

## Gill Library Selection Policy

The school library, in selecting materials, shall ensure that the materials support and are consistent with the general educational goals of the school. The school librarian, in collaboration with administrators, teachers, and other school personnel will evaluate materials to ensure they meet the high standards in presentation, format, readability, content, accuracy, and educational significance while maintaining age and subject appropriateness of the students for whom they are selected.

The materials selected for the school library are designed to provide information that will motivate students to examine their own attitudes and behavior, to understand their rights, duties, and responsibilities as citizens, and to make informed judgments in their daily lives.

Because librarians cannot read every book, selections for school, university, and public libraries are all made using the same criteria, namely that the title must receive at least three positive reviews in professional journals. When selecting materials to purchase, librarians strive to identify books that have received three positive reviews and/or have received state or national recognition for their literary and artistic merit. Our library utilizes the standards set by the American Library Association and the American Association of School Librarians which provide guidelines around access and acquisition. Materials selected should:

- Support and enrich the curriculum and/or students' personal interests and learning
- Be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social, emotional, and intellectual development of the students for whom the materials are selected
- Incorporate accurate and authentic factual content from authoritative sources
- Exhibit a high degree of potential user appeal and interest
- Represent differing viewpoints on controversial issues
- Provide a global perspective and promote diversity by including materials by authors and illustrators of all cultures
- Demonstrate physical format, appearance, and durability suitable to their intended use

The school librarian, in selecting materials for the school's collection, whether it be books, video, magazines, or other multimedia items shall, without bias, add to the existing collection materials from accredited library associations, journals and databases, such as, but not limited to, the American Library Association, the Texas Library Association, *Booklist*, *Hornbook*, *Kirkus Reviews* and *School Library Journal*. The school librarian should consider collaborating with faculty, staff and students for titles they would like to see in the collection and order based on those needs.

Despite the careful selection of library resources and the qualification of those involved in the selection process, objections to library resources that are deemed offensive or inappropriate may occur. Any employee, parent, student or other community member of ESD may express an informal concern or formal request for reconsideration of a library resource. Contact a librarian for further information.