

## **Instruction**

### **Library Collection Development and Maintenance**

The CREC Council recognizes that library and other education materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all students, and represent a wide range of varied and diverging viewpoints in the collection as a whole.

Students shall have access to the library and other educational material that is relevant to the research, independent reading interests, and educational needs of students based on a student's age, development, or grade level.

The library media center is an important place for voluntary inquiry, the dissemination of information and ideas, and the promotion of free expression and free access to ideas by students.

A school library media specialist is professionally trained to curate and develop a collection that shall provide students with access to the widest array of age-appropriate and grade level-appropriate library and other educational material.

All library materials shall be evaluated and made accessible in accordance with the protections against discrimination set forth in Section 10-15c of the general statutes, including, but not limited to, discrimination based on race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability.

### **Review of library collections**

In order to ensure that library and other education materials in school library media centers are relevant, in good condition, and age or grade level appropriate, the school library media specialist shall conduct periodically a systematic review of the library's collection, as follows:

- a. Consult with instructional staff to determine whether the material is still useful and has up-to-date information.
- b. Evaluate usage data to assess the material's relevance to student interests and research needs.
- c. Assess whether the material is damaged or worn beyond reasonable use.
- d. Determine whether the availability of duplicates or multiple copies is justified based on usage statistics to avoid redundancy.
- e. Investigate the availability of newer editions or versions that offer more current and accurate information by considering award and recommended lists for recently recognized literature.

- f. Ensure that any new material uses language that is appropriate for the reading level of students in the targeted grade range and developmental levels.
- g. Evaluate whether the new material's treatment of difficult or sensitive subjects (e.g., death, mental health, violence, sexuality) is in a developmentally appropriate way for the intended student audience.
- h. Consult with instructional staff to determine whether the material continues to be cited or referred to for classroom instruction.
- i. Review usage data to determine whether the material is still being sought by students or teachers.

This policy shall be reviewed every five years, and updated as necessary.

A link to this policy shall be provided in each school's website, preferably on available school library pages, or, in their absence, on a Parent Resources page.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

Public Act 25-168 An Act Concerning the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2027, and Making Appropriations Therefor, and Provisions Related to Revenue and Other Items Implementing the State Budget.

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