or the School Advisory Council; a representative designated by the Area Superintendent, and a representative from the District department representing Instructional Materials, Curriculum and/or Library Media Services.

ii. The School Materials Review Committee shall meet within fifteen (15) school work days of receipt by the principal of the reconsideration form. The complainant shall be notified of the committee's meeting date and time and shall be invited to present arguments for no more than 10 minutes unless time is extended by the committee for good cause. A question/answer period or committee discussion may follow the presentation at the committee's discretion.

iii. The School Materials Review Committee shall solicit, if readily available, professional written reviews of the material, from sources such as those listed in School Board Policy 8.12(6)(d)(i).

iv. The School Materials Review Committee shall be chaired by the principal or his/her designee. A recorder of minutes shall be appointed from the membership of the committee to take minutes and to record the recommendation of the committee.

v. If the review is not completed, the committee may schedule additional meetings. Within five (5) school work days of its final meeting, the School Materials Review Committee shall prepare the committee's recommendation with supporting reasons and use form PBSB 1857, School Materials Review Committee Recommendations, or a signed letter written on school

letterhead. The form can be found on the District's Web site at www.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/Records/PDF/1857.pdf and is incorporated herein by reference.

e. Guidelines for Committee's Recommendation.-- The School Materials Review Committee shall review enough of the relevant portions of the material being challenged in order to make an informed recommendation on the request. The committee shall also consider readily available reviews of the material, study the comments on the complainant's questionnaire, consider one or more of the evaluative criteria in Policy 8.12(6) (for media center and supplemental classroom instructional materials) or State requirements and guidelines and Policy 8.122 (for textbooks) and shall render a decision based on a majority vote.

i. The selection criteria in Policy 8.12(6), for media center and supplemental classroom instructional materials, shall be made available to all interested persons.

ii. The recommendation to the principal will be based on the selection criteria in School Board Policy 8.12(6) (for media center and supplemental classroom instructional materials), State requirements and guidelines and School Board Policy 8.122 (for textbooks), and the following additional factors and criteria:

- A. educational significance of the material;
- B. appropriateness of age and maturity level;
- C. need and value to the collection/curriculum;
- D. summation of the professional reviews on the media;
 - E. literary merit;
 - F. validity, accuracy, objectivity, and up-to-date and appropriate information;
- G. freedom from stereotypes, bias, prejudice or distortion; and
 - H. timeliness or permanence.
 - I. In addition, the recommendation shall also consider the provisions in the School Board's collective bargaining agreement with CTA relating to academic freedom and responsibilities-- Article II, Section K--to the extent those provisions are applicable. However, pursuant to current case law, the committee may not recommend removal of non-

curricular books from the school's media center or classroom simply because a majority of the committee dislikes the ideas or the points-of-view contained in the media center instructional or supplemental classroom instructional materials.

f. Committee's Recommendation to the Principal.-- The committee's final recommendation shall be immediately forwarded to the school principal and may be any or a combination of the following:

- i. allow the challenged material to maintain its current status;
- ii. leave the challenged material in the classroom or library media center, but allow students to use alternate materials approved by school personnel who require the use of the disputed item;
- iii. limit the educational use of the challenged material;
- iv. transfer the challenged material to a higher level school (e. g. elementary to a middle school); and/or
- v. remove the challenged material from the school environment.

g. Principal's Written Decision.-- Within five (5) school work days after receipt of the School Materials Review Committee's recommendation, the principal shall make a decision, based on the same criteria considered by the committee as set forth in subsection (3)(e) above, on whether to follow the committee's recommendation, and shall inform the complainant *in writing* of the recommendation of the committee, the principal's decision, and *the reasons for the recommendation and decision*. This written communication must inform the complainant of the next level of appeal under this policy and the time deadline. Such communication shall be sent by regular U. S. Mail, and certified mail, return receipt requested.

4. District Level: Formal Appeal.-- The complainant may appeal the principal's decision to the Superintendent, subject to the following provisions.

- a. If the complainant appeals the principal's decision, the principal shall send copies of all reports and communications to division and department heads that supervise Instructional Materials, Curriculum and Library Media Services and to the appropriate Area Superintendent.
- b. Access to challenged materials shall not be restricted during the reconsideration process; the materials shall remain in use unless the School Materials Review Committee, through formal vote, recommended removal of the instructional materials to the principal, and the decision to remove is made by the principal.
- c. Within twenty (20) calendar days of the date of the principal's

decision, the complainant shall notify the Superintendent in writing of the request to appeal. *Failure to comply with these requirements will result in the appeal not being considered.* d. Within twenty (20) school work days of receipt of such request, the Superintendent or his/her designee and appropriate staff shall review the action taken at the school level and issue a decision based on the same criteria set forth in subsection (3)(e) above and with the same alternative results as set forth in subsection (3)(f) above. If the decision does not include further review by the Superintendent/designee (and District Materials Review Committee), the complainant shall be so notified of the decision and be informed of the ability and deadline to request *in writing* an appearance to appeal directly to The School Board of Palm Beach County, Florida in accordance with this Policy. Notice to the complainant shall be made by regular U.S. Mail and certified mail, return receipt requested.

e. If the Superintendent finds cause for further review, the complaint shall be submitted to a District Materials Review Committee whose representation reflects the diversity of the District and school, appointed on an ad hoc basis by the Superintendent or his/her designee, according to the following provisions:

- i. Representation on District Instructional Materials Committees should reflect the diversity of the District and schools.
- ii. Individuals on the District Materials Review Committee cannot be the same as those that served on the School Materials Review Committee.
- iii. The committee shall consist of the Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, or his/her designee; an appropriate Area Superintendent or designee; one principal at the appropriate level; a division or department head that supervises Instructional Materials, Curriculum, and/or Library Media Services, an appropriate subject area Administrator/Program Planner; one teacher in the appropriate subject area/grade; one library media specialist; one student from the appropriate grade level or a student who is accomplished in the specific subject area (middle and senior high only); a representative from the Palm Beach County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations who will be appointed by the President of the District Association, a representative from the District Advisory Committee; and one lay person. The Chief Counsel to the School Board, or designated attorney(s) of his/her Office, may be invited to provide legal advice to the Committee, if deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

iv. In the event that a person from a position named above cannot be present at the District Materials Review Committee meeting(s), the Superintendent may appoint an alternate.

v. District Materials Review Committee Procedures

A. The District Materials Review Committee shall be chaired by the Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum or his/her designee. A recorder of minutes shall be appointed from the membership of the committee to take minutes and to record the recommendation of the committee.

B. The District Materials Review Committee shall solicit, if readily available, professional written reviews of the material, from sources such as those listed in Policy 8.12(6)(d)(i).

C. The District Materials Review Committee shall meet and *provide a recommendation with supporting reasons* to the Superintendent within twenty (20) school work days of receipt of the referral from the Superintendent, based on the criteria set forth in subparagraph

(4)(e)(v)D and paragraph (vi) below. The complainant shall be notified of the committee's meeting date and time and shall be invited to present an argument for no more than 10 minutes, unless time is extended by the committee for good cause. A question/answer period or committee discussion may follow the presentation *at the committee's discretion*.

D. If the review is not completed, the committee may schedule additional meetings. Within five (5) school work days of its final meeting, the District Materials Review Committee shall prepare the committee's recommendations with supporting reasons.

f. Guidelines for Recommendation to the Superintendent.-- The District Materials Review Committee shall review enough of the relevant portions of the material being challenged in order to make an informed recommendation on the request. The committee shall also consider readily available reviews of the material, study the comments on the complainant's questionnaire, consider one or more of the evaluative criteria in School Board Policy 8.12(6) (for media center and supplemental classroom instructional materials) or State requirements and guidelines and School Board Policy 8.122 (for textbooks) and shall render a decision based on a majority vote.

i. The Selection Criteria in Policy 8.12(6) (for media center and supplemental classroom instructional materials) shall be made available to all interested persons.

ii. The recommendation to the Superintendent will be based on the selection criteria in School Board Policy 8.12(6) (for media center and supplemental classroom instructional materials), State requirements and guidelines and School Board Policy 8.122 (for textbooks), as well as the following criteria: A. educational significance of the material;

B. appropriateness of age and maturity level;

C. need and value to the collection/curriculum;

D. summation of the professional reviews on the media;

E. literary merit;

F. validity, accuracy, objectivity, and up-to-date and appropriate information;

G. freedom from stereotypes, bias, prejudice or distortion; and

H. timeliness or permanence.

I. In addition, the recommendation shall also consider the provisions in the School Board's collective bargaining agreement with CTA relating to academic freedom and responsibilities--Article II, Section K--to the extent those provisions are applicable. However, pursuant to current case law, the committee may not recommend removal of non-curricular books from the school's media center or classroom simply because a majority of the committee dislikes the ideas or the points-of-view contained in the media center or supplemental classroom instructional materials.

g. Committee's Recommendation to the Superintendent.-- The recommendation of the District Materials Review Committee and the basis for that recommendation shall be transmitted to the Superintendent; the Chief Academic Officer, the principal of the school that received the original complaint; and the complainant. h.

Superintendent's/Designee's Written Decision.-- The Superintendent or his/her designee shall make a final decision, based on the same criteria considered by the committee as set forth in subparagraph (4)(f) above, within five (5) school work days of receipt of the District Materials Review Committee recommendation, and send a written report of that decision to the Chief Academic Officer, the appropriate Assistant Superintendent, the principal of the

school; and the complainant. *The written decision shall state procedures and time limits to appeal to the Board if the complainant is dissatisfied.* This decision shall be sent to the complainant by regular U.S. mail and certified mail, return receipt requested.

i. The Public Affairs Department shall make the selection criteria and a copy of the material(s) in question available for review upon request of interested persons.

5. Board Level Appeal

a. The complainant may appeal the decision of the Superintendent/designee to the School Board under subsection (4)(b) or paragraph (4)(d) above by filing a signed writing with the School Board Clerk within thirty (30) days of the decision and may request an appearance before the School Board.

b. After notice to the appealing party, the School Board Level review shall occur at a public meeting and allow presentation of evidence. The School Board's decision shall be based on the same criteria considered by the Superintendent as set forth in subsections (4)(f) and (h) above.

6. Policy Awareness

a. A copy of the selection and reconsideration procedures as set forth in this Policy and in Board Policy 8.12 should be a part of the Collection Development Policy for each school library media center and should be available for easy access and reference.

b. Each school principal should include at a minimum, a summary or references to this Challenge Policy and School Board Policy 8.12 in the school's staff handbook and shall review the selection and reconsideration procedures with the staff as needed, emphasizing Board policy pertaining to the teaching of controversial issues and the ethical considerations that are needed in handling citizen complaints with courtesy and integrity.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Fla. Stat. § 1001.41(1)(2) & (5); 1001.42 (2)(11)(13) & (23) LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Fla. Stat. § 1001.32(2); 1001.41(i)(2) & (5); 1001.42 (2)(11)(13) & (23); 1001.42(7) & (17)(a); 1001.43(2)(3); 1006.28; 1006.34; 1006.40; 1006.41; 847.012 HISTORY: 5/7/2008

Appendix E



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY
LIBRARY MEDIA SERVICES

Objections to Library Media Materials

For use by a parent, emancipated student, or resident of the county who is challenging library media materials.

Check the appropriate box if you are objecting as a parent, or emancipated student, or as a resident of this county.

Parent/emancipated student County resident

If as a resident, check any applicable boxes.

I have maintained a residence in Florida for the past year. I have purchased, leased, or acquired a home occupied by me as my residence. I have established a domicile in Florida.

School #	School Name	Date
Author	Title	

Hardcover Book Paperback Book DVD eBook Film Other _____

Publisher (if known) _____

Request Initiated By	Phone Number		
Street Address	City	State	Zip Code

Objecting party Individual Group Organization Other _____

Name of group/organization/other _____

To what do you object? (be specific)

Why do you object to this material?

For what age group would you recommend this material? _____

What are the strengths of this material?

Did you review this material? Yes No

Are you aware of the judgment of this material by library and authoritative critics? Yes No

What do you believe is the function of this material?

What would you like the school to do about this material?

In its place, what material of equal quality would you recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of our civilization?

Print Name of Objecting Party/Resident Signature of Objecting Party/Resident Date