

THE RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RYE, NEW YORK

4513

LIBRARY MATERIALS SELECTION

The Board of Education (the “Board”), as the governing body of the District, is legally responsible for the selection of library materials, including the selection and approval of printed and non-printed materials for its use. Because the Board is primarily a policy-making body, it delegates to the following professional personnel of the District the authority for the selection of materials: teachers, principals and librarians, under the leadership of the Superintendent of Schools.

In order to provide the Superintendent and his/her staff with guidance in the acquisition of instructional resource material, such as library books, references, audiovisuals, maps, digital media, etc., the Board endorses guidelines approved by the American Library Association that such resources:

1. provide information that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interests, abilities, and maturity levels of the students served;
2. provide information that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
3. provide information that will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily lives;
4. provide information on opposing sides of controversial issues so that young citizens may develop, under guidance, the practice of critical reading and thinking;
5. provide information representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage; and
6. 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.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the selection of resource materials within the aforesaid guidelines and for the determination of factual accuracy, readability, authoritativeness, integrity and quality of format. Such determination must not be based upon suppression of ideas, but rather upon the educational suitability of the materials in question. To assist in the selection process, reputable, unbiased professionally prepared aides (such as the Hornbook, School Library Journal, etc.) shall be consulted guides.

In order to respond to any complaints about, or challenges to, the selection of library materials, the District regulations (1420-R Complaints about Curricula or Instructional Materials Regulation) outline the complaint procedure.

*Reference: Education Law Section 1709(15); 1711
Board of Educ., Island Trees UFSD v. Pico, 457 US 853 (1982)
1420, Public Complaints about Instructional Materials*

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